

KEYNOTE SPEECH
BY
H.E. MS. PUAN MAHARANI
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REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
AT HIGH-LEVEL SIDE EVENT
“LAUNCH OF ROADMAP FOR PEACEFUL, JUST
AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES”
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Excellency **Dr. Samura Kamara**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Republic of Sierra Leone;

Excellency **Ms. Pascale Baeriswyl**, State Secretary, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland

Honorable **Mr. José Antônio Marcondes de Carvalho**, Undersecretary General for the Environment, Energy and Science and Technology, Brazil

Honorable **Ms. Sarah Cliffe**, Director, New York University's Center on International Cooperation

Honorable **Mr. Fabrizio Hochschild**, Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Coordination in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

I thank the Government of Brazil, Sierra Leone and Switzerland for convening this significant event.

Indonesia welcomes global initiatives in progressing the implementation of the SDGs, including today's launching of the Roadmap for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies.

As responsible members of the United Nations, all of us should commit strongly to attain these targets.

Our Voluntary National Report on SDGs last July, is indeed an exemplary and concrete action in this regard. Moreover, the National Coordination Team on the Implementation of SDGs closely monitors progress of each goals and works under the President's direct leadership.

Particularly, Indonesia resolutely believes that the SDG 16+ is indeed a determining enabler in our continuous efforts to achieve all goals.

Indonesia, as a true partner in strengthening global efforts for such attainment, contributes actively with concrete actions.

Distinguished Delegates,

Thirty-four percent or 87 million of Indonesia's population are children. By 2045, these children made up the majority of the productive workforce of Indonesia.

Hence, it is strategically important that we provide nothing less than the best protection for our children.

In this respect, Indonesia has gladly taken its part as a Pathfinder in the global efforts to protect children from violence and exploitation.

We believe that to effectively protect them, a comprehensive and holistic approach is needed. A good legal framework will not be complete without implementable and practical measures on the field, law enforcement as well as a monitoring mechanism.

Indonesia has in turn revamped its policy blueprints to further strengthen our national child protection machineries, which will also serve as a baseline for our Pathfinder Roadmap.

In this regard, allow me to share some highlights of our progress so far;

First, we launched the first National Strategy on the Elimination of Violence against Children in 2016.

With 6 main focuses of the strategy, this will strengthen policies on child protection.

The focuses are, among others:

- Changing of social norms and cultural practice that accept, justify, or neglect violence;
- Providing child care that support safe and loving relationship between caregivers; and
- Improving quality of supporting data and evidence on violence against children.

Such strategy is further elaborated in the National Action Plan on Child Protection. The plan includes actions to widen and simplify children's access to health, education, psychosocial, and civil registration services.

Second, creating conducive environment for children to grow.

This includes, establishing child-friendly schools, playgrounds, and districts; designating safe routes to school; and providing child-friendly access to information and technology. Actions at sub-national level, in close cooperation with local governments and civil society actors, are being taken also.

The Children's Forums, Family Learning Centres, and Children's Creative Spaces are being established in all 34 Provinces in Indonesia. This will indeed encourage children's participation in social activities and development planning.

Distinguished Delegates,

Indonesia also believes that the promotion of the rights of the child, and protecting them from any kind of violence, must start from the most basic and fundamental unit of the society, the family. Therefore, it is imperative for Governments to enact and implement family-friendly policies, particularly to increase access to quality health for mother and children, basic education for children, economic empowerment for the family.

To conclude, Indonesia would like to share our conviction that protecting our children is preserving our future. But achieving just one goal will not guarantee protection of our future. That is why we must emphasize the inter-connectedness of the SDGs, and work even harder to ensure their implementations.

Indonesia is committed to and humbly appeal to all members states to enhance cooperation in building a better world: a world where children can grow proudly and freely, with justice and prosperity for all.

I thank you.