

## **JOINT PRESS STATEMENT**

### **31<sup>ST</sup> ASCOPE COUNCIL MEETING**

**28-29 NOVEMBER 2005**

**MANILA, PHILIPPINES**

1. The ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE) held its 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting in Manila, Philippines on 28-29 November 2005.
2. The Meeting was attended by Awang Mohd Reduan bin Haji Mohd Yusof, Acting Chief Executive Officer of PetroleumBRUNEI (Brunei National Petroleum Company Sendirian Berhad) of Brunei Darussalam; Bpk Widya Purnama, President and Chief Executive Officer of PT PERTAMINA (PERSERO) of Indonesia; YBhg. Tan Sri Dato Sri Mohd Hassan Marican, President and Chief Executive of PETRONAS of Malaysia; U San Lwin, Managing Director of the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) of Myanmar; Mr Eduardo V. Mañalac, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC) of the Philippines; Mr. Choo Chiau Beng, Chairman of Singapore Petroleum Company Limited (SPC) of Singapore; Mr. Tevin Vongvanich, Executive Vice President of PTT Public Company Limited (PTT) of Thailand; and Mr. Nguyen Dang Lieu, Vice President of PetroVietnam of Vietnam.
3. The Council lauded the progress made by the various Committees and Task Forces under ASCOPE, towards becoming a more business oriented cooperation, and collectively addressing emerging regional issues and challenges relating to the petroleum industry in ASEAN. This has created greater synergy and new business opportunities of mutual benefits among ASCOPE Members. In this regard, the Council noted the initiatives and activities conducted, thus far, by the Exploration and Production Business Development Committee, the Processing and Refining Business Development Committee, the Trading and Marketing Business Development Committee, the Technology and Services Committee, the ASCOPE TAGP Task Force the ASEAN Gas Consultative Council, and the ASCOPE Gas Centre. Some of the programs initiated by these Committees include amongst others, sharing of drilling rig utilization, clean fuel initiative, term supply arrangements for crude and products, and the review of the ASEAN Petroleum Security Agreement.
4. The Council also noted the ASCOPE TAGP Task Force has made significant progress to date in the various initiatives to facilitate the implementation and realisation of the Trans ASEAN Gas Pipeline initiatives and that the ASCOPE Gas Centre (AGC) has organised a Gas Pipeline Workshop in Kuala Lumpur in September 2005.
5. The Council expressed satisfaction with the successful completion of the 2004/2005 ACOPE Projects which included, amongst others, the exchange of business information and cooperation in human resource development and training programs conducted within and amongst ASCOPE Members and together with external agencies such as PETRAD, CCOP, and the IEA. The Council called for continued collaboration with these external agencies.
6. The Council noted that the 32<sup>nd</sup> ASCOPE Council Meeting will be hosted by PT PERTAMINA (PERSERO) in Bali, Indonesia, in November 2006.
7. The Council witnessed and appreciated the partnership program on NGV Development between the Philippines and Malaysia through PNOC and PETRONAS respectively, and the handing over the six units of Enviro 2000 NGVehicles of PETRONAS to PNOC by YBhg Tan Sri Dato Sri Mohd Hassan Marican, President and Chief Executive of PETRONAS and received by the President and CEO of PNOC Mr. Eduardo V. Mañalac.
8. The Council expressed appreciation to PNOC, as host of the 31<sup>st</sup> ASCOPE Council Meeting.
9. The Meeting was held in the traditional spirit of ASEAN solidarity, equality and cooperation.