Preface

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar is a country rich in natural resources, especially natural gas and hydropower. Myanmar’s import dependency ratio in 2017 was 19% according to Myanmar’s national energy balance table 2017. On the other hand, Myanmar’s energy demand, for example, total final energy consumption (TFEC) grew 3.8% per annum from 2000 to 2017 but oil and electricity marked much higher growth rates, 15.8% and 15.2%, respectively. On the other hand, biomass share to TFEC declined from 72.4% in 2010 to 50.5% in 2017 because biomass was replaced by oil and electricity. Thus, the growth rate of TFEC was much lower than oil and electricity. In addition, the gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate was 7.0% in the same period. In future, the energy demand of Myanmar will continue to increase in the same historical trend. On the other hand, natural gas production will decrease year by year according to the Natural Gas Master Plan for Myanmar developed by the Oil and Gas Planning Department (OGPD), Ministry of Electricity and Energy (MOEE), supported by the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) in 2018-19. Therefore, the OGPD requested ERIA to seek the best ways for Myanmar to maintain its energy supply security in the future.

Myanmar’s energy supply security was studied to seek the best energy mix in the future considering the following points of view: maintaining accessibility, affordability, and sustainability. Oil supply fully depends on imports into Myanmar, so that how to secure the oil imports is an issue. The security issue of natural gas is how to make its production period longer, therefore liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports and the diversity of the power generation mix are essential. Regarding the diversity of the power generation mix, hydropower generation will be a key role player, and how to maximise hydropower development is essential.

On behalf of the MOEE, I would like to express my special thanks to Professor Hidetoshi Nishimura, President of ERIA, for his continuous support to the MOEE regarding the preparation of Myanmar’s energy supply security report. I am sure it will prove to be a useful report for the MOEE to establish appropriate energy policies to secure future energy supply for Myanmar.

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