



Joint Media Statement

The Twenty-Second ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting Plus Three (China, Japan, Korea) (22nd AMEM+3)

17 October 2025

Introduction

1. The Twenty-Second ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting Plus Three (China, Japan, Korea) (22nd AMEM+3) was held on 17 October 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Datuk Amar Haji Fadillah Yusof, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy Transition and Water Transformation, Malaysia, and attended by the Energy Ministers from the ten ASEAN Member States, as well as the co-chairs from the People's Republic China, Japan and Republic of Korea. Also present were the ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE), The Heads of ASEAN Power Utilities/Authorities (HAPUA) Secretariat, the ASEAN Council on Petroleum and Energy (ASCOPE) Secretariat. The Meeting also welcomed the Minister of Petroleum and Minerals of Timor-Leste as an observer.
2. The Meeting underscored the importance of advancing regional energy connectivity as a foundation for ASEAN's long-term security, sustainability, and prosperity. The Meeting welcomed and appreciated Malaysia's 2025 Chairmanship under the theme "Powering ASEAN: Bridging Boundaries, Building Prosperity". It emphasised the need to advance the energy agenda by strengthening relations with the hope of achieving collective prosperity and progress in the ASEAN region and improving the lives of citizens through economic growth that prioritises the inclusivity and sustainability agenda.
3. The Meeting acknowledged the remarkable progress in implementing the current

ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2016-2025 Phase II: 2021–2025 and appreciated the Plus Three Countries' invaluable support over the past five-year.

4. The Meeting welcomed the endorsement of the new APAEC 2026-2030 with the theme, “Advancing Regional Cooperation in Ensuring Energy Security and Accelerating Decarbonisation for a Just and Inclusive Energy Transition”. The Meeting further recognised the crucial role of the Plus Three countries in supporting the implementation of the new APAEC strategies and the importance of collective actions to accelerate the energy transition while ensuring energy security and resilience. The Meeting reaffirmed its commitment to foster innovation, mobilise finance, and strengthen regional interconnectivity as key enablers for achieving a low-carbon economy. In light of intensifying global geopolitical dynamics, rising energy demand, and rapid advancements in digitalisation and emerging technologies, the Meeting stressed the need further to enhance collaboration between ASEAN and the Plus Three countries to ensure long-term stability, economic competitiveness, and sustainable development in the region.
5. The Meeting also welcomed the signing of the Enhanced Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of the ASEAN Power Grid (APG) and the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Petroleum Security (APSA), which signifies a high-level commitment to deepen regional interconnection and strengthen energy security.

Energy Security

6. The Meeting noted that ASEAN Member States (AMS) are pursuing various approaches to strengthen their energy security and resilience, reflecting national circumstances and priorities but stressed the importance of collective action to address global market volatility and ensure energy security, noting that ASEAN's continued dependence on oil imports remains a regional vulnerability. In this regard, the Meeting underlined the importance of advancing regional energy interconnections through overland and submarine power cables to bolster supply security and cross-border electricity trade and optimise the sharing of resources across borders. The Meeting further stressed the need to accelerate the development and deployment of emerging

low-carbon solutions including hydrogen, fuel ammonia, small modular reactors and carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) or carbon recycling as key drivers of the region's sustainable energy transition. The Meeting noted, as important initiatives that contribute to energy transition in Asia, the Japan-led Asia Zero Emission Community (AZEC) and relevant initiatives such as Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI) and the private-sector-led Asia Transition Finance Study Group (ATF SG).

7. The Meeting appreciated the successful convening of the 12th Oil Capacity Building Programme for ASEAN on Energy Security on 9-12 December 2024 in Japan, jointly organised by ACE and the Japan Organization for Metals and Energy Security (JOGMEC) to strengthen their knowledge, share experiences, and explore practical measures for addressing potential supply disruptions, including through oil security and stockpiling policies. The Meeting looked forward to the convening of the 13th Oil Stockpiling Roadmap Workshop in Thailand on 12 November 2025 and the 13th Oil Capacity Building Programme for ASEAN on Energy Security in Japan on 9-12 December 2025.
8. The Meeting noted the role of the Energy Security Forum (ESF) as a platform to exchange knowledge and strengthen regional cooperation in responding to these challenges. The Meeting further welcomed Thailand's plan to host the 22nd ESF on 14 November 2025.
9. The Meeting appreciated the continued support of the Plus Three Countries in advancing Clean Coal Technology (CCT) and Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) development in ASEAN. The Meeting acknowledged ongoing initiatives facilitated by ACE with Japan Carbon Frontier Organisation (JCOAL), JOGMEC, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) and China Energy Technology and Economics Research Institute (CETRI), including the findings from its studies, highlighting the pivotal role of governments in establishing clear regulatory frameworks to foster investment and adoption of CCT and CCUS, as well as the persistent challenge of high upfront capital costs. Looking ahead, the Meeting encouraged further Plus Three support, particularly in developing supportive policies, financing mechanisms and sustainable business models to enable wider deployment of these technologies.

