STATEMENT BY DELEGATE OF INDONESIA
AT THE SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING
HIGH-LEVEL INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING ON THE MIDPOINT
REVIEW OF THE ASIAN AND PACIFIC DECADE OF PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES, 2013-2022

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to convey my sincerest appreciation to the UNESCAP and Government of the People’s Republic of China for carrying out this important meeting. I appreciate the opportunity to address the meeting on the topic of social inclusion of persons with disabilities in our national social development.

The adoption of the Ministerial Declaration of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities and Incheon Strategy in 2012 has become an important milestone in the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities in the region. The Incheon Strategy, along with the CRPD and the SDGs has become a guidance for us in formulating and mainstreaming disability issue in achieving an inclusive and sustainable development. For Indonesia, all those commitments remain the important guideline in the formulation of national strategies and policies.

It is important to note that a robust and continues commitment is needed to implement such documents and frameworks. This meeting in indeed very timely to strengthen our commitment and efforts as well as to provide solutions to address present challenges and opportunities.

Madame Chairperson,

Let me highlight some progress made by Indonesia in area relevant to Incheon Strategy’s Goals. We continue to improve our legal frameworks, institutional capacity, and implementation mechanism in advocating the rights of persons with disabilities, and providing access of persons with disabilities to be involved in the development agenda.
Law No.8 of 2016 on Persons with Disabilities aims to transform Government approaches in realizing the rights of persons with disabilities, including by mainstreaming the issues of persons with disabilities within the national development frameworks. Our National Medium-Term Development Plan 2015 – 2019 serves as a direction to pursue disability-inclusive budgeting and planning. Indonesia has also developed National Action Plan on Disability adopting the principles of CRPD and 10 Goals of Incheon Strategy. These national instruments are guidelines in protecting and ensuring the full enjoyment human rights and fundamental freedoms equally for all persons with disabilities.

The government conducts social rehabilitation for persons with disabilities, both institutional-based and community-based, and supervise the implementation of its Norms, Standard, and Procedures so that persons with disabilities can be reliant, and able to live independently and participate optimally in the community.

In the implementation mechanism, the Government continues to promote right-based approach for persons with disabilities by ensuring access and rights to education through provision of inclusive schools, providing equal access to healthcare services, increasing employment and entrepreneurship opportunities, develop supportive environment in the disaster response, as well as promoting the participation persons with disabilities in public and political life.

We also continue to enhance the quality and coverage of social protection and assistance program for persons with disabilities. In 2017, social assistance program has support 29,701 persons with severe disabilities across Indonesia.

The Government also launched Program Keluarga Harapan, a Conditional Cash Transfer Program that provide social assistance to families living in poverty. Next year, this program will be expanded to further target persons with disabilities living in poverty. The Ministry of Social Affairs has launched Cards for Persons with Disability Program to ensure the access of persons with disabilities to government-provided social protection services.

Madame Chairperson,

While achievements and progress has been made, challenges still persist. Availability of a comprehensive and disaggregated data on disabilities, physical and geographical barrier to render services for persons with disabilities, mobilisation of resources, as well as socio-cultural barriers still hinder mindset-changing process on disability issues.

Along with the spirits of Incheon Strategy, in order to strengthen our commitment and efforts in promoting and fulfilling the right of persons with disabilities, we need to strengthen our partnership to work together and take concrete steps towards achieving an inclusive society and sustainable development in the future. We are looking forward to working with you all in making right into reality.

I thank you