

JOINT STATEMENT
ASEM Ministerial Conference on Energy Security
Brussels, 17-18 June 2009

1. Recalling the agreement reached at the 7th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit in Beijing 24-25th October 2008, the European Commission hosted the first ASEM Ministerial Conference specifically dedicated to Energy Security on 17- 18 June 2009 in Brussels, Belgium. This first Ministerial Meeting brought together Foreign and Energy Ministers of 45 ASEM partners and was hosted by Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner, European Commissioner for External Relations and European Neighbourhood Policy, and Commissioner Andris Piebalgs, European Commissioner for Energy,
2. Recalling that the Beijing Declaration on Sustainable Development adopted at the ASEM 7th Summit reaffirmed that energy security is closely related to the stability and growth of world economy and the sustainable development of all nations; it encouraged ASEM partners to strengthen mutually beneficial cooperation and to contribute to enhancing global energy security,
3. Recalling that at the 9th ASEM Foreign Ministers Meeting (25-26 May 2009), Ministers reaffirmed their support for the strengthened ASEM energy cooperation, especially to promote sustainable use of energy, development and utilization of renewable and alternative energies, as well as the establishment of a stable, effective and transparent global energy market,
4. Taking note of the 3rd ASEM Environment Ministers' Meeting (23-26 April 2007) that agreed upon the need of an urgent shift in the nature of energy systems in order to ensure continued sustainable economic development, security of supply and improved demand management,
5. Welcoming the positive outcomes of the 1st ASEM Forum on Energy Security Policy in Ha Noi (11 April 2008) and noting that the ASEM Seminar on Energy Security and Climate Change will be held in Singapore in 2010,
6. Acknowledging that collectively, ASEM countries represents half of the world's GDP, close to half of energy demand and 60% of its population and trade, and that the energy consumption of ASEM countries is foreseen to continue growing over the coming years,

The Ministers agreed that,

7. With high level of global energy consumption, in particular of fossil fuels, and the volatility of oil prices in international markets, the sustainability of our energy security and social economic development is increasingly an issue of mutual concern for ASEM partners,
8. Enhancing energy security requires ambitious and comprehensive energy policies at international, regional and national levels that include diversification of the sources, routes and types of energy supplies, emergency mechanisms including oil stocks, as well as encouraging the use of safe and sustainable low-carbon technology and of more sustainable and cleaner energy resources, in particular the development of renewable energy sources. In this context, the establishment of international renewable energy cooperation, such as the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), are valuable contributions to sustainable development, energy security and diversity as well as to environmental and climate policies. Where nuclear energy is considered an option as part of an energy diversification policy, it is important to ensure safeguards, safety and security in accordance with the relevant conventions of the

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to which ASEM partners are party. Promoting energy efficiency across all the sectors of the economy is also a fundamental part of energy security policies. Making full use of international fora for cooperation and exchange of best practice is therefore vital,

9. Comprehensive energy security policies should also include investment promotion in renewable energy, integration of regional markets and the development of adequate transportation infrastructures,
10. Energy security will also be enhanced through securing competitive, transparent and non-discriminatory frameworks throughout the energy supply chain that encourage the necessary investments in exploration, production, transportation and efficient and sustainable use,
11. With a view to improving the capacity of developing countries, cooperation is crucial, particularly in promoting the transfer, deployment and dissemination of advanced and environmentally sound energy technologies to developing partners and in exchange of know-how, including on policies and regulations,
12. The European and Asian members of ASEM have much experience to share and possibilities to cooperate so as to increase global energy stability and security. The EC-ASEAN meeting on the implementation of the 2010 Energy Work Plan on 19 June 2009 is one of the first concrete follow-up actions between the two regions.