



Joint Media Statement

The Twenty-Third ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting Plus Three (China, Japan and the Republic of Korea) (23rd AMEM+3)

8 October 2026 | Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines

Introduction

1. The Twenty-Third ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting Plus Three (China, Japan and the Republic of Korea) (23rd AMEM+3) was held on 8 October 2026 at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC), Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Sharon S. Garin, Secretary of the Philippine Department of Energy, the meeting brought together energy ministers and representatives from ASEAN Member States, the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, alongside delegates from the ASEAN Secretariat and the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE).
2. The Meeting reaffirmed the important role of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation in strengthening regional energy security, sustainability and resilience amid evolving geopolitical developments, uncertainties in global energy markets and supply chains, rising energy demand, and rapid technological change, and highlighted the importance of maintaining accessible, stable, and reliable regional energy supply chain, as well as pursuing uninterrupted energy flows. The Meeting underscored the value of practical and economically viable cooperation that recognises different national circumstances and supports a secure, affordable, inclusive and sustainable energy transition.
3. The Meeting welcomed the commencement of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2026-2030 under the theme, "Advancing Regional Cooperation in Ensuring Energy Security and Accelerating Decarbonisation for a Just and Inclusive Energy Transition". The Meeting appreciated the longstanding support of the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea across the APAEC programme areas and encouraged closer alignment of ASEAN Plus Three activities with ASEAN's regional priorities, including flagship initiatives, project preparation, regulatory development, technology cooperation, financing and capacity building.
4. The Meeting noted that APAEC 2026-2030 serves as ASEAN's strategic blueprint for a secure, resilient, interconnected and low-carbon regional energy future. It further noted ASEAN's regional aspirations for 2030 to increase the share of renewable energy to 30% of Total Primary Energy Supply and 45% of installed power capacity, and to reduce energy intensity by 40% from the 2005 level. As of 2024, ASEAN had reduced energy intensity by 25.7%, while renewable energy accounted for 14.1% of Total Primary Energy Supply and 33.7% of installed power capacity. The Meeting recognised that stronger collective efforts on investment and innovation would be required to achieve the regional aspirations.
5. The Meeting reaffirmed support for the cooperation under the ASEAN Power Grid, the ongoing discussion of the Submarine Power Cable Development Framework without prejudice to each Member States' national laws and regulations. It highlighted the importance of cross-border electricity trade including initiatives such as the Lao PDR-Thailand-Malaysia-Singapore Power Integration Project (LTMS-PIP), regional power interconnections grid modernisation, smart grids,

energy storage, cybersecurity and resilient power systems in enabling renewable energy integration and strengthening regional electricity security.

6. The Meeting underscored the importance of strengthening regional preparedness and response for energy supply disruptions through energy diversification. The Meeting recognised that oil and natural gas, including liquefied natural gas, will continue to play important roles in regional energy security and the transition, and encouraged sustained investment in reliable infrastructure, including voluntary fuel reserve systems alongside practical efforts to reduce carbon and methane emissions.
7. The Meeting welcomed the launch of the 9th ASEAN Energy Outlook (AEO9) and noted that ASEAN's energy demand is projected to reach around four times current levels by 2060, driven by economic growth, urbanisation, industrialisation and emerging sources of demand, including data centres. The Meeting further noted that achieving this growing demand while ensuring a secure, reliable, affordable and sustainable energy supply could require investment of around USD 400 billion annually, while delivering longer-term benefits for ASEAN. In this regard, the Meeting agreed to strengthen cooperation on technology, capacity building and investment mobilisation to advance ASEAN's energy security and sustainable energy development, in line with APAEC 2026–2030.
8. The Meeting welcomed cooperation on emerging and low-carbon energy technologies, including sustainable biofuels, such as biodiesel and bioethanol, electric vehicle and electric cooking, hydrogen and ammonia, carbon capture, utilisation and storage, innovative energy storage and civilian nuclear energy consistent with international standards, in accordance with the respective national priorities and readiness of ASEAN Member States. The Meeting noted the importance of policy and regulatory frameworks, safety, human resource development, technology transfer, financing mechanisms and viable business models to enable responsible deployment.

