

**Statement by H.E. Lutfi Rauf, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to the Kingdom of Thailand and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to UNESCAP
At the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development
Pattaya, Thailand, 19-21 May 2014**

***Mr. Chair,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,***

Good Afternoon. Allow me to begin by expressing my gratitude and of appreciation to the Secretariat and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand for organizing this important meeting. I would also like to congratulate you, Mr. Chair, on your election as the Chair of the Asia–Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development. I believe under your stewardship, this Forum will bear a fruitful result.

Mr. Chair,

As the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) comes to an end by 2015, it is very timely to discuss the future of global development agenda beyond 2015. The MDGs have made important contributions to improving the lives of millions, put human at the center of development, as well as placed poverty eradication at the forefront of development agenda.

MDGs have done a lot, but there is still a lot of homework to be done. Based on the MDGs report released on 2013, much progress has been made, such as reduction of the proportion of people living under extreme poverty, increase number of people gained access to improved drinking water sources and reduced mortality rates due to diseases such as malaria. However, the achievement of MDGs is still uneven and unequal among countries, as well as within countries.

In its part, Indonesia, a country with 250 million people living in 17.000 islands in three different time zones, has achieved much of its MDGs targets. Nevertheless, some checklists remain to

be ticked off. These include the elements of MDG 1 –on Population Living under the Poverty Line, MDG 5 -Improve Maternal Health, MDG 6 -Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria, and other Disease, MDG 7 -Ensure Environmental Sustainability, and MDG 8 –on Access to Internet and PC.

It is therefore, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia has put strong efforts on accelerating the achievement of MDGs by implementing National and Provincial Action Plan for the Achievement of MDGs 2010-2015. Indonesia has also introduced a new poverty eradication program aiming at household, community, and small micro enterprise. In addition, we have launched MDGs Acceleration Framework focusing on Improving Maternal health.

Mr. Chair,

Indonesia has to address these challenges as our part of comprehensive future development of the commitments contained in the “Future We Want”. It is indeed of great importance to use the Future We Want document as the main reference point in order to ensure the realization of sustainable development, and to further address future development challenges.

Bearing in mind the principles contained in the Rio+20 outcome, Indonesia is of the view that the future development agenda must be global in nature and applicable to all countries. Furthermore, efforts to develop the agenda must be guided by the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibility, as the basic principles contained in Rio Declaration.

It is our firm position that the process of the future development agenda has to be an inclusive and transparent inter-governmental as well as civil society’s process. The process also needs to be focused on priority areas for the achievement of sustainable development.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We realize that there is a wide expectation for the future development agenda of the UN to address on how to eliminate poverty and global inequality. It is therefore, the future

development agenda discussed under Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is very crucial.

Indonesia welcