

PRESS RELEASE

MINISTRY OF ENERGY TRANSITION AND WATER TRANSFORMATION (PETRA)

MALAYSIA HOSTS KEY ASEAN ENERGY CONSULTATIONS TO ADVANCE REGIONAL COOPERATION

Kuching, 18 June 2025 - The Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation (PETRA) yesterday successfully convened six high-level energy meetings at the Sheraton Hotel, Kuching, marking a significant step forward in regional energy cooperation under Malaysia's leadership as Chair of the 43rd Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME).

The meetings brought together ASEAN Member States, Dialogue Partners and International Organizations including Australia, China, Japan, Russia, the United States, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), International Energy Agency (IEA) and International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) to address critical energy priorities aligned with ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) Phase II (2021-2025).

Key outcomes from the consultations include:

1.30th East Asia Summit Energy Cooperation Task Force Meeting

The meeting acknowledged the progress made under the APAEC Phase II (2021-2025). Discussions focused on advancing energy efficiency measures, sustainable biofuels and renewable energy deployment, with valuable contributions from dialogue partners including Australia, China, Japan, South Korea, Russia and the United States.

2.26th SOME-METI Consultation

Malaysia and Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) examined ongoing collaborations through the ASEAN-Japan Energy Efficiency Partnership (AJEEP) and other low-carbon initiatives. The consultation also laid the foundation for developing the APAEC framework for 2026-2030.

3. 3rd ASEAN-ADB Energy Dialogue

Significant progress was made on the ASEAN Power Grid initiative, with ADB presenting its 2025-2026 work plan focused on clean energy transitions and sustainable infrastructure development through innovative financing frameworks.

4. 16th SOME-Russia on Energy Consultation

The meeting launched the ASEAN-Russia Capacity Building on Energy Statistics (ARCS) project and explored potential cooperation in oil, gas and nuclear energy sectors, while beginning work on a new energy cooperation plan for 2026-2028.

5. 16th SOME-U.S. on Energy Consultation

Focusing on decarbonisation and renewable energy, the delegates acknowledged the progress achieved under the current ASEAN-U.S. Energy Cooperation Work Plan, particularly the Smart Power Programme and power grid connectivity studies, while discussing LNG security infrastructure development.

6. IEA & IRENA Dialogues

These sessions provided valuable global perspectives, with IEA presenting its Southeast Asia Energy Outlook 2025 and IRENA sharing renewable energy trends, both reaffirming their commitment to supporting ASEAN's clean energy transition.

Malaysia's leadership as the 43rd SOME Chair exemplifies the nation's strong commitment in promoting regional energy security, fostering technological innovation and advancing sustainable energy solutions.

These meetings aim to establish stronger partnerships, enhance policy coordination and develop practical strategies to realise ASEAN's collective vision for a cleaner and more resilient energy future.

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