

Foreword

Energy security forms the basis of energy policy in every country. It goes without saying that countries must secure sufficient supply of energy at an affordable price to sustain the lives of the people and their economic activities. Energy security is a top priority of the policy agenda particularly in East Asia where countries are now confronted with increasing energy demand resulting from improved living standards and economic growth, and the continuing historically high energy prices, such as that of crude oil. With the majority of emissions coming from energy, including air pollutants and greenhouse gases, it is also clear that harmony with the environment has become an integral element of energy policy.

Against this backdrop, ERIA established a working group to carry out a study aimed to quantitatively assess and analyse the energy security situation in East Asian countries and to provide policy recommendations to improve their specific situations.

It is my hope that the outcomes of this study will serve as a point of reference for policymakers in East Asian countries and contribute to the improvement of energy security in the region as a whole.

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