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President's Letter

Dear friends and colleagues,

Thank you for your kindness spending some of your time reading this letter. In this letter, first I would like to thank the AAERE Directors for their decision to elect me as the 7th President of the Asian Association of Environmental and Resource Economics (AAERE) for the period of August 2021 – July 2023. I feel honoured receiving this trust and feel excited to do my best for the Association.

I would like to thank Professor Jong Ho Hong, our immediate President, for leading our Association through a very challenging period during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has made conducting our usual academic activities difficult. Thanks to his persistent and hard work, we were able to organise our 10th Congress on 20-21 July 2021. I also appreciate Professor Oh Sang Kwon for chairing the Local Organising Committee during this congress. Many quality papers were presented, and it was a nice feeling be able to discuss those papers and to see many young academics participating. I am confident that these young academics will further develop the science of resource and environmental economics in our region and strengthen our Association. I thank those who have participated in our 10th Congress.

My appreciation also goes to our former Presidents and Directors who have been contributing to the development our Association: from initially focused on East Asia region to broaden our coverage over the whole of Asia. We have also been collaborating as a partner with the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE) and the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE) to organize the last World Congress on Environmental and Resource Economists (WCERE) in 2018. In the next two years, during my presidency,

I do hope we can continue to conduct our association activities; strengthening and expanding them. We should be able to maintain the excellence of our Association in the East Asia region while further enhancing our knowledge of resource and environmental economics. We continue to expand our memberships throughout Asia, in particular Southeast and South Asia regions. We should ensure the relevance of resource and environmental economics; in the short- and medium-term, to provide sound academic works and policy advice to enhance the sustainable development agenda in our region. I would like to encourage that we achieve these goals by strengthening collaborations among us and with quality academics from other regions in the world, as well as to further develop our journal, Environmental Economics and Policy Studies. These activities, in my opinion, are the key to being able to enhance our knowledge of environmental and resource economics and broadening the coverage of our Association.

In 2022, we will conduct our 11th Congress of the Asian Association of Environmental and Resource Economics. Our Southeast Asian academic friends are working to prepare for this Congress. I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible at this event: please prepare your papers, encourage your younger academics to participate, and invite your academic friends worldwide to participate. Let us use this congress as a place to meet our friends and expand our research networks throughout Asia and the world.

Finally, if you need more information on our Association and its activity, please do not hesitate to contact me. See you in our upcoming Congress.

Sincerely yours,
Budy P. Resosudarmo
President, AAERE

The 10th Congress of the Asian Association of Environmental and Resource Economics

The 10th Congress of AAERE was conducted in Seoul, Korea, on 20-21 August 2021 with the theme "Climate Risk and Sustainable Development". The congress was hosted by the Seoul National University (SNU) and Korean Environmental Economics Association (KEEA). It was a hybrid conference, several Korean academics attended the conference in person and most international academics joined the conference through the Zoom webinar facility. The conference was held at the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs) of the SNU.

The congress started with opening remarks given by Professor Oh-Sang Kwon (President of KEEA), Professor Jong-Ho Hong (President of AAERE), and Professor Se-Jung Oh (President of SNU). The opening session was followed by excellent speeches by the two prominent keynote speakers. The first keynote speech was given by Professor Robert Pindyck of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Professor Pindyck discussed how climate change works, what things are uncertain and why, as well as provided arguments why adaptation to climate change is so important, and the kinds of adaptation that we should invest in.

The second keynote speech was delivered by Mr. Ban Ki-moon, the 8th Secretary-General of the United Nations between 2007 and 2016. In his speech, Mr. Ban discussed progress in establishing green economies around the world. He highlighted the importance of cooperation from the international community to respond to COVID-19 along with environmental issues as a top priority and the importance of increasing green share of ODA.

The rest of the 2-days conference were filled out with more than 30 parallel sessions presenting approximately 120 papers on various topics in environmental and resource economics. These topics include extreme weather events and climate risks, adaptation to climate change, energy transition, green innovation and industries, non-market valuation, and pollution. Approximately 150 academics from various countries participated in this conference. Among others, they came from Australia, Bangladesh, China, Korea, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Taiwan, Thailand, and United States. These academics represented more than 50

academic and research institutions in the region. The 10th congress of the AAERE was successful in providing media for environmental and resource economists in the region to exchange their ideas and develop their research network.

During the conference, it was announced that Professor Budy P. Resosudarmo was elected by the AAERE Board of Directors as the new president of AAERE for the period of August 2021-July 2023. The Board also thank Professor Jong-Ho Hong for his leadership during his precedency of AAERE for August 2019-July 2021.

Future Events

The 11th Congress of the Asian Association of Environmental and Resource Economics will be conducted in Ho Chi Minh city.

More details: <https://aaere2022.org>