Energy Security, Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum and Business Dialogue

9. The Meeting noted the outcomes of the 13th Oil Stockpiling Roadmap Workshop, the 14th ASEAN Plus Three Oil Market and Natural Gas Forum and Business Dialogue, and the 22nd Energy Security Forum, held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 12 to 14 November 2025. The Meeting noted their recommendations to strengthen voluntary petroleum stockpiling and emergency preparedness, advance transition financing and carbon capture, utilisation and storage, and explore regional energy emergency exercises under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Petroleum Security. The Meeting noted the successful convening of the 13th Oil Capacity Building Programme for ASEAN on Energy Security on 8-11 December 2025 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.
10. The Meeting further noted the importance of strengthening cooperation with the Plus Three countries in renewable energy such as geothermal energy, new-type energy storage, hydrogen and ammonia, carbon capture, utilisation and storage, and civilian nuclear energy, supported by innovative financing mechanisms such as green bonds and public-private partnerships. It also noted the ongoing Long-Term LNG Planning Study (Gas Advocacy White Paper) by the ASEAN Council on Petroleum and Energy (ASCOPE) and ACE, which will support the implementation of APAEC 2026-2030.
11. 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. 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.

12. The Meeting welcomed Japan's emphasis on strengthening energy security through diversified and practical pathways tailored to national circumstances, including clean energy, existing energy resources and energy efficiency through the initiative such as Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI), and any other Japan's regional energy initiative. The Meeting noted Japan's Partnership on Wide Energy and Resources Resilience Asia (POWER Asia) as an initiative to support cooperation on regional energy security and supply resilience, and encouraged continued cooperation on energy connectivity and power grid development, noting national-capacity-based approaches to supply security.
13. The Meeting welcomed Japan's continued efforts since the Ministerial Meeting last year to support ASEAN's consideration of nuclear power development through capability-building activities, with the support and involvement of relevant organisations such as the JAIF International Cooperation Center (JICC) in areas including human resource development, expert exchanges, knowledge sharing, and infrastructure development. The Meeting also underscored the importance of promoting the peaceful use of nuclear energy in accordance with national needs and circumstances, with a view to ensuring its safe, secure, and responsible use, and looked forward to the continuation of such support in the ASEAN region.
14. The Meeting noted the Republic of Korea's Resilient and Integrated Strategy for Energy Security in Asia (RISE ASIA), in partnership with the International Energy Agency (IEA), as an initiative to support regional information sharing and crisis preparedness and to advance electrification, and look forward to further updates on its development and implementation.

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

15. The Meeting welcomed the outcomes of the 19th ASEAN Plus Three New and Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency and Conservation Forum, hosted virtually by the Philippines on 23 April 2026. It recognised continued progress by ASEAN Member States in strengthening renewable energy and energy efficiency policies and appreciated the support of Japan and the Republic of Korea in technology deployment, capacity building and financing mechanisms for innovative and low-carbon energy solutions. The Meeting welcomed the progress achieved under the ASEAN–Japan Energy Efficiency Partnership (AJEEP) in supporting the Sustainable ASEAN Energy Management Certification Scheme (SAEMAS), conducting Carbon Neutrality (CN) diagnosis activities in industrial facilities and buildings, and implementing the Energy Conservation workshop (ECAP).
16. The Meeting expressed appreciation for the collaboration between ACE and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, which contributed to the successful convening of the 9th Government–Private Forum on the Cleaner Energy Future Initiative for ASEAN (CEFIA) on 22 April 2026 at which Carbon Recycling was launched as a new flagship project. The Meeting welcomed the ASEAN Sparks Elevate Final Stage on 1 May 2026, which featured startup pitches from ASEAN Member States and promoted exchanges with Japanese companies. The Meeting also welcomed the planned convening of the 10th Government–Private Forum on CEFIA in Japan in February 2027. The Meeting underscored the critical role of CEFIA in promoting public and private sector engagement in clean energy initiatives and recognised the continued contributions

of CEFIA to the implementation of APAEC 2026–2030, thereby supporting ASEAN's clean energy transition and energy objectives.

