

**COUNTRY STATEMENT**  
**Head of the Indonesian Delegation to the 72<sup>nd</sup> Commission Session of UNESCAP**  
**18 May 2016, Bangkok**

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

The theme topic of the UN-ESCAP's 72<sup>nd</sup> Commission Session "Science, technology, and innovation for sustainable development" is indeed very timely and relevant to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals known as SDGs. The international community have all agreed on a new global agenda to cherish our world on a sustainable pathway for the next 15 years.

The challenge we need to ask, is to implement the 17 goals and 169 targets. And the year 2016, marks the beginning for implementing the ambitious global agenda that was adopted last year. We should all be mindful of the tremendous global and regional challenges that we need to confront.

Hundreds of millions of people still live under extreme poverty. There are adverse impacts of climate change. And furthermore, the global economy continues in the low growth trend. And therefore, we have no time to waste but to strengthen our efforts at the national and regional level to begin the implementation of SDGs sooner than later.

*Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,*

Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) have been recognized as being critical to the achievement of sustainable development. They can provide solutions to complex sustainable development problems, while at the same time identify and tackle global challenges.

Indonesia believes that new and innovative technologies offer tremendous opportunities for everyone. They can deliver better and wider-reach public services, from healthcare, market

information, and weather report to education. They can also assist in addressing critical problems such as access to energy, food, water, and climate change. And all of that can be reached by more people at lower cost.

We must capitalize on the science, technology and innovation revolution and turn it into a revolution for sustainable development so that they can be embraced, as an enabler of all people, including the most marginalized and vulnerable ones.

***Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,***

Indonesia has developed a long-term vision and mission of its Science and Technology Statement for the year 2005-2025, which is translated into a series of five-year-plans to refine development priorities. It focuses on quality of human resources, development of science and technology through improved research and development capabilities and economic competitiveness. The plan is intended to improve the application and commercialization of research and development results in order to address current national socio-economic needs.

The government is also currently developing a national innovation system in agricultural sector. It is a chain of technology supply which connects between the government in collaboration with leading national universities that produce various new technologies, and the farmers as the end users. The aim of this system is to bridge the supply and demand side of technology and in turns will be beneficial for both the farmers and consumers.

Indonesian is also convinced that in reaching the whole society and leaving no one behind, a holistic and integrated physical networks that is efficient and competitive will be necessary. Indonesia is currently opening huge investments for infrastructure to connecting the 17.000 islands, by expanding and building deep sea ports, new airports, railways and toll roads across many islands.

***Excellencies,***

***Distinguished Delegates,***

In building the interconnectivity through science, technology and innovation, Indonesia believes that SDGs framework could be utilize to strengthen planning, coordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Indonesia's development programs. We are promoting productive partnerships with the private sectors, non-government organizations, academia, and international development partners to reduce poverty, build social inclusion and achieve sustainable growth.

For Indonesia SDGs is not only a global agenda. SDGs is a tool to accelerate achievement of our national development objectives.

I have the honour, to share with you all at this UN regional body for Asia and the Pacific, what Indonesia has been doing to implement SDGs since its adoptions:

***First,*** Indonesia has mainstreamed SDGs into the context of our national strategic development plan.

***Second,*** Indonesia is currently finalizing a Presidential Regulation for the implementation of SDGs, as an enabling environment for various line of ministries and agencies to coordinate and synergize cross-cutting nature of the goals and targets in SDGs.

***Third,*** later this year, Indonesia will set up a SDGs National Secretariat which consist of governments and non-government actors to ensure its inclusiveness, and to leave no one behind.

The Government of Indonesia will continue to implement through a holistic, thematic, integrated and system-based approach in accomplishing our development goals that are in parallel with SDGs.

***Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,***

I have the honour to announce that in the margin of this year's Commission session a Memorandum of Agreement has just been signed between the Indonesian National Agency for Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics (BMKG) and UN-ESCAP on the Promotion and Institutionalization of ESCAP Regional Network of Knowledge and Innovation Center in Disaster Risk Reduction. I wish to recognize the role played by UN ESCAP's adviser in making this agreement into being.

Indonesia has a long history of collaboration with UNESCAP. In this opportunity, I would like to thank and give a special appreciation to the Executive Secretary and to the Secretariat, and of course to member states for their contribution and to the success of the Sixth Asia Pacific Urban Forum held in Jakarta last July 2015 jointly organized by the Government of Indonesia and UNESCAP.

We also hope to welcome your delegation to Indonesia, for the Third Session of the Preparatory Committee of the Habitat III Conference that will be held in Surabaya on 25-27 July 2016. We really hope that the consultation and the recommendations during those meeting will deliver valuable inputs for the outcome of the Habitat III Conference that will set the new urban agenda for the next two decades. As we know, cities are already the engines of growth and will play a crucial role in attaining the SDGs, therefore the support and participation of all member states is indeed important.

Let me also reiterate Indonesia's full support to UNESCAP's programs in Asia and the Pacific region. We should not lose the momentum to eradicate poverty and to leave no one behind. Asia and the Pacific region needs to have a stronger voice in making sure that our commitments is turn into real action which brings real benefit to the people.

I thank you.