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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

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STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

The United States has joined with Australia, China, India, Japan, and South Korea to create a new Asia-Pacific partnership on clean development, energy security, and climate change. This new results-oriented partnership will allow our nations to develop and accelerate deployment of cleaner, more efficient energy technologies to meet national pollution reduction, energy security, and climate change concerns in ways that reduce poverty and promote economic development. The six Asia-Pacific partners will build on our strong history of common approaches and demonstrated cooperation on clean energy technologies. I have directed Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Secretary of Energy Sam Bodman to meet with their counterparts this fall to carry forward our new partnership and provide direction for our joint work.

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Vision Statement of Australia, China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and the United States of America for a New Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate

Development and poverty eradication are urgent and overriding goals internationally. The World Summit on Sustainable Development made clear the need for increased access to affordable, reliable and cleaner energy and the international community agreed in the Delhi Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development on the importance of the development agenda in considering any climate change approach.

We each have different natural resource endowments, and sustainable development and energy strategies, but we are already working together and will continue to work to achieve common goals. By building on the foundation of existing bilateral and multilateral initiatives, we will enhance cooperation to meet both our increased energy needs and associated challenges, including those related to air pollution, energy security, and greenhouse gas intensities.

To this end, we will work together, in accordance with our respective national circumstances, to create a new partnership to develop, deploy and transfer cleaner, more efficient technologies and to meet national pollution reduction, energy security and climate change concerns, consistent with the principles of the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The partnership will collaborate to promote and create an enabling environment for the development, diffusion, deployment and transfer of existing and emerging cost-effective, cleaner technologies and practices, through concrete and substantial cooperation so as to achieve practical results. Areas for collaboration may include, but not be limited to: energy efficiency, clean coal, integrated gasification combined cycle, liquefied natural gas, carbon capture and storage, combined heat and power, methane capture and use, civilian nuclear power, geothermal, rural/village energy systems, advanced transportation, building and home construction and operation, bioenergy, agriculture and forestry, hydropower, wind power, solar power, and other renewables.

The partnership will also cooperate on the development, diffusion, deployment and transfer of longer-term transformational energy technologies that will promote economic growth while enabling significant reductions in greenhouse gas intensities. Areas for mid- to long-term collaboration may include, but not be limited to: hydrogen, nanotechnologies, advanced biotechnologies, next-generation nuclear fission, and fusion energy.

The partnership will share experiences in developing and implementing our national sustainable development and energy strategies, and explore opportunities to reduce the greenhouse gas intensities of our economies.

We will develop a non-binding compact in which the elements of this shared vision, as well as the ways and means to implement it, will be further defined. In particular, we will consider establishing a framework for the partnership, including institutional and financial arrangements and ways to include other interested and like-minded countries.

The partnership will also help the partners build human and institutional capacity to strengthen cooperative efforts, and will seek opportunities to engage the private sector. We will review the partnership on a regular basis to ensure its effectiveness.

The partnership will be consistent with and contribute to our efforts under the UNFCCC and will complement, but not replace, the Kyoto Protocol.

President Bush and the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development

The United States is joining with Australia, China, India, Japan, and South Korea to accelerate clean development.

This partnership will focus on voluntary practical measures taken by these six countries in the Asia-Pacific region to create new investment opportunities, build local capacity, and remove barriers to the introduction of clean, more efficient technologies.

This partnership will help each country meet nationally designed strategies for improving energy security, reducing pollution, and addressing the long-term challenge of climate change.

We are focused on cooperation to achieve practical results.

The partnership will promote the development and deployment of existing and emerging cleaner, more efficient technologies and practices that will achieve practical results in areas such as:

Energy Efficiency	Methane Capture and Use	Rural/Village Energy Systems
Clean Coal	Civilian Nuclear Power	Advanced Transportation
Liquefied Natural Gas	Geothermal	Building and Home Construction/Operation
Bioenergy	Agriculture/Forestry	Hydropower/Wind Power/Solar Power

We are pursuing a balanced approach to overcome poverty with policies that promote clean development.

- Overcoming extreme poverty will also improve the environment. Stagnant economies are one of the world's greatest environmental threats, because people who lack food, shelter, and sanitation cannot be expected to preserve the environment at the expense of their own survival – and poor societies cannot afford to invest in cleaner, more efficient technologies.
- The rapid, sustained economic progress of poor nations will lead to dramatic environmental improvements. And the best way to help nations develop, while limiting pollution and improving public health, is to promote technologies for generating energy that is clean, affordable, and secure.
- Some have suggested the best solution to environmental challenges and climate change is to oppose development and put the world on an energy diet. But today, about two billion people have no access to any form of modern energy – and blocking that access would condemn them to permanent poverty, disease, high infant mortality, polluted water, and polluted air.

We are taking action on climate change in a broad, pro-growth context.

- Climate change is a serious long-term issue, requiring sustained action over many generations by both developed and developing countries. Developing and deploying innovative technologies that are cleaner and more efficient are the keys to addressing our climate challenge.
- We know the surface of the Earth is warmer and an increase in greenhouse gases caused by human activity is contributing to the problem. Though there have been past disagreements about the best way to address this issue, we are acting to help developing countries adopt new energy sources.
- The greatest progress will be assured by a cooperative effort that combines our strategies with the best strategies of other nations to improve economic and energy security, reduce harmful air pollution, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- We oppose any policy that would achieve reductions by putting Americans out of work or by simply shifting emissions from one country to another. Like us, developing countries are unlikely to join in approaches that foreclose their own economic growth and development.