17. The Meeting reaffirmed the role of the Forum in supporting APAEC 2026-2030 through cooperation on decarbonisation, regional energy market integration and emerging energy technologies. It encouraged practical activities that enhance energy access, promote innovation and digitalisation, strengthen industrial decarbonisation and regional resilience, and contribute to a just and inclusive energy transition.

Clean Energy Roundtable Dialogue

18. The Meeting acknowledged the positive outcomes delivered by the ASEAN+3 Clean Energy Roundtable Dialogue. As an important platform for practical energy sector cooperation between ASEAN and China, this Dialogue focuses on priority areas including energy security, clean energy transition, regional power interconnection, and innovative clean energy technologies. It serves as an effective channel for both sides to conduct strategic policy dialogue, advance practical cooperation and follow up on the implementation of deliverables.
19. The Meeting welcomed the outcomes of the Eighth ASEAN Plus Three Clean Energy Roundtable Dialogue, organised under the ASEAN-China Clean Energy Cooperation Centre (ACCECC), on "Scaling Energy Storage for Resilient Power Systems". The Meeting recognised the growing importance of innovative energy storage and other advanced storage technologies in facilitating renewable energy integration and strengthening power system resilience, while noting persistent challenges related to investment costs, market and pricing mechanisms, grid integration, safety standards and capacity building.
20. The Meeting welcomed the People's Republic of China's continued support through policy coordination, technical cooperation, capacity building and the ACCECC. The Meeting encouraged project-based cooperation, standards coordination and knowledge exchange on nuclear power, pumped-storage hydropower, offshore wind experimental and trial cooperation, renewable energy grid integration, cross-border power trade and related transmission technologies and resilient power systems studies. The Meeting also welcomed the work carried out by ACCECC on offshore wind experimental and trial cooperation, and the future development of the ASEAN Guidelines for Offshore Wind Power Deployment and Grid-connection, which provides technical support for ASEAN's largescale offshore wind power development and the implementation of APAEC 2026-2030. The Meeting also welcomed ACCECC to carry out practical cooperation on cross-border power trade and renewable energy certificate market, and jointly study the overarching framework for ASEAN cross-border electricity trade and renewable energy certificate market, to support ASEAN in improving market rules for cross-border electricity trade, green electricity consumption and the clean energy transition.

ASEAN-Republic of Korea Nuclear Energy Cooperation

21. The Meeting welcomed progress in the ASEAN-Republic of Korea Nuclear Energy Cooperation initiative, including the joint study by the Korea Nuclear Association and ACE on nuclear power programme financing and human resource development in ASEAN. The Meeting noted that the study is intended to assess regional needs and strengthen policy dialogue, institutional capacity, technical cooperation and knowledge sharing on nuclear, financing and human resource development.
22. The Meeting further noted the planned multi-year ASEAN-Republic of Korea Nuclear Energy Cooperation Project beginning in 2027, subject to applicable processes, which is expected to

include training programmes, joint studies, technical workshops and policy dialogue. It aims to support ASEAN's energy security and carbon neutrality goals by sharing Korea's nuclear safety technologies and operational experience. It welcomed the demand-driven approach, which recognises the different levels of nuclear energy development among ASEAN Member States and supports interested countries in accordance with their national priorities and readiness.

Next Meeting

23. The delegations of the ASEAN Member States, the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, together with the ASEAN Secretariat and ACE, expressed their sincere appreciation to the Government and people of the Philippines for the warm hospitality and excellent arrangements made for the successful convening of the 23rd AMEM+3.
24. The Meeting agreed to meet again in 2027 in Singapore for the 24th AMEM+3.