

REPORT BY THE ASIA PACIFIC ENERGY RESEARCH CENTRE (APERC) CHAIR

The Chair of APERC will report on APERC's activities and on progress towards implementing the recommendations of the Review of APERC.

Review of APERC activities:

At EWG20 members endorsed the establishment of an ad-hoc group within the Expert Group on Energy Data and Analysis (EGEDA) to carry out an in-depth review of the research activities of APERC.

The terms of reference for the review were adopted at the 12th EGEDA meeting in Hong Kong, China in March 2001. The review concluded that APERC was responding effectively to the requirements of the EWG for policy relevant information and analysis.

At EWG22 held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea in September 2001, the review of APERC was presented to members. Many economies expressed their appreciation of APERC and their wish to maintain close links between APERC and the EWG. Japan noted that it would continue to fully support APERC within the constraints of the budget.

Mr. Masuda, President of APERC, expressed his appreciation of the report and considered it a positive step to making APERC a better tool to service member economies, and expressed that he was happy to adopt some of the 23 recommendations in the report. In particular he noted that recommendations on administrative issues were important, but indicated that they might be difficult to implement for budgetary reasons.

At its annual meeting in Chinese Taipei on 11 and 12 March 2002, EGEDA considered its response to the Review of the APERC. The group agreed with the recommendations made in the review. In particular:

- The group agreed to a proposed draft terms of reference for APERC;
- That it is appropriate to review, in conjunction with the EWG the criteria against which the appropriateness of APERC's research proposals are evaluated;
- That it is appropriate for EGEDA to update the regional energy supply and demand outlook ever two years; and
- To seek a coordinated response from EGEDA technical and policy delegates when formulating input to APERC. With the aim of improving the effectiveness of EGEDA's oversighting of APERC activities.

APERC will report on activities undertaken since EWG22.

Action Proposed for the Twenty-Third Meeting

- Members to note the report of the APERC Chair.
- Members to note the progress on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Report on the APERC Review.