

The 8th Japan-SAARC Energy Symposium
Medium Term Vision for Energy Connectivity in the SAARC Region

Outcome Document of the Symposium

March 10-11, 2015, Islamabad

Summarized the discussions and recommendations at previous Symposia and developed the Medium-term Vision for Energy Connectivity in the SAARC Region as follows and confirmed that the Vision should be submitted to high level policy-makers of the SAARC Member States through appropriate channel.

1. As per the recommendations of the 18th SAARC Summit, the SAARC Member States will accelerate the process to establish a necessary mechanism in accordance with the SAARC Inter-Governmental Framework Agreement (IGFA) for Regional Cooperation in Energy (Electricity);
2. Recognizing the continued importance of the regional cooperation on energy efficiency and renewable energy to ensure the supply of sustainable energy, SAARC Member States will promote to share relevant technologies, experiences and best practices, and Japan will facilitate the cooperation among SAARC Member States through national focal points including technical cooperation in this regard;
3. Recognizing that the development of the domestic legislations on electricity export and trade is necessary for the enhancement of energy connectivity, the SAARC Member States will continue to make efforts to further develop domestic legislations and share information and experiences regarding laws and regulations regarding cross-border trade of electricity.;

4. Recognizing that the enhancement of regional cooperation and connectivity contributes to the development and stability of the whole region, and based on the outcomes of the 18th SAARC Summit, Japan will, as an observer state, continue to promote its energy cooperation with SAARC in anticipation of the development of all SAARC Member States;
5. Japan will actively promote cooperation on study for development of the 20-Year Perspective Plan for the Power Sector of South Asia. For this purpose, Japan will enhance collaboration with the SAARC Secretariat and the SEC to contribute to energy cooperation within the SAARC Member States;
6. Japan will continue to work towards implementation of energy projects, currently under discussion in the SAARC Member States, upon their request;
7. The SEC will work towards enhanced energy cooperation between Japan-SAARC, and work to coordinate with the SAARC Member States to ensure prompt decision making with regard to Japanese cooperation;
8. The SAARC Member States, in consultation with national focal points of the Member States, may make efforts to enhance regional energy cooperation and connectivity by promoting the convergence of and improving the consistency of relevant laws, regulations and standards within the SAARC region. However harmonizing of rules will be achieved on voluntarily basis, as and when required;
9. The SAARC Member States through the national focal points of the Member States will actively cooperate with Japan as Observer in facilitating formation of its development projects that would contribute to enhanced regional energy connectivity.