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KUCHING: The cross-border power interconnection project under the Asean Power Grid (APG) initiative is a key focus of the 43rd Asean Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME) hosted by Malaysia's Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation (Petra).

The three-day meeting, which began on Monday, is chaired by Petra secretary-general Datuk Mad Zaidi Mohd Karli in his capacity as chair of Asean SOME 2025.

In a statement yesterday, Petra said the meeting is reviewing progress on the Asean Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) Phase II 2021–2025, while also discussing the direction and development of the upcoming APAEC 2026–2030 framework.

"Discussions also centre on advancements in multilateral energy trading through the Lao PDR-Thailand-Malaysia-Singapore Power Integration Project.

"Topics related to energy transition policies are also in the spotlight, including scaling up renewable energy, enhancing energy efficiency, exploring nuclear energy potential and harmonising regional energy policies," the statement read.

The meeting brings together senior energy officials from all Asean member states, with Timor-Leste attending as an observer, serving as a key platform to discuss energy policies and strengthen the strategic direction of regional energy cooperation.

This year's meeting also provides an opportunity for member states to acknowledge Timor-Leste's participation as a full Asean member.

Petra said the meeting lays the groundwork for the Asean Ministers on Energy Meeting scheduled for October.

"Hosting the 43rd Asean SOME underscores Asean's unwavering commitment to achieving sustainable, inclusive and resilient energy development in the region." – Bernama