10. The Meeting welcomed knowledge and information exchanges between China and AMS on civilian nuclear energy, and encouraged deeper cooperation in nuclear technology, human resources capacity building, small modular reactors (SMRs), hydrogen production and heat supply. The Meeting further welcomed AMS' sustained involvement in China's "Tsinghua University International Master's Program in Nuclear Engineering and Management" Programme. The Meeting highlighted the importance of strengthening international cooperation on human resource development, including activities, conducted by JAIF International Cooperation Center (JICC) and regulatory frameworks to ensure the safe and responsible use of nuclear energy. In this context, the Meeting noted the exploration of civilian nuclear applications beyond large-scale power generation, including small modular reactors (SMRs), hydrogen production, and industrial heat for interested countries. The Meeting acknowledged the ongoing dialogue between ACE and the Korea Nuclear Association for International Cooperation (KNA) on the development of new initiatives under the new APAEC 2026-2030, aimed at strengthening regional capacity and expertise in the field of nuclear energy.
11. The Meeting acknowledged and appreciated Korea's ongoing collaboration between ASEAN Member States (AMS) and the Korea Electrical Safety Corporation (KESCO) to enhance electrical safety management for New and Renewable Energy (NRE) facilities in the ASEAN region. The Meeting further recognised the series of capacity-building programs implemented in 2024-2025, including a joint policy report on NRE safety management laws and technical standards with ACE, an ESS safety research workshop in Indonesia and a Knowledge Sharing Program (KSP) on digital inspection systems in Malaysia, which aimed to share Korea's expertise in electrical safety with public officials and key stakeholders from ASEAN countries. The Meeting looked forward to the continued collaboration between KESCO and ACE as well as other ASEAN partners under this area.

Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum and Business Dialogue

12. The Meeting acknowledged ASEAN+3 reliance on oil and gas, which underscored the increasing urgency of strengthening regional cooperation to mitigate supply disruptions and enhance energy resilience. The Meeting recognised the essential role

of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in supporting both energy security and the region's energy transition, stressing the importance of sustained investment in LNG infrastructure to ensure reliable access while advancing low-carbon development. Moreover, the Meeting recognised the on-going works implemented by ACE on methane emissions management in the oil and gas sector and noted the importance of practical approaches to reducing methane emissions through discussions among industries such as CLEAN (Coalition for LNG Emission Abatement toward Net-zero) initiative.

13. The Meeting further welcomed Thailand's plan to host the 14th ASEAN+3 Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum and Business Dialogue on 13 November 2025, to strengthen dialogue on the future of oil and gas in the region. The Forum aims to not only facilitate the sharing of best practices and the exploration of new business opportunities, but also promote collaboration on policy frameworks, investment strategies, and technological innovations that can enhance the resilience and sustainability of the sector.

New and Renewable Energy (NRE) and Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EE&C)

14. The Meeting acknowledged the notable progress achieved under the ASEAN–Japan Energy Efficiency Partnership (AJEEP), particularly through Scheme 4 and Scheme 5, in advancing the regional energy management training and certification framework and supporting Carbon Neutrality (CN) objectives. The Meeting noted the ongoing efforts under AJEEP Scheme 4, to finalise the Common Standard Module (CSM) for energy manager certification system, and Advanced Module (AM) for the high-level energy managers to realize CN, under the Sustainable ASEAN Energy Management Certification Scheme (SAEMAS), including country consultations to facilitate its comprehensive adoption across all AMS. The Meeting further appreciated the CN diagnosis action plan development undertaken in AMS in identifying country-specific CN policy measures, challenges and opportunities for energy transition and Zero Energy Building (ZEB) promotion in the industrial and building sectors, thereby supporting ASEAN's transition towards a low-carbon energy future.

