

the development of the renewable energy market in Viet Nam. In 2021, VEPG has restructured its technical working groups, identified key topics tailored to the country's urgent needs, as well as leveraging supporting resources, both domestically and internationally. By cooperating with ministries, departments, sectors and local and foreign partners, the VEPG will support the government in developing even stronger measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050."

H.E. Giorgio Aliberti, Ambassador of the European Union to Viet Nam, added: "Viet Nam's commitment to embarking on an energy transition towards a cleaner, greener energy mix and more efficient use of energy is an important contribution, not only to the sustainable development of its economy but also to the global fight against climate change. The EU - as many other development partners that have gathered today - is here to provide support and expertise to make this energy transition happen, while ensuring access to affordable energy for all and protecting Viet Nam's competitiveness at local, as well as international level. We will continue to provide financial support for the operation of the VEPG and will work with MOIT on a roadmap for the long-term financial sustainability of the partnership, including strategies to raise additional, public, private and development partners funds to sustain its operations. I am confident that the new structure of the VEPG will continue to provide a useful and unique platform to coordinate dialogue, concrete actions and inputs to fulfil Viet Nam's vision of its energy transition." Mrs. Carolyn Turk, Country Director of the World Bank in Viet Nam, also

shared: "Over the past few decades, the energy sector has played a fundamental role in driving Viet Nam's rapid and inclusive economic growth. In the coming decade, the energy sector needs to use less carbon, and fossil fuel consumption that generate the largest amounts of greenhouse gas emissions need to be drastically reduced. This must be implemented in a way that ensure that both demand for energy is met, and that the economic stability of industries is maintained. In order to achieve these goals, the World Bank looks forward to continuing our support for the Government of Viet Nam in seeking to expand the energy sector, but in a greener way, through the VEPG cooperation framework."

2021 is the first year of implementation of the 13th Party Congress's Resolution, and the first year of implementation of Resolution No. 55-NQ/TW dated February 11, 2020, of the Politburo on the orientation of Viet Nam's National Energy Development Strategy to 2030 with a vision to 2045. In March 2021, the Ministry of Industry and Trade completed and officially submitted the Power Planning Project VIII to the Government. In this context, the Viet Nam's energy sector, in general, and the electricity sector, in particular, are facing many challenges. The Covid-19 pandemic is expected to continue to be complicate business-as-usual, unpredictable climate-change and natural disasters are becoming more frequent and devastating All the while, the country will need to focus on driving forward the sustainable energy transition, ensuring energy security, sufficient electricity supply, investment and development in energy sector and an overall *(Continue reading on page 5)*