



MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

PRESS RELEASE

MALAYSIA PUSHES FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AGENDA TO ACCELERATE ECONOMIC RECOVERY DURING THE 38TH ASEAN MINISTERS ON ENERGY MEETING (AMEM)

YB. Dato' Dr. Shamsul Anuar bin Haji Nasarah, the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources together with the Ministers of Energy from the ASEAN region have gathered at the 38th ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (38th AMEM) that was held virtually on 19 - 20 November 2020, hosted by Viet Nam.

During the meeting, YB Dato' Dr. Shamsul Anuar bin Haji Nasarah has raised many pertinent issues with regards to the current state of the ASEAN energy sector, impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic which has seen a drastic drop in energy demand. The Minister also suggested for ASEAN member states to leverage on energy transition in accelerating economic recovery, giving Malaysia's example in offering 1,000MW of solar quota through competitive bidding in May 2020 to bring a potential RM4 billion worth of investment and creating 12,000 jobs opportunities. YB. Dato' Dr. Shamsul also quoted the encouraging prices offered by the bidders with 56 out of 93 bidders offering prices below 20 cents/kWh for capacities between 30-50MW and the lowest bid received is 13.99 cents/kWh. The Minister said that the prices offered clearly indicate that the pathway to a more sustainable energy future is becoming more competitive.

Malaysia also took the opportunity to thank other ASEAN Member States for the support given during its tenure as the Chairman of ASEAN Forum on Coal from 2018 to 2020 and registered Malaysia's interest to continue assuming the chairmanship of Renewable Energy Sub-Sector Network for the duration of ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) Phase 2 from 2021 to 2025, in line with Malaysia's increased efforts in embracing energy transition. Malaysia also shared its efforts in creating a platform to trade Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) where the certificates issued are certified by the International Renewable Energy Certificate Standards global registry. Malaysia hopes to further expand the REC platform to include trading of other sources of RE RECS as the take-up rate is very encouraging.

In addition, during Malaysia's tenure as the Chairman of RE-SSN for the period of 2018 to 2020, Malaysia proposed for ASEAN to set a target for RE in installed power capacity by 2025. Malaysia's effort has come to fruition when ASEAN Energy Ministers agreed to set a new target of 35% RE in installed power capacity by 2025, which Malaysia believes will contribute to achieving ASEAN's target of 23% of RE in Total Primary Energy Supply in 2025. This target is set under the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation Phase 2 which will be implemented during the period of 2021 until 2025.

In supporting ASEAN's vision in advancing multilateral power trading to ensure energy security, Malaysia continues to give its commitment in pursuing this path by pledging to explore the technical and commercial feasibility and viability of cross-border power trade of up to 100 megawatts (MW) from Lao PDR to Singapore via Thailand and Malaysia using the existing interconnections for a two-years from 2022 to 2023. The project,

known as Lao PDR, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore - Power Integration Project (LTMS-PIP) is a continuation of the past power integration project, transferring power from Lao PDR to Malaysia through Thailand, the LTM-PIP project. Under the project, Malaysia and Lao PDR had traded a total of 30.2 Giga Watt Hour of electricity from January 2018 to August 2020.

In conjunction with the 38th AMEM also, winners of the ASEAN Energy Awards 2020 were announced and 15 companies from Malaysia emerged as the winners in the two main categories namely ASEAN Energy Efficiency and Conservation Best Practices and ASEAN Renewable Energy Projects. The Ministry hopes that more Malaysian companies will be participating in the National Energy Awards 2021 which will allow the winning companies to participate in ASEAN Energy Awards 2021 and subsequently, raise Malaysia's sustainable energy agenda beyond our borders.

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