

Shell-ESI Energy Dialogue
17 November 2009, 8.30 am to 12.30 pm
Shangri-La Hotel

Welcome and Introductory Remarks
Mr Khoo Chin Hean, Executive Director

Ladies and Gentlemen

Welcome to the ESI-Shell Dialogue. This is the 2nd of what we hope to be a series of dialogues on key energy-related issues.

Indeed energy is one of the most daunting challenges facing governments and societies today. It encompasses two dimensions one being price and the other climate change.

Price is simply another aspect of energy security and climate change is about long term sustainability. And the bad news is that the two forces work against each other. But they have to be somehow put together and how this can be done will pose difficult dilemmas and compromises that affect many aspects of our life in many different ways.

Technology is today intricately embedded in business models and enterprise. It had brought us to where we are today. And technology works well only with affordably priced energy.

Unless the technology change, the energy systems and infrastructure that had served us well will stay relevant. But the current systems are designed around fossil fuels which are climate unfriendly. Herein lies the source of many of the dilemmas we face today.

Questions on how Technology, Economic Efficiency and Security issues will shape the energy future will challenge the minds engaged in scientific research, policy analysis and geopolitics.

Today, we have 4 speakers who will share their thoughts on what a New Energy Future will look like, and how technology, efficiency and security issues will shape such a future.

Mr Tan Chong Meng , Executive Vice President, Global B2B, Shell had been with the Shell Group since 1989; holding various positions in its regional and global downstream businesses. Prior to this, Mr. Tan worked in the Ministry of National Development, Singapore.

He manages 6 global businesses located in London and Singapore, that sell fuel and speciality products to commercial customers in 18 Asia Pacific countries. Chong Meng therefore brings with him astute understanding of the business and the interplay with government policy.

Dr Sergio Kapusta, Chief Scientist – Materials, Shell has published more than 70 papers in professional journals and at international technical conferences. Dr Kapusta leads the Shell materials team to help recover more of the world's oil and gas from existing fields. This has led Sergio into the field of nanotechnology in a bid to harness the next generation of super-strong, super-light materials.

Joining Chong Meng and Dr Kapusta are two speakers from the Energy Studies Institute.

Dr Michael Quah's experience hails from industry as well as government. He was formerly in DuPont before moving on to serve in the US Government where he worked extensively on energy and technology. Dr Quah brings with him deep insights into what the US may do and which we know has subsequent repercussions on industry and the rest of the world.

Dr Hooman Peimani is a keen political observer of energy politics and its developments. His background in this field was carved through work in Europe observing the interplay and developments in the consuming and producing nations. And his own familiarity with the Middle East and Central Asian regions presents him the advantage of doing this work with an insightful understanding of the forces driving the developments in energy.

I believe we will have a very interesting session today and the value we derive from this session will come from the dialogue that follows.

It now leaves me to thank the speakers and all the participants who have taken the time to attend this dialogue.