

VIETNAM ENERGY FOCUS

THE 4TH HIGH-LEVEL MEETING OF THE VIET NAM ENERGY PARTNERSHIP GROUP

On January 24, the 4th high-level meeting of the Viet Nam Energy Partnership Group (VEPG) took place. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Dang Hoang An – Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, and co-chaired by H.E. Giorgio Aliberti - Ambassador of the European Union to Viet Nam, and Mrs. Carolyn Turk - Country Director of the World Bank in Viet Nam. The event was organised in a hybrid format, allowing the participation of more than 150 delegates representing a broad range of energy sector stakeholders, such as ministries, sectoral and central agencies, Ambassadors, development partners, academia, NGOs, as well as private enterprises operating in the energy sector.

This year's high-level meeting looked back at the achievements and positive contributions of the VEPG over the last 4 years of operation as a high-level policy dialogue platform connecting the Government of Viet Nam with development partners and stakeholders to promote the development of Viet Nam's energy sector. An important highlight was the introduction of the five new technical working groups including: Power Sector Strategic Planning, Renewable Energy, Grid Integration and Grid Infrastructure, Energy Efficiency, and Energy Market.

At the event, the partnership also adopted the new slogan of the VEPG: "Together, delivering the sustainable energy transition in Viet Nam!". The new slogan affirms

VEPG's goal and ensures a coherent and complementary cooperation between energy sector stakeholders, to provide effective and efficient sector support and contribute to key policy-making processes that shape Viet Nam's energy transition.

In a high-level thematic panel discussion, delegates from renowned organisations actively exchanged ideas around the Power Development Plan VIII under the Government's direction on sustainable energy transition, as well as the results and impacts of the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) on the orientation of Viet Nam's energy sector. International experience and recommendations were shared with the aim of removing technical and investment bottlenecks for the sustainable energy transition in Viet Nam.

H.E Dang Hoang An, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT), informed that MOIT was assigned by the Government to develop the Power Development Plan VIII, closely following principal orientations set out in Resolution No. 55 of the Politburo, paying special attention to the major subjects related to the structure of the power sector, power sources, and synchronisation with the development of the power system and infrastructure.

Regarding VEPG's role, he affirmed: "Over the years, the Viet Nam Energy Partnership Group has fulfilled its role as a high-level policy dialogue forum between the Government of Viet Nam and international partners, connecting international support to promote