15. The Meeting expressed appreciation for the deepening of cooperation between ACE and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan and the resulting successful convening of the 7th Government–Private Forum on the Cleaner Energy Future Initiative for ASEAN (CEFIA), held on 13–14 February 2025 in Kobe, Japan, as well as the 8th Government-Private Forum on the CEFIA convened on the sidelines of the ASEAN Energy Business Forum (AEBF) on 17 October 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Meeting recognised the significant progress achieved through CEFIA's flagship projects and highlighted the growing engagement of the private sector in advancing decarbonisation technologies and initiatives. The Meeting underscored the critical role of CEFIA for mobilising transition financing and further encouraged both public and private sector business model in energy transition projects. The Meeting also recognised the importance of continued and substantive contributions of CEFIA and its flagship projects in support of the implementation of the APAEC 2026–2030, thereby fostering a cohesive and integrated approach to advancing ASEAN's clean energy objectives. The Meeting also acknowledged the Enhancement of Clean Energy Technology Ecosystem and Connectivity in ASEAN project by ACE and UNIDO supported by Japan ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) which aims to accelerating the growth of startups in clean energy and climate technology sector.
16. The Meeting acknowledged the importance of strengthening regional cooperation under the ASEAN+3 framework to accelerate the energy transition and enhance energy efficiency, as a step towards achieving carbon neutrality. The Meeting emphasised the necessity of prioritising EE&C efforts in the high-energy consuming industrial and transport sectors and requested continued support and best practice sharing from the ASEAN+3 Countries to facilitate this transition, in line with the enhanced target and strategies under the new APAEC. In this regard, the Meeting looked forward to the convening of the 19th ASEAN+3 New and Renewable Energy (NRE) and EE&C Forum, as a platform to exchange knowledge, share best practices, and strengthen cooperation in these priority areas.

Clean Energy Roundtable Dialogue

17. The Meeting acknowledged the successful convening of the 7th ASEAN+3 Clean Energy Roundtable Dialogue (CERD), held on 6–8 November 2024 in Shanwei, China, co-organised by ACE and the China Renewable Energy Engineering Institute (CREEI). The Dialogue, themed “ASEAN Regional Cross-Border Electricity Trade”, explored pathways to efficiently harness clean energy through enhanced interconnectivity and cross-border power exchange. The Meeting further noted the finalisation of the joint publication of ASEAN Cross-Border Electricity Trade: Increasing Renewable Energy Integration, developed by CREEI and ACE, which highlights the important role of cross-border electricity trade in ramping up renewable energy share and recognise ASEAN-China electricity trade cooperation will facilitate the achievement of greener, more reliable and efficient regional electricity supply.
18. The Meeting looked forward to the convening of the 7th East Asia Summit Clean Energy Forum (EAS CEF) under the theme “Pragmatic Drive, Future Thrive”, to be held in Fuzhou, China, on 4-5 November 2025, which will also feature the 8th ASEAN+3 Clean Energy Roundtable Dialogue under the theme “New Energy and Technologies Scaling Energy Storage for Resilient Power Systems”. The Meeting underscored the importance of these platforms in fostering regional dialogue, knowledge exchange, and partnership on clean energy transition, including advancing cross-border electricity trade, renewable energy integration, and innovative technologies. The Meeting expressed confidence that the upcoming events will further strengthen ASEAN+3 collaboration and contribute to the collective efforts of the EAS community in achieving sustainable, secure, and inclusive energy futures. The meeting also encouraged continued exploration of experimental cooperation projects under the “ASEAN-China Clean Energy Cooperation Centre (ACCECC)”, further promoting pragmatic clean energy cooperation, strengthening the sharing of renewable energy technologies, and supporting the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN-China Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (2026-2030) and the APAEC 2026-2030, to achieve regional economic low-carbon development and green sustainable growth.

Next Meeting

19. The delegations of the ASEAN+3 Countries, Timor Leste, the ASEAN Secretariat, and ACE expressed their appreciation to the Government and people of Malaysia for the warm hospitality and the excellent arrangements made for the 22nd AMEM+3.
20. The Meeting agreed to meet again in 2026 in the Philippines for the 23rd AMEM+3.