

**BOAO FORUM FOR ASIA (BFA) ENERGY, RESOURCES &
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE – KL 11 JUNE 2015
“ONE BELT AND ONE ROAD @ ASIAN ENERGY/ RESOURCES COOPERATION”
KEY NOTE SPEECH – TUN ABDULLAH AHMAD BADAWI**

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentleman,

1. First and foremost, let me take this opportunity to welcome to the BOAO Forum for Asia, Energy, Resources & Sustainable Development Conference here in Kuala Lumpur. It is an exciting year for Malaysia, having earlier hosted the 2015 ASEAN summit and now this important conference, on such a fundamental issue for our region.
2. It is important to ask ourselves this question: - How do we balance growth to what is happening to the nature. As we are living in an urbanizing Malaysia, it is important to think about the concept of inclusiveness, intelligence, integrated, liveability and how to use it. By 2030, 6 out of 10 people will live in class. The world people are using 75% of the resources of the world. It is projected that in 2030, there will be 2.7 billion urbanized people in Asian cities.
3. Energy determines the quality of our lives and drives economic development. The efficiency and sustainability of how it is consumed must be considered of great importance and should be one of our highest concerns. Our region is young, and as many of its nations are undergoing rapid development, energy demand will continue to be one of the critical issues facing us.
4. The type of infrastructure investments we make today will lock energy use and pollution levels tomorrow. The way we manage natural resources and the built environment today – land, water, air quality, transport, spaces – will determine the options available tomorrow. There is a huge opportunity for urbanizing Asia to create sustainable cities by making smart choices to design cities and towns as vibrant places of opportunities, services and cultural heritage where people want to live and work.

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5. The energy and resources theme contributes to one of the grand challenges of our times – how to realize a sustainable energy and resource system within a world that is constrained by climate change and increasingly resource scarcity?
6. Business as usual is no longer an option. Studies have shown that a person living in Asia Pacific is 4 times more vulnerable to natural disasters compared to those living in the Africa continent and 25 times more prone to natural disaster than someone living in the North America continent.
7. More sustainable methods of energy consumption are needed to ensure environment sustainability, affordability, security and social acceptance for future energy to move forward.

8. Asia's cities continue to grow, concern mounts over their ability to effectively deal with the various challenges e.g. housing, and infrastructure development will require smart management strategies to effectively deal with these challenges, reduce vulnerabilities and improve economic growth.
9. Smart city suggests efficiency. It is often defined by their innovation and ability to solve problems, sometimes this is linked to technology – using technology to solve problems, e.g. green technology, green building, low carbon development.
10. The cost of inaction on sustainable renewed energy borne by all segments of society-including citizens, business sectors ranging from production and use-are too high. To reduce these coats and more effectively achieve national and regional sustainable development goals, improvements in investing on energy in sustainable development is crucial.
11. To achieve that, we need to upgrade energy distribution infrastructure and start to invest in innovative technologies. To achieve this strong partnership with inter-government bodies, the UN agencies, business sectors, policy makers and experts are vital for the production of clean energy, green growth and a prosperous sustainable future.
12. We need to pursue common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable energy security, as well as a regional vision with open, harmonious, and inclusive methods, in order to share expertise and promote renewable energy development. This will strengthen the bonds between our countries and provide all of us with new economic development opportunities.
13. In doing so, we should begin by increasing investment on energy infrastructure. Indeed growing energy demand calls for new investment in energy production and infrastructural development in order to secure an adequate and stable supply of energy. We need to ensure access to adequate, affordable energy, as this represents the essential means in tackling poverty and improving human welfare and increased living standards.

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14. Asian cities dominate and drive our economic transformation, bring about unprecedented prosperity and dynamism with a rising middle class. But in so doing they account for about 70 per cent of all energy use and emit over 70 per cent of all greenhouse gases. Most carbon emissions are derived from our building, transport, waste, fossil-fuel based energy and industry. The implication for people and our eco-systems are profound.
15. There is opportunity, for example, to bring to scale public-private partnership to develop innovative technologies and new markets to shape energy systems for sustainable development. This can be done by doubling the rate of energy efficiency, doubling the shape of renewable energy while providing universal access to modern energy services for all. These are the goals of the United National. Secretary-General's campaign on "Energy for Sustainable Development" which we in Asia can adopt.

16. Climate change, sustainable development of traditional energy, renewable and clean energy, smart cities and sustainable urban life, health and inclusive growth and human development, distributed energy and smart grid and energy Internet, trans-Pacific partnership are all sectors that encompasses under the theme of energy, resources and sustainable development.
17. We need to develop and strengthen our global partnership for investing in sustainable development as Asian Governments are seriously tapping into regional economic integration and connectivity (physical, digital and regulatory), to sustain the region's dynamism.
18. By building upon the rich history and success stories of Japan and the Silicon Valley, these countries are increasingly recognized as key leaders in innovation and sustainability. We also see tremendous opportunities that are promoted under the One Belt One Road Initiative. Perhaps, this could be a starting point for us to develop such partnership.
19. There are many fundamental elements that are required for building an effective collaboration with an aim to ensure the direction of enhanced regional connectivity while also embracing a bright future together. In this regard, energy cooperation with global players including China can be build under the framework of One Belt One Road Initiative.
20. United National ESCAP (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) provides a broad technical assistance to the region with a strong focus on sustainable development and renewable energy. To boost energy efficiency, I am of the view that respective regulatory framework for increased utilisation of renewable energy should be put in place for the region. To this effect, we might want to optimize the funding that can be provided by the recently established Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). This can be a great tool in spearheading effective and inclusive development in our region.

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21. The Maritime Silk Road underlies the potential for an enhanced strategic collaboration in energy research between Malaysia, ASEAN and China. This is an opportune time for counties in this region to explore with the possibility to cooperate on development of renewable energy sources, the establishment of appropriate legislative and regulatory frameworks and the capacity building in the Asia-Pacific countries.
22. Energy has always been a mean to establish strong interdependencies among countries, their public and private sectors. We should pursue an effective exchange of technological knowledge to mutually benefit from these interlocking relationships.
23. As the main engine of growth in the coming decades, Asian countries will face difficult policy choices on energy and sustainable development. The discussions over the next two days will therefore contribute towards building and shaping long-term relationships, both at regional and global levels. I hope that we can work together towards a more secure and sustainable energy future for all of our people.

I wish you a fruitful discussion. Terima Kasih.

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