

Country Statement

Ministerial Segment 71st Commission Session ESCAP
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***Mr. Chairman,
Prime Ministers, President, Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,***

Let me begin by congratulating you Mr. Chairman, in chairing the 71st Session of UN-ESCAP.

It gives me great privilege to address this year theme "Balancing the three dimensions of sustainable development: from integration to implementation".

The year 2015 marks an important year, as we reflect back to see the end of the Millennium Development Goals and at the same time we are finalizing to progress with the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals.

The international community will again set a new charter in its commitments to integrate and implement in a balanced manner the three dimensions of sustainable development which encompass economic progress, social development and environment protection.

Indonesia remains committed to place sustainable development strategies into our long term development plan, and is reflected in our national medium term planning of 2015 – 2019.

***Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,***

Let me now draw your attention on issues of maritime in achieving sustainable development.

Our ocean covers 71% of the earth surface and contains 97% of the planet's water. And we all know that Asia and the Pacific region stretches in two great oceans, the Pacific and the Indian oceans. Indonesia lies in between these two great oceans.

Our oceans and seas are also source of living and non-living resources. They are invaluable resources for our present and future generations.

We must recognize that oceans, seas and coastal areas form an integrated and essential component of the earth ecosystem. Our seas and oceans play a very important role on our lives.

Under the current leadership, Indonesian President Joko Widodo, has reinstated maritime development as one of his top priority. The Indonesian Government has declared 5 main agenda in building up the maritime development.



First, to advance maritime culture identity as an archipelagic state with over 17.000 islands, Indonesia is determined to manage its oceans with all its ability for the benefit of present and future generations.

Second, to develop our infrastructure and building up maritime connectivity. We will further develop the necessary sea toll, deep seaport, strengthen our shipping industry and improve marine tourism.

Third, through diplomacy, we will invite our partners to work and collaborate in maritime cooperation, including combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

Fourth, develop our marine and defense capability, to ensure maritime safety and security.

Fifth, to protect and manage our marine resources, to ensure sustainability of our marine based food security and to safe guard our marine ecosystem for the welfare of our people.

**Mr. Chairman, Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

On the issue of connectivity, we have recognized that maritime transport connectivity is vital to the achievement of sustainable development.

Connectivity using seas and oceans has truly facilitated the turning of the world's global economy. Almost 90% of the world's trade is carried through strategic sea-lanes of communication.

The Asia Pacific region will continue to develop and strengthen its connectivity within and beyond its region.

On this note, my delegation has introduced a resolution on maritime transport connectivity for sustainable development to be adopted at this year's commission. We believe this will be ground breaking for ESCAP to commence its work on issues related to maritime cooperation.

A lot of effort within the framework of ESCAP has dealt with intense cooperation on railways and roads. And it is now time to start working on maritime cooperation as interlink to establishing the intermodal and multimodal transport.

We believe ESCAP's work on maritime connectivity will also strengthen and compliment other sub regional cooperation, including the ASEAN's Master Plan on Connectivity.

**Mr. Chairman, Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Let me also take this opportunity to inform you on Indonesia's effort in strengthening connectivity throughout the archipelago. For the next 5 years, my Government has embarked to develop seaports through the country, from 278 to 452 locations. We will also develop the existing crossing docks from 210 to 275 docks.

Other means to developing our connectivity include also to roads, railways and airports. My government has embarked on a massive transport infrastructure development with an estimated project costing over 418 million US Dollar. And of which 40% will be from our national budget, 19% from the state owned enterprises, 10% from the local provincial budget and 31% from Public and Private Partnership and Business-to-Business arrangement.

This is a huge investment opportunity to strengthen economic and business growth. In this regard, my government extends its invitation to all friends, governments, private and business sectors to join in this endeavor.

***Mr. Chairman, Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,***

With regard to protecting our marine resources and its biodiversity, we shall continue to promote sustainable fishing management. Our oceans and seas provide valuable resources, and particularly to those coastal communities that heavily depend on fishing for their livelihood.

Indonesia continues to stress the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and of their resources for sustainable development. Its contribution is significant to poverty reduction, sustained economic growth, food security and while at the same time protecting marine biodiversity and its ecosystems.

We are all aware that our seas and oceans plays an important role to our life, unsustainable fishing practices will harms the world fish stock and destroys marine environment and marine ecosystems.

Global and regional efforts need to continue to effectively combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. IUU fishing does not only contribute to over-exploitation of fish stocks but it is also a hindrance to the recovery of fish populations and marine ecosystems.

Indonesia is also alarmed at the continuing problem of transnational crimes committed at sea, the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in person and other activities that may cause deplorable impact to sustainable development.

Our region, through this body of UN ESCAP and other related international organizations need to step-up its efforts in strengthening maritime cooperation in a holistic manner.

***Mr. Chairman, Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,***

Indonesia has been experiencing rampant activities that of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing for many years, causing great loss on Indonesian economy, and more importantly, the depletion of our fish stock. In 2014 alone, Indonesia lost around 4 Billion



US Dollars at the expense of around 30 million Indonesian people who are unfortunately still living in poverty.

This situation therefore brought forth the Government of the Republic of Indonesia to impose its law effectively in fighting IUU Fishing within its territory. This measure is taken as part of the commitment of the Indonesian Government on sustainable development, including sustainable fishing that would benefit the people's welfare and protect marine ecosystem through sustainable fishing management.

In this regard, the Government of Indonesia welcome cooperation with our neighboring countries to achieve this noble goal.

The measures that the Indonesian Government has implemented are clearly also in line with ASEAN Community Blue Print on *close cooperation among ASEAN Member States, to combat IUU fishing in the region*. Since illegal fishing activities in our region could not be stopped, there is urgent need for our region beyond ASEAN, our Asia Pacific region, to strengthen its co-operations on preventing and combating IUU fishing.

For its parts, the Government of Indonesia will continue to impose its laws against IUU fishing, and the measures will not be intended to those who respect the existing Indonesian Law.

Let me urge all countries that are committed to combat IUU fishing, to work closely, to ensure the sustainability of our marine resources, including our fish stock and marine ecosystem, and will significant contribute to our common endeavors in achieving sustainable development in our Asia-Pacific region.

My delegation underscores the importance in combating IUU fishing for Asia and the Pacific region and request that it be reflected in the Report of the Commission.

On another note, my delegation wishes to underscore on the importance of financing for development, in which Indonesia has also put forward a resolution on the "Implementing the Outcome of the Asia-Pacific High Level Consultations on Financing for Development". The high level consultations took place in Jakarta at the end of April 2015 and jointly organized by my Government together with UN ESCAP and other related agencies.

The High Level consultations in Jakarta made concrete recommendations to innovate ways in developing the means of implementation in financing for development. The outcome from Jakarta will be taken as an input from Asia Pacific region to the Global Conference on Financing for Development in July 2015.

Let us work together to build a better future for our world and together with the people of Asia-Pacific, and to leave no one behind.

Thank you.

