



MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES,
ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

SPEECH BY

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**MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE
CHANGE**

NATIONAL ENERGY AWARDS APPRECIATION CEREMONY

DATE: 9th MARCH 2023 (THURSDAY)

TIME: 7.00 PM

LOCATION: M HOTEL, BUKIT KIARA, KUALA LUMPUR

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

Assalamu'alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and Good evening

Salutations

YB Dato' Sri Huang Tiong Sii

Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, Environment & Climate Change

YBhg. Dato' Rosli Isa

Secretary General, Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment & Climate Change

YBhg. Dato' Mohamad Razif Haji Abd Mubin

Deputy Secretary General, Environment & Climate Change

YBrs. Dr. Ching Thoo A/L Kim

Deputy Secretary General, Water and Sewerage

Ts. Shamsul Bahar Mohd. Nor

Chief Executive Officer, Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Corporation (MGTC)

Esteemed sponsors and partners,

Members of the media and Distinguished guests.

1. Let us begin by expressing our gratitude to Allah SWT for enabling us to gather this evening to celebrate the achievements of Malaysia's energy players. On behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change or NRECC, allow me to extend a hearty and warm welcome to all of you to the National Energy Awards 2022 Appreciation Dinner.
2. It is indeed a great pleasure and a privilege to be in the presence of this eminent audience, comprising of public-sector officials and captains of the energy, renewable energy and energy efficiency industries.
3. We are gathered here today to honour the organisations that have gone above and beyond the call for good corporate citizenship via their thorough adoption and application of sustainable energy in their business and industrial processes. Malaysia needs much more of this, namely concerted decarbonisation efforts by all stakeholders if we are to be able to accomplish our climate and net zero aspirations.
4. So, congratulations to all the winners. Thank you for your efforts, for being good corporate citizens not only for Malaysia but Planet Earth as well. Keep it up and make sure the commitments that have led you here today continue as a crucial part of your businesses.

THE CHANGING ENERGY LANDSCAPE

Ladies and gentlemen,

5. Energy ecosystems around the world has been going through rapid transitions, including to decentralised, decarbonised, and digitalised regimes. The continuation and acceleration of these shifts will bring significant changes. They may perhaps even result in a “new normal”, of drastic alterations to things we have taken for granted such as how we fuel our cars, cool our homes, and power our industries in the coming decades. Certainly, the mainstream consensus seems to be that we need to move beyond fossil fuels.
6. The call for an energy transition means that the capacity of renewable energy has been growing consistently and beyond expectations, according to International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).
7. In 2021, the percentage of RE in total capacity expansion set a new high of 81%. Global renewable generation capacity reached 3,064 Gigawatt (GW) by the end of the year, boosting the stock of renewable energy by 9.1%. According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), renewable energy generated 12% of the electricity in OECD countries in 2021, compared to 6% in non-OECD nations.

8. Separately, it is anticipated that by 2050, there could be two billion electric vehicles (EV) on the road across all segments. Also, building-related electricity demand is expected to increase up to 80-85% and 40% of space cooling and appliances to cater in the total electricity demand growth for buildings. All of these bring their own challenges.

MALAYSIA ON THE RIGHT TRACK TO TRANSITION

9. So where does Malaysia stand? According to the World Economic Forum's (WEF) latest Energy Transition Index, Malaysia ranked a respectable 39th, with system performance and transition readiness at 69% and 60% respectively.
10. The index measures a country's readiness to transition into an equitable, sustainable, and affordable energy future. This proves that Malaysia is on the right track to transition its energy especially in the power sector. But we can and must aim to do better because it involves the futures of our children and their children.
11. While only performing behind Singapore and Japan in the Asia-Pacific, we cannot be complacent since there is still room for improvement in terms of environmental sustainability and its energy system structure compared to the other more advanced nations. As we develop and grow our economy, our energy consumption will likewise expand to fulfil the higher output and demands. This will be especially prevalent in industries that are energy-intensive like manufacturing, industrial works, and processing plants.

12. Therefore, to ensure that a balanced approach is being adopted in addressing the need for economic growth and the call for climate mitigation, the Malaysian government has put in place various sustainable energy related programmes and initiatives to further promote a sustainable energy ecosystem. These include:
- a. the formulation of **the Malaysia Renewable Energy Roadmap** which put in place a **clear short and medium-term target** to increase the RE mix in power installed capacity;
 - b. utilisation of **rooftops for solar PV installation and own consumption** through targeted programme for various categories of electricity consumers namely, domestic, government, and businesses; and
 - c. the implementation of the **Green Electricity Tariff and Green Corporate Power Programme** which allows ESG conscious-corporate consumers to source for green and clean electricity supply.
13. The introduction of all these sustainable energy related programmes and initiatives have received overwhelming response from the industry. Separately, during the official launch of the Malaysia Energy Transition Outlook this morning, I announced 8 new initiatives to be implemented immediately, to further enhance and accelerate the adoption and application of renewable energy and energy efficiency.

NATIONAL ENERGY AWARDS

Ladies and Gentlemen,

14. Naturally, the government is aware that it cannot bring about energy transition and climate action on its own. Indeed, we must encourage more businesses to take the leap forward in this transition. A delay in the transition will be more costly for all of us in the future.
15. In line with the Government's strategic intent to decarbonise and transition the electricity supply sector, the NEA was created in 2018 to support and identify the best sustainable energy practices across all industries, including the private sector. It is also designed to position Malaysia as a key regional player in Energy Management, Energy buildings and Renewable Energy.
16. Over the years, the NEA has also played a pivotal role in encouraging business and building owners to adopt sustainable energy practises. The NEA today has become a platform to educate, promote and encourage the adoption of best sustainable energy practices in offices, factories, buildings and financial institutions, in support of Malaysia's 2050 climate aspiration.

17. I believe that the positive evolution of the NEA would not have been possible without the hard work of the NEA Secretariat at the Malaysia Green Technology and Climate Change Corporation (MGTC) and the NEA Working Team consisting of officials from the NRECC, Energy Commission, SEDA Malaysia and MGTC. Therefore, I would like to commend their commitment and esprit de corps in having taken this award to a higher level.
18. Allow me also to acknowledge our esteemed panel of judges, who have undertaken a rigorous evaluation process to determine the winners of each category. I thank and commend them for their generous commitment.
19. I am sure, that selecting winners among so many worthy entries was a difficult task, but I trust that with your professional experience, only the most deserving were named winners. Indeed, I want to challenge corporate Malaysia as a whole to seek to become winners at future NEAs. Ultimately, sustainability is for the future and ensuring this is always good for business.

CONCLUSION

20. In conclusion, it is hoped that the NEA will evolve to become a leading platform for sustainable energy industry players to convene, network and share best practises. We want to see more industry associations and chambers be part of this programme.

21. We must all work together to advance our goals for sustainable energy. It is essential for all parties—the government, business leaders, innovators, and the public, as a whole—to jointly build a more inclusive, progressive and sustainable Malaysia.

22. Let me end by again extending my heartfelt congratulations to all the NEA and AEA winners. You have done Malaysia proud and we want you to inspire more organisations to follow suit. With that, thank you and I wish you all a most enjoyable evening!

Wabillahi Taufik Wal Hidayah

Wassalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.