

Downer, Howard Hopeful Of Energy Progress At APEC

Foreign Affairs Minister Alexander Downer says progress on climate change and energy security will be the key targets for the September Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting in Sydney. Downer says APEC will continue to provide strong momentum for the further liberalisation of economic markets. “This year I think it is also going to play a very important role in helping to free up energy markets and make sure that there is a much better, more constructive international approach to the issue of climate change,” says Downer. Prime Minister John Howard says the APEC meeting will be the first to bring together both China and the United States, which are “the two countries that have the largest volume of greenhouse gas emissions”, adding that the size of the meeting makes it more manageable to achieve results compared to UN events.

[Source esaa news]