Mr/Madam Chair,

Implementation of the SDGs at the national level has been challenged by the Covid-19 pandemic in every country and threatens to reverse progress on the Sustainable Development Goals.

It is imperative that we take stock of our progress and the issues we need to address, so that we can make targeted measures that can boost momentum.

In this context, Indonesia would like to share some points to note, and our own experiences.

First, now more than ever, we need to strengthen the multistakeholder approach to SDGs. President Joko Widodo has mandated that the SDGs targets should be achieved, even in the face of increasingly difficult challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Indonesia currently is formulating SDGs National Action Plan and Voluntary National Review as a third timer. The two activities are carried out inclusively by engaging civil society, business sector, philanthropy, academia, government and supported by the UN system. Stakeholder engagement from the outset is important to build trust, develop partnership and accelerate action.

Second, it is vital that we develop innovative means of implementation.

The economic slowdown due to the pandemic has impacted domestic resource mobilization, particularly taxes. At the same time, ODA was insufficient even before the pandemic struck.

Therefore, financing innovations are urgently needed. Indonesia is currently developing an SDGs Financing Hub as a platform to facilitate various innovative financing schemes and initiatives. Mechanisms such as, Blended financing, impact investing, sustainable finance, Green Bond and Green Sukuk are being sourced to fill the financing gap. We are also now exploring the issuance of SDG Bonds as a new mechanism.

Ultimately, however, SDG financing will depend on the ability of our economies to promptly return to a path of growth. For Indonesia, success in maintaining preventive health protocols and realizing our vaccination targets will play a key role in economic recovery.

I thank you.