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Distinguished speakers and moderators

All distinguished participants of IETD 2020

Good afternoon, good morning to you all.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Energy is indispensable for our lives and has developed while wielding a significant influence on the modern history of humanity. During the pandemic, we realise that energy play more critical role.

Continuous and reliable energy powered our health facilities and support the mobility of the health workers to save life. Electricity allow us to continue working, studying and do our daily activities from home and remote places. Without reliable energy supply, it will be hard to battle the plague and recover from it.

Around the world, the lockdown measures and limitation of movements to contain covid-19 have led to economic contraction and significant drop in energy consumption. Indonesia has experiencing similar situation like others.

Due to 2020's global lockdowns, the world has experienced a significant drop in emissions. However, the reduction is only on a par with what is necessary annually. We need to do more to achieve emission reduction compatible with the most stringent goals of the Paris Agreement by 2050.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the world had been undergoing a transformation of energy systems at an unprecedented scale, accelerated by innovations, rapid cost declines for renewable and clean technologies, and related policy shifts to support rapid deployment of renewables.

During this pandemic year, we have seen remarkable commitment by countries to reach Paris Agreement target. Largest emitters in Asia, notably China, Japan and South Korea, committed to decarbonize their economy by the mid-of the century. Fossil fuel companies has announce to reduce their emission and become carbon neutral, as well as shifting their business into renewables. With all those, there is a slight of hope that we can keep temperature below 2 degree.

I believe we have the opportunity to reshape our energy system to become more resilient, efficient and carbon-neutral in the future. To go there as a country what we need is willingness to pursue energy transition and plan our collective actions.

Renewable is our future and we can increase renewable energy share in our current energy system. Contrary to some believe that we can't have high penetration of VRE, IESR study in 2019 shows that we can increase renewable energy penetration more than 40% in Jawa-Bali and Sumatra system by 2030, without jeopardising reliability, security nor increasing system cost.

Our latest study with Lappeenranta University of Technology (LUT) Finland and Agora Energiewende indicates that we can meet our energy demand from 100% clean and renewable energy in 2050 with more cost effective and without compromising energy security.

We understand it is not easy to go to 100% renewables. We will encounter scepticism, doubt and criticism. We will people and policy maker who will voicing their doubt to this idea. We will clash with the interest to keep old energy system ongoing as it is, resist to change.

But we know that technology, market and consumer preference change dramatically, and we can deny nor avoid it. Perhaps it is our limitation to predict the future and outcome of our action, and "habit, hassle and fear of unknown" as pointed by climate psychologist, Gerdien de Vries, Director of TU Delft Energy Transition Lab that hamper us to make bold decision or to act necessarily to speed up energy transition.

I will give you example. Ten years ago, very few believes that solar technologies could be mainstream. Energy model and scenario has failed to predict the rapid rising of solar accompany with rapid decline of its cost. Similarly a decade ago no one believe that fossil industries will collapse or coal companies will go bankrupt.

Fast forward, latest IEA's report stated "solar is the new king" replacing the king coal, and predicted that "based on today's policy settings, it is on track to set new records for deployment every year after 2022."

Coal - that has been believed as the cheapest energy sources - is now at its brink. The front cover of this week Economist Magazine entitled "Making Coal History"! What remarkable.

So we should not let our fear to leave the old structure behind force us not to make decision and move ahead to build system that is more sustainable, reliable, and cleaner.

Ladies and gentleman

I believe there will be many questions with the energy transition idea. How Indonesia can accelerate toward climate neutral and resilient energy system? What would the optimal pathways from now to 2050? How do we deal with our fossil resources, ultimately coal? How do we deal our fossil fuel infrastructures, the jobs? And so on..

Because energy transition is a multifaceted, long and complex process, with implication stretch to many. Therefore setting course and pathway for energy transition requires strong political commitment from top the sub-national level. It has to be design, plan and managed with active participation from all stakeholders, and impacted communities.

I am not in the position to give you all the answers but rather I would like to hear your thoughts and opinions, and offer you to learn together so we can give the best advice to our political leaders and policy makers to make right decisions.

This year is the 3rd IETD organized by Indonesia Clean Energy Forum (ICEF) and IESR. IETD is intended to build public understanding about the energy transition and exchange views on how we, as a nation, can pursue the energy transition without leaving anyone behind.

Hearing and understanding public and gaining stakeholders' views and their interest to set energy transition pathway is the reason why Indonesia Energy Transition Dialogue (IETD) is established at the first place.

The 3rd IETD is the first to be held online due to the covid-19 pandemic and in this forum, we try to answer the main questions: how can we recover our economy and grow better and greener? How can we align recovery measures and stimulus to build renewable and pursue energy efficiency, developing green energy industries and providing opportunities for green jobs and contribute to make more ambitious climate action?

The five day dialogue will try to answer as much as possible all these questions.

Ladies and gentlemen

IETD 2020 will have 70 speakers and moderators from Indonesia and overseas. The speakers are well selected and curated to ensure the quality of talks and discussion. We also expect about 600 participants from Indonesia and 12 countries to participate in the dialogues from today until 11th December.

I am also proud to announce that for the first time we partner with university student group's Society of Renewable Energy (SRE) to ensure the meaningful participation of youth and young generation, as well as making sure that their voices are heard and shape the conversation.

Finally

I thank Minister Arifin Tasrif, Vice Minister Suahazil, Minister Luhut Panjaitan, and Vice Minister Budi Sadikin for making time to share with us your thought and guidance to stimulate energy transition's debate.

I thank Prof. Kuntoro for his leadership in ICEF and guidance to make this event more prestigious, and also thank you to all ICEF member for their support.

Thank you to all supporters and sponsors of this event.

Last but not least, my biggest thanks to IESR's team who has been working stalwartly to make this event become reality and success. You guys rock!

Thank you and enjoy IETD 2020.

Jakarta, 7th December 2020