

1. WELCOME ADDRESS

PROCEDURE

The EMM8 Chair, the Hon Ian Macfarlane MP, Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, will address the meeting (9:00 - 9:05).

OBJECTIVE

- To welcome Ministers, Official APEC Observers and invited Guests.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- That Ministers meet within the context of an increasing global consensus that energy security is fundamentally linked to our economic, social and environmental well-being.
- That Ministers be guided by the Ha Noi Declaration's call to respond to the challenges of meeting rapidly growing energy demands while minimising environmental effects.

BACKGROUND

APEC Energy Ministers ('Ministers') are gathering for the eighth time, under the theme *Achieving Energy Security and Sustainable Development through Efficiency, Conservation and Diversity*.

Ministers meet within the context of an increasing global consensus that energy security is fundamentally linked to our economic, social and environmental well-being. Ministers will discuss how to address the challenges of meeting rapidly growing energy demands while minimising environmental effects, with an emphasis on:

- promoting clean and efficient energy production and use, through
 - improving energy efficiency;
 - developing and deploying cleaner and more efficient energy technologies;
 - attracting energy investment and facilitating cross-border trade; and
 - an APEC Energy Peer Review Mechanism.
- achieving oil security, through
 - facilitating investment and trade in downstream and upstream oil markets;
 - enhancing emergency preparedness;
 - improving oil data sharing; and
 - promoting energy efficient transport and alternative transport fuels.
- promoting broader energy cooperation.

At EMM8, Ministers will seek to respond to the instructions of APEC (Foreign & Trade) Ministers and APEC Leaders from their meetings in Ha Noi during November 2006. The *Ha Noi Declaration* (extract below) places a strong emphasis on energy security and sustainable development and Ministers will, *inter alia*, consider what they may contribute to a report to Leaders on pursuing policies and technologies that promote the development of cleaner energy and the improvement of energy efficiency.

14th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting, 18-19 November 2006, Ha Noi, Viet Nam (extract)

We reiterated that energy security is critical for sustainable economic development. Noting the challenges of meeting rapidly growing energy demands while minimizing environmental effects, we urged member economies to continue to work to facilitate energy investments and cross-border energy trade, to develop new and renewable energy sources and technologies to ensure cleaner use of fossil fuels, to boost energy efficiency and conservation, to enhance emergency preparedness and to better protect critical energy infrastructure. We commended the launch of the APEC

Biofuels Task Force. We instructed Ministers to report to us in 2007 on ways in which APEC might further contribute to responding to these challenges through pursuing policies and technologies that promote the development of cleaner energy and the improvement of energy efficiency, thereby enabling economies to meet increasing energy needs with a lower environmental impact and to address climate change objectives.

18th APEC Ministerial Meeting, 15-16 November 2006, Ha Noi, Viet Nam (extract)

Ministers reiterated the concerns of member economies about the impact of high oil prices, noting that effective responses require a range of supply and demand side measures. Ministers reaffirmed that energy security, in the form of reliable access to reliable sources of energy is fundamental to the region's continued economic development. Ministers encouraged the Energy Working Group (EWG) to continue its work to pursue energy policies that reduce or remove market distortions, result in efficient consumption and production, and enhance energy security within the APEC region, while mitigating the environmental effects of energy supply and use. Ministers also encouraged the EWG to continue its implementation of initiatives on liquefied natural gas (LNG) public education and communication and on financing of high-performance buildings and communities.

Ministers also noted the need to address the environmental side effects of rapidly growing energy demand. In particular, they urged APEC to consider ways in which it might further contribute to promoting cleaner energy, thereby addressing energy security, improving air quality, and advancing climate change objectives.

Ministers encouraged the strengthening of cooperation on energy issues through the Energy Security Initiative, including practical measures to improve energy data transparency through the Joint Oil Data Initiative, respond to energy supply disruptions, facilitate investment and cross-border trade, enhance energy efficiency, diversify energy sources including new and renewable energy, clean use of coal, and nuclear energy for interested economies, and promote technology cooperation. Ministers recognized the establishment of an APEC Bio-fuels Task Force, focused on issues such as economics, infrastructure, vehicles, resources and trade. Ministers welcomed the project to increase cooperation among nuclear safeguard authorities. Ministers also welcomed closer cooperation between the EWG and the International Energy Agency (IEA) which will broaden the view of EWG and lead to enhancement of EWG activities.

At EMM8, Ministers will also seek to advance the outcomes from their last meeting in the Republic of Korea during October 2005 and contribute to strengthening APEC as the prime organisation contributing to Asia Pacific energy security and sustainable development.

MEETING PAPERS

- Welcome Address - to be tabled.
- Declaration from the Seventh Meeting of APEC Energy Ministers.