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COUNTRY: THAILAND

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TOPIC: **Limits Extraction of Carbon-Based Fuels in Vulnerable Conditions**

*“The era of fossil fuels is coming to an end. We must embrace the transition to clean energy and build a sustainable future for all”-Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany*

In our modern world, we heavily rely on traditional sources of energy like oil and natural gas to power our daily lives and economy. Unfortunately, these resources are being depleted at an alarming rate, making them vulnerable in the future. Instead of focusing on renewable alternatives, we tend to extract resources from areas that are already facing adverse effects, such as the Arctic, Antarctic, Amazon, and African plateau. While the United Nations has not imposed any limits on the extraction of fossil fuels in specific countries like Thailand, the UN's primary initiative in this regard is the Paris Agreement. This landmark international treaty aims to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius and pre-industrial levels. Thailand is a signatory to this agreement and is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Thailand is taking bold steps towards increasing its utilization of renewable energy sources in its energy mix. The country has set an ambitious target of generating half of its energy from renewable sources by 2056. The government has implemented a range of measures to promote the use of renewable energy and reduce dependence on fossil fuels. The Alternative Energy Development Plan (AEDP) prioritizes the use of renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and biomass. Furthermore, Thailand has taken significant measures to diversify its energy mix and reduce the use of coal-fired power generation. By utilizing biomass produced from industrial waste materials, Thailand is reducing its dependence on vulnerable resources. This is a smart move as biomass is a cost-effective source of energy that reduces reliance on natural gas and provides a sustainable alternative to fossil fuels. Despite having the 23rd highest carbon dioxide emissions in the world from fuel extraction, Thailand's global contribution to carbon dioxide emissions from combustible fuels is only 0.7%. As part of its commitment to sustainable development, Thailand aims to achieve net-zero carbon dioxide emissions by 2050. Thailand's energy policy must evolve to accommodate the shift towards renewable energy, and with the decreasing cost of renewable energy, Thailand's power generation is transitioning to alternative sources. This is a positive sign towards a more sustainable future. Additionally, the country has set an ambitious target of having 70% of new vehicles powered by electricity by 2035.

Thailand can consider enhancing its environmental regulations to ensure responsible extractions and effective monitoring of the same. In addition, creating more public awareness about the issue at an international level can be a constructive step. Encouraging schools and NGOs to promote adequate measures and awareness can help in spreading the message effectively. As global citizens, we all share equal responsibility for the repercussions of our actions. Let us all come together as responsible leaders to build a sustainable world.

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