

A very good morning!

It is my pleasure on behalf of Ministry of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR to welcome the head of delegation from GMS's countries and the colleague from Asian Development Bank, UNESCAP, GIZ.

First of all, please allow me to express my sincerest thanks and appreciation to all of you for attending the meeting of the 28th Regional Power Trade virtually held on 26-27 August 2021. I also would like to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to ADB for well arrangement of these two meetings.

Though the COVID-19 pandemic has prevented us from meeting in person, this is the second year that the RPTCC meeting is managed through the online platform as well as my first time as a chair to this meeting, I do hope that with the support of GMS member countries, the COVID-19 pandemic will soon be completely controlled in our region in particular and in the world in general.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Looking into the energy transition is very crucial today, it is a pathway toward transformation of the global energy sector from fossil-based to zero-carbon, the need to reduce energy-related CO2 emissions to limit climate change. At current, Lao PDR is implementing the 5 years power and mines development plan from 2021-2025, one of the plans includes facilitate growth and improve resiliency in domestic supply and consumption to access the energy achieve 98% in 2025 (we currently reached 95%), to enable increased cross-border exports to our neighboring countries with total installed capacity more than 5.000 MW, In 2020-2021 we have signed the Power Purchase Agreement of Hydropower about 800 MW and wind power of 600 MW to be exported to Vietnam.

In our target, we have also determined our power generation mixed components to include 65% of Hydropower, 5% from renewable energy (solar, wind and biomass) and 30% from other source of energy as based load. In addition, we aim to achieve the electric vehicle in 2025 by 14%.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At we are in the stage of Energy Transition Era that is marked by the shift from fossil fuels to clean energy system, in this context, the Ministry of Energy and Mines of Lao PDR, as Chairman of the 28th RPTCC, would like to reiterate the RPTCC's commitment in promoting regional power trade, promote low carbon and renewable utilization as important step forward to energy transition.

Again, I would like to thank delegations of GMS countries, colleague from ADB, UNESCAP, wishing our Meeting a great success with open vies among us and wishing you all good health and success!

Thank you.