



**Welcoming and Opening Statement
The 7th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable (AMER)
Air Chief Marshal Prajin Juntong
Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand
Thursday 2 November 2017 08.35 - 08.45 hrs.**

**Excellencies, /
Asian Energy Ministers, /
Ladies and gentlemen, /
Sa-Wad-Dee Krub**

**It is my great honor and pleasure to
welcome all of you / to the 7th Asian
Ministerial Energy Roundtable / which is
held in Bangkok, Thailand / with United
Arab Emirates as our co-host. /**

**As the host country, / I am proud that
Thailand was given the opportunity to
host this prestigious meeting / which is
considered to be one of the significant
events taking place this year. / Please
allow me to express my**

/ sincere appreciation....

sincere appreciation / to all the Asian energy ministers and executives from international organizations / for taking your valuable time to travel here. / Let me officially welcome you to Bangkok, Thailand, / the land of smiles. /

The topic of today' s roundtable is / “ Global Market in Transition: From Vision to Action” / which perfectly reflects the current global energy situation. / As the world is moving towards the period of energy transition, / every nation, especially in Asia, / would have to find practical measures to aid this transition. /

In order to meet the topics of discussion, / I would like to address on 3 main points / to use as a guideline for today' s discussion. / The points include (1) Global and regional energy situation / (2) Energy Transition and (3) Thailand and the transition /

Ladies and gentlemen,

/ (1) Global and regional....

**(1) Global and Regional Energy
Situation /**

**At present, / the growth in energy
consumption comes mostly from
developing countries / such as non-
OECD countries. / This growth is a
result of an increase in population,
migration and urbanization / as well as
the improvement of quality of life. / It is
without a doubt that the world still needs
to rely on the use of fossil fuel. /**

**Asia is considered to be one of the
regions / with the highest share of global
energy consumption. / The growth of
energy consumption accounted for two-
third of the world. / This is due to the
growth in large economies / such as
China and India / as well as countries**

with rapid economic development / like countries in Southeast Asia. /

Meanwhile, Asia still possesses energy resources including oil and natural gas. / This make us to be the region that comprises of both major energy importers and

/producers....

producers / which will signify how Asia is crucial for global energy market / and should play a leading role in shaping global energy directions. / As this era is seen to be “The Asian Century”. /

According to the forecast made by International Energy Agency, / global energy demand will increase by 30% in 2040 / and the biggest energy supply comes from renewable energy. / It is estimated that the share of renewable energy in power generation / will reach 60% with the majority comes from wind

and solar. / As for fossil fuel, natural gas is predicted to grow the fastest / with the consumption rising by 50% . / From this particular trend, / we are moving towards energy transition era, / from the world that is driven by fossil fuel / to the world that is dominated by clean energy. /

Ladies and gentlemen,

/(2) Energy Transition

(2) Energy Transition /

In the past 10 years, / our world has gone through many changes and the same goes for energy sector. / This is due to one of the major challenges, namely climate change. / The Paris Agreement on Climate Change is an agreement that directly affected energy sector / where two-third of greenhouse gas emissions comes from. / Therefore,

various countries pay attention to transforming their economy / into green economy by focusing on finding clean and sustainable energy options / in order to become low-carbon society. /

Moreover, technological development has grown rapidly. / There are various disruptive technologies in energy sector / not only electric vehicle and energy storage system / but also renewable energy technology development which help lower the investment cost. / In addition, there is the upcoming trend of self-producing and self-consuming energy / or “Prosumer”. / With all these

/developments....

developments, global energy consumption will begin to change. / The use of fossil fuel, though still very important, will gradually decline / while renewable energy includes other forms of clean energy will grow. / The

deployment of clean energy technologies as well as energy efficiency / will also play an increasingly important role. /

Energy markets in transition are also inevitable. / Once the production and consumption trends changed, / traditional energy markets had to adapt to the challenges / and to the new emerging technologies. / The current energy markets, whether oil or gas, / are becoming more competitive since there are new players entering the market. / At the same time, uncertainties in the markets are high / because of new energy-saving technologies, / the arrival of electric vehicle or clean energy consumption trend. / This will lower the demand for energy consumption. /

/From the challenges....

From the challenges and changes that I have mentioned, / energy transition is

unavoidable. / In order for this transition to go smoothly, / the government's role and action in setting directions and devising policies is necessary. / Furthermore, how can we create a favorable environment for private investment in energy sector? / I am strongly confident that a dialogue between energy producing and energy consuming countries / in strengthening a partnership to achieve the transition that is balanced, stable / and, most importantly, beneficial to both parties will be pivotal. /

Ladies and gentlemen, /

(3) Thailand and the transition /

It has been a year since Thailand has lost His Majesty the King Bhumibol Adulyadej / or "Father of Thai Energy Development". / His Majesty laid a solid foundation for the country's energy

development / by actively encouraging the use of alternative energy. /

/Also, he pioneered....

Also, he pioneered “ The Sufficiency Economy Philosophy” / which the government upholds as a principle / for the management of the country’s natural resources. /

With his Majesty’s the King’s principle in mind, / Thailand by the Ministry of Energy has formulated “ Thailand Integrated Energy Blueprint” / as a main plan in driving the country towards energy security, / economic prosperity and environmental sustainability. /

Additionally, the government has set a policy called “ Thailand 4.0” / as an attempt to revive the economy, increase the country’ s competitiveness and escape the “ middle-income trap” / by transforming the country’ s economic structure to value and innovation-based

economy. / The government also gives priority to the policy / on the development of Thailand' s Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC) / to support the investment and economic development. /

/To be in line....

To be in line with Thailand 4.0, / the Ministry of Energy has launched “Energy 4.0” . / This policy is composed of 4 major energy areas including promotion of electric vehicle such as E-Tuk Tuk, / energy storage system, / hybrid power generation from renewable sources, / and smart city and smart grid. /

From the above mentioned policies, / Thailand is in a transition period where we aim to drive our energy sector / towards an increasing modernized and smart future. / This will be a pressing challenge for us

on how to manage the country's energy system / to have a secured, cost-competitive and environmentally-friendly source of energy. /

Ladies and gentlemen, /

I wish that the 7th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable / will be successful and able to achieve all anticipated outcomes. / I truly wish that this roundtable meeting will bring about / the beginning of a firm cooperation and

/creative energy....

creative energy initiatives / which not only strengthen regional energy security / but also push forward our region to play a leading role in the global energy arena. /

Last but not least, / there will be another important energy-related workshop organized / back-to back with the AMER 7. / The Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Workshop under the theme of /

“ ACD Energy Action Plan: Towards Global Energy Challenges” / will be held here in this venue on November 4th / and I would like to invite you all to stay longer and partake in this event. /

Once again, I would like to express my sincere thanks / to all the honorable ministers and heads of international organizations for attending this roundtable meeting. /

I would like to thank our Ministry of Energy, / the United Arab Emirates and IEF in arranging this important forum. / I also take this opportunity to announce / the 7th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable officially opens. /

Thank you /