

Introductory remarks by UNSD

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Ladies and Gentleman,

Welcome to the International Workshop on Energy Statistics for ASEAN countries in Kuala Lumpur!

It is being organized by the **United Nations Statistics Division** and the **Energy Commission of Malaysia**.

This workshop is the result of cooperative talks held between UNSD and the Energy Commission over the course of more than a year. From the UN perspective, it is part of our capacity building programme in Statistics. Having received feedback from countries in the region, we identified the need for this kind of workshop in energy statistics. When the Energy Commission of Malaysia generously offered to host this workshop and share costs, we felt we should not miss this opportunity.

This event aims at not only disseminating the international methodology in energy statistics, but also at sharing national experiences and possibly enhancing the cooperation between National Statistical Offices and agencies in charge of energy and/or energy statistics. The event received the honour of being selected by the Energy Commission of Malaysia for the launch of the Malaysia Energy Statistics Mobile Application, the first such application in the ASEAN region.

We would like to greatly thank the Malaysian Government and the Energy Commission for offering the opportunity of realizing this workshop.

Acknowledgements

There are so many people to thank for their support in the preparation of this workshop that I will not mention all of them by name. Nevertheless I would like to highlight the presence and support of Dato Abdul Razak, Chairman of Energy Commission of Malaysia; and of Ir. Azhar bin Omar, acting CEO of the Energy Commission of Malaysia.

I would also like to mention the cooperation of Datin Noor Aizah, Head of the Malaysia Energy Information Hub (MEIH), and of Mr. Zaharin Zulkifli, who was the focal point of our contacts with the Energy Commission.

I would like to thank my colleagues from UN-ESCAP, APERC, ACE for accepting the invitation to participate in the workshop and present their work on energy statistics.

I would be remiss not to mention the administrative help both on the side of the UN and on the side of the Energy Commission.

Lastly, I would like to thank the workshop participants, who are here not only to learn, but also to enrich the workshop with your experience.

Energy

Energy has always been an important topic, and energy statistics has been fundamental to understand and to plan for energy security. Recently, energy has been highlighted as one of the focuses of the development agenda for various reasons, chiefly among them its role as a major enabler of sustainable development & the eradication of poverty .

Workshop structure:

The workshop will start with an introduction and then cover recent developments in energy statistics. After that, it will address each of

the five main categories of energy products separately, with sessions on coal, oil, natural gas, electricity & heat, and renewables. The last day of the workshop will cover topics that integrate the different categories of energy products, such as energy balances, indicators and dissemination. Country practices will be allocated to sessions, and I hope they, in addition to shedding light on country practices, will also give you a break from hearing my voice all the time.

Thank you for your attention and I look forward to a fruitful workshop