

**3rd Quantum Leap in Wind Workshop
4-5 June 2011, Auditorium Zone D**

**Summary and Closing Remarks, 5 June
S. Chander, Director General, RSDD, ADB**

Your Excellencies, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, a pleasant afternoon to all of you. It is an honor to address you today as I close our 3rd Quantum Leap in Wind Workshop. Before I begin my closing remarks, I must confess that while I could not participate with you all for the two days, I wish I had. I am an Energy person. Especially clean energy. As many of you may have noted, today is World Environment Day and this morning ADB inaugurated our solar roof top project.

Over 120 people have attended the quantum leap in wind workshop, from a wide range of sectors: government, consultants, private developers, utility companies, financiers, manufacturers and academia. I hear that at one point there was standing room only in this room. I am informed that it has been a busy, but fulfilling workshop and indeed two days is too short to discuss all the crucial aspects of wind energy development in Asia and the Pacific, let alone to arrive at clear-cut solutions for the complex issues that have been raised. But we must understand that this workshop is not an end in itself but part of a process to formulate solutions and answers to development issues.

This morning, in his welcome remarks, Mr. Woonchong Um, called on everyone attending this workshop to strive for answers to difficult and long-standing questions. The main question being: **“What will it take to accelerate wind development in Asia?”** In our effort to address this question, several key points stood out:

From the case studies on Day 1 we have learned:

- Pioneer wind projects have provided much hope for wind development in Asia. The future for wind looks bright in Mongolia and Pakistan, but in countries like Sri Lanka and Philippines, policies need to be established and improved to support sustainable wind project development.
- The price of failure for pioneering projects is very high. Mongolia, Pakistan and Thailand have large projects under development and the developers are keenly aware that others are watching. These leading projects are beacons and showcase projects; success of these projects is imperative to ensure that future wind development has a smoother road.
- Technology seems to be the straightforward part of the process, it's the "people" factors: negotiations, approval processes and community awareness appear to present the biggest holdups to wind projects.
- Land acquisition has been an issue in almost all countries and the governments must help.

From today's workshop, three key policy areas emerged:

- Feed-in-Tariffs across projects and time cannot be directly compared. Feed-in-Tariffs have different components and should be seen in the context of the "total package". Focusing on a single number is misleading. Several recommendations were made that ADB should publish an apples-to-apples comparison of tariffs for wind energy.
- Grid interconnection and ability to absorb variable wind energy is a big problem in most countries. Innovative solutions are required to make the grid flexible and increase its ability to absorb renewable energy; presenters are seeking ADB assistance in this area.

In China and India, dispatch of wind to load centers and transmission capacity is a big bottleneck.

- Private Developers, manufacturers and investors have proven their ability to pioneer wind projects in Asia. Both Governments and the private sector have a strong role to play in wind development. It is important to form a better understanding of issues, work together to resolve them and forge partnerships.

The answer to accelerating wind development and achieving a Quantum Leap in Wind lie in distilling these key aspects into practical solutions to break down long standing barriers to wind development. This, each country and each project must do for itself. We have formed here a large support community for wind development, but individual countries must now make important decisions on how to best utilize this support. As was emphasized in the keynote address of Director Anthony Jude, ADB is here to assist countries in your wind energy aspirations. We are very happy to note that most Asian countries have a clear RE vision and have announced their ambitious RE targets. Some of you have even revised them upwards as we noted in the Thailand's presentation. The Quantum Leap in Wind technical assistance is a manifestation of ADB's commitment to support wind energy development. But ADB can only be a catalyst. The success of wind energy will ultimately depend on the level of commitment a country is willing to make to see wind projects through.

Once a country decides, however, it can expect enthusiastic support. Yesterday, Mr. Pil-Bae Soong, our Senior Advisor and Energy Practice Leader mentioned in his welcome remarks that we are building a community. I could not agree more. Even as we conclude this workshop let us work to keep this wind energy community strong. Let us keep in touch and keep the discussion alive. I do hope that you will stay for the rest of the Asian Clean Energy Forum. In a few days, after we have fully digested all the lessons and insights of this workshop, novel ideas

are sure to emerge. Let us search each other out to share these ideas while the inspiration is fresh. We can hold mini wind workshops or impromptu Q&A sessions in the hallways over coffee and tea.

I look forward to seeing you again in future gatherings such as these. I am confident that we are on the right path and a Quantum Leap in Wind in Asia Pacific is more than possible. The successes of Asia's wind giants: China and India testify to this. And I am hopeful of success in the rest of the region as well.

We at ADB believe that wind energy will be good for the people of Asia and the Pacific. Wind energy is abundant, clean and shields countries from the price and geo-political risks associated with fossil fuels. Wind energy will create jobs, stimulate trade and foster cooperation among countries. The opportunities are as abundant as the wind, but you need to say: Yes. We all need to commit. Let us, therefore, take the Quantum Leap in Wind. Let us commit to wind energy and with it improve people's lives.