Your Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Now is the time to enjoy the welcome of Thailand, our host for the 7th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable. Tomorrow will be the time for dialogue. So, I will be brief.

Let me thank His Excellency General Anantaporn Kanjanarat, Minister of Energy of Thailand, our distinguished host and leader in this 7th Ministerial meeting in Bangkok, the warm heart of Asia.

Let me also thank His Excellency Suhail Mohamed Al Mazrouei, Minister of Energy and Industry, of the United Arab Emirates, our co-host, and staunch supporter of the dialogue.

- Your Excellency, congratulations, and thank you for joining us after your portfolio was extended to cover industry too.

Let me express my sincere appreciation also to His Excellency Khalid Al-Falih, Minister of Energy, Industry, and Mineral Resources of Saudi Arabia.

- Your Excellency, your country is a true champion of the global energy dialogue. Without Saudi Arabia and the
commitment of His Excellency, the dialogue would not be where it is today.

I also recognize my dear friend, His Excellency Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas of India, and chairman of the IEF Executive Board.

- Your Excellency, we look forward to taking the outcomes of this Ministerial Roundtable to the 16th IEF Ministerial Energy Forum, when India will host us on 10-12 April 2018 in New Delhi under your leadership.

Your Excellencies, and Dear Friends, I recognize you all.

To say that the energy sector is living through challenging times is an understatement.

But it takes only three steps, to move from vision to action in global energy markets in transition:

- Let the producer consumer dialogue evolve in to a conversation among all energy sector stakeholders, and organisations.

- Governments, and fossil and renewable industries help each other across borders, and technologies to achieve the goals we all share.

- Join hands in Asia, and beyond to facilitate an orderly transition, accelerate efficiency gains, and deepen data transparency together.
It is the way to reduce uncertainty, and invest in Asia’s rapidly growing economies and the quality of life of Asia’s industrious population.

The time is right, the mood is right, and the place is right for this Ministerial.

Let me thank you for your presence in the marvelous city of Bangkok, and contributions to the 7th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable tomorrow, so graciously hosted by the Kingdom of Thailand.

I look forward meeting you all.