

(Draft)
Welcoming Remarks for Welcoming Dinner
The 7th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable
Wednesday 1 November 2017
19.40 - 20.00 hrs.

Excellency Suhail Mohamed Mazrouei
Minister of Energy, UAE

Excellency Asian Energy Ministers

Dr. Sun Xiansheng
Secretary General, International Energy Forum

Distinguished participants and

Ladies and gentlemen,

Sa-was-dee Krap

1. Introduction/Welcoming remarks

On behalf of the Royal Thai Government, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to all of you to Bangkok, Thailand for the 7th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable, which will be held from 1 to 3 November 2017 under the theme of “Global Energy Markets in Transition: From Vision to Action”

First of all, let me express my sincere thanks to all the Ministers and honourable guests for taking the

time and joining us at welcoming dinner this evening after travelling from your country.

I would also like to give a special thank you to the Ministry of Energy of the United Arab Emirates, our co-host and International Energy Forum (IEF), our organizer, which plays a vital role in this roundtable meeting.

Ladies and gentlemen

2. The importance of the 7th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable

The 7th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable, which will officially take place tomorrow, will be a platform for all of us, who acts as energy policy maker, to discuss on energy situations and energy trends in both global and regional level in order to find a common approach in creating energy security, prosperity and sustainability in the region.

At present, Asia is considered to be a significant global energy player, not only as energy producer but also energy consumer. Asia is a major region in driving the growth of energy demand, which accounted for two third of overall global energy demand. Even though energy demand in our region has been increased due to rapid economic development, Asia still possesses indigenous energy resource namely oil, natural gas and coal. In

addition, we also have abundant renewable energy potentials. For example solar, wind, bioenergy, geothermal etc.

Nevertheless, energy issue is indeed a complicated affair. Besides energy security aspect, we need to take into account sustainable energy development, greenhouse gas emission reduction, energy prices and impacts from technological development and innovation. For this reason, I would like to encourage all of you to actively express your views and share your experience in order for this meeting to successfully accomplish by gaining constructive conclusions as well as new ideas which will be beneficial amongst us.

Ladies and gentlemen,

3. Topics of discussion and expected outcomes

The roundtable will begin tomorrow and we will discuss 3 topics

First, Oil markets: Investment and security challenges in a world in transition

Followed by Natural Gas: Market and policy hurdles to the golden age of gas

And last but not least, Disruptive Technologies and Energy Future: Impacts, challenges and preparation

I am confident that tomorrow's dialogue will go smoothly and bring about a very fruitful outcome that will show the world that Asia will play an important role in shaping global energy future.

And without further a due, I would like to thank all the agencies for making this meaningful meeting happened. My sincere appreciation goes to IEF UAE and, most importantly, to you, our honourable guests for attending this welcome dinner. I wish you have a pleasant stay in our beautiful city of Bangkok and have a good rest to be well-prepared for tomorrow's intensive discussion.

Thank you and Bon appetite!