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As a leading international research organization, ERIA is actively conducting quality research on numerous issues. With its partnership network of organizations and strong relations with governments in the region, ERIA is well positioned to support regional initiatives for sustainable growth and quality of life for the people in ASEAN and East Asia

Bandar Seri Begawan, 16 June 2022: Professor Hidetoshi Nishimura, President of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) delivered a keynote address at the Brunei Darussalam Energy Symposium 2022 on ' Energy Security and Energy Transition: Today and Tomorrow'. Organised by the Petroleum Authority of Brunei Darussalam, the conference was held at the Musyawarah Hall, International Convention Centre in Bandar Seri Begawan.

Yang Mulia Awang Haji Azhar bin Haji Yahya, Permanent Secretary, Department of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office and Interim Managing Director, Petroleum Authority of Brunei Darussalam, delivered remarks at the opening ceremony. Following the Secretary of Prime Minister's Office's speech, Professor Nishimura gave the keynote address which focused on ERIA's research on clean energy transition in the ASEAN region.

In his presentation, Prof Nishimura discussed ASEAN's carbon neutrality goals in 2050, 2060, and 2065. These targets were highlighted at COP26 which established the Glasgow Climate Pact to pursue efforts to control the world's average temperature and urges countries to expedite the phase-out of coal power.

ERIA's research work including the Asia CCUS Network and the 4th East Asia Energy Forum were strongly welcomed by the leaders. Professor Nishimura also extended his sincere gratitude to Brunei Darussalam for the country's strong support towards carbon neutrality. The ASEAN region should advocate for a gradual, realistic energy transition with available financing.

Prof Nishimura underscored ERIA's willingness to support ASEAN countries with their energy transition efforts. On top of that, ERIA has a plan to promote energy-saving and new energy research projects including green hydrogen in Brunei Darussalam this year. Lastly, Professor Nishimura hoped that the energy symposium would mark a valuable step towards a secure, reliable, sustainable, and affordable energy transition in the region.

The symposium was also attended by Yang Mulia Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Matsatejo bin Sokiaw, Deputy Minister, Department of Energy, Prime Minister's Office, as well as government officials, industry executives, intergovernmental organisations, academics, and experts from Brunei Darussalam. The conference included four sessions of panel discussion on energy-related themes in addition to the presentations and discussions by the experts.

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ERIA is an international organisation established in Jakarta, Indonesia, in 2008 through a formal agreement amongst the leaders of 16 East Asian countries. Its mission is to conduct research and provide policy recommendations to advance economic integration across the region.

Brunei Darussalam adopts a Whole-of-Nation approach in addressing adverse changing climate patterns. Through effective policies, careful planning and management, Brunei Darussalam is committed to pave low carbon and climate-resilient pathways for a sustainable nation. This Brunei Darussalam National Climate Change Policy underpins the principles, values and strategies to reduce carbon emissions, increase carbon sink and strengthen climate resilience nationwide.

This strategy seeks to lower carbon intensity from the industries in Brunei Darussalam through zero routine flaring and to "As Low As Reasonably Practicable" (ALARP). The main focus for the Brunei Darussalam National Climate Change Policy is to reduce industrial emissions across the country by 2035.

This strategy seeks to ensure a smooth transition for nationwide adoption and use of renewable energy technologies. This strategy focuses on increasing total share of renewable energy to at least 30% of the total capacity in the power generation mix using mainly solar photovoltaic (PV) by 2035.

This strategy seeks to reduce carbon emissions contribution from the power sector by focusing on increasing energy efficiency and conservation at both supply and demand side. The aim is to reduce GHG emissions from power generation by at least 10% by 2035 (from BAU).

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