

**Agenda Item 2 (24 Feb 21)**

**Bhutan**

**Intervention during Committee on Energy, 3<sup>rd</sup> Session, UN ESCAP virtual meeting**

Thank you, Ma'am Chair, for the opportunity to speak. Greetings from Bhutan and good morning to all distinguished delegates. It will be a very short intervention to show our appreciation and make few remarks.

Firstly, would like to express my appreciation for the excellent analytical paper the Secretariat has done on Energy security for a greener, more resilient and more inclusive energy future in the Asia-Pacific region.

Bhutan as you all know is committed to carbon neutral development and is currently carbon negative. Bhutan has achieved 100% electricity access and the sources of electricity in Bhutan is all from renewables. We would also like to put on record that Bhutan is further trying to diversify our electricity supply mix from renewables like Solar and Wind Power in addition to hydropower for to enhance our energy security.

The impacts of climate change are being felt in Bhutan and COVID -19 pandemic in recent times have accentuated the need for sources diversification and to make energy system more resilient. In this regard, Among other things, Bhutan has got in touched with relevant experts in the UNESCAP Secretariat to come up with two important documents – i. National SDG7 Roadmap for Bhutan using National Expert SDG Tool for Energy Planning (NEXSTEP) and ii. Clean cooking sector assessment and analysis for Bhutan.

Thank you for listening to me.

Energy security and resilience in the context of the coronavirus disease crisis