

**Tenth Asia-Pacific Forum on
Sustainable Development (APFSD) 2023**

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**Speaking Points on
Net-Zero Electricity Generation, Renewable Energy and
United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 7**

1. Your Excellency and Permanent Representative KE Yousheng, I have the honour to update Hong Kong, China's latest progress on advancing United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 7.
2. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government has set ambitious and progressive targets to align with our country's commitment to peak carbon emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060. In the Hong Kong's Climate Action Plan 2050 promulgated in October 2021, we have adopted "net-zero electricity generation" as one of our main strategies and, in doing so, we would progressively increase the use of zero-

carbon energy in order to achieve the target of net-zero carbon emissions in electricity generation before 2050.

3. To expedite energy transformation, we have already met our target of reducing the share of coal in the Hong Kong SAR's overall fuel mix for electricity generation from half in 2015 to a quarter in 2020. Our medium-term target is to cease using coal for daily electricity generation and only keep it for providing backup support by 2035. We have allocated a total of \$12.2 billion Hong Kong Dollars (HKD) for providing subsidies to alleviate the tariff burden of our residents in the course of energy transition.
4. We will strive to increase the share of zero-carbon energy in the fuel mix for electricity generation from 60% to 70% by 2035 through the distinctive advantage of enjoying strong national support. We will seize the opportunities brought by low-carbon transformation and development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area to

strengthen regional cooperation and increase the supply of zero-carbon energy. We are now planning the construction of new electricity facilities for receiving another one-third of the zero-carbon electricity transmitted to the Hong Kong SAR from Mainland China before 2035.

5. Despite our geographical constraints, we have been ramping up the development of renewable energy.
6. We are striving to develop more advanced waste-to-energy facilities to turn sewage, municipal solid waste and food waste into electricity. We are also actively developing larger-scale renewable energy projects, such as floating solar energy generation systems at impounding reservoirs, and have earmarked a total of \$3 billion HKD to install small-scale renewable energy systems at government premises. Various renewable energy features have also

been applied into the design of public housing estates, which accommodate half of our population.

7. To encourage the private sector and the public in adopting renewable energy, we have introduced the Feed-in Tariff Scheme whereby investors can receive relatively high payments as incentives as compared with major international cities. Since its inception in 2018, over 21 000 applications have been approved and the electricity generated can meet the demand of 100 000 households. We have also installed solar energy generation systems for hundreds of schools and welfare organisations.
8. We are also actively joining hands with different sectors to push the frontiers for low-carbon transformation. The largest private enterprises and public institutions in the Hong Kong SAR have joined the Government's Carbon Neutrality Partnership and pledged to take lead to deepen and accelerate their pace in pursuing low-carbon

transformation. For trial of new technologies, we have allocated \$400 million HKD to the Green Tech Fund, and are developing hydrogen for trial and application in the Hong Kong SAR. These are tangible demonstration of our determination and efforts towards our decarbonisation targets.

9. The Hong Kong SAR has always prided ourselves in our nature conservation and our country parks which take up about 40% of the Hong Kong SAR's land. We have designated two more marine parks in the past three years, and will designate another major country park bordering Shenzhen and one additional marine park which would create great synergy on nature conservation.

10. The Hong Kong SAR is now fully open to visitors and tourists as before. We sincerely welcome you all to visit the Hong Kong SAR to experience our green conservation

and sustainability efforts as well as the vibrancy of an international trade and financial centre. Thank you.

(Around 661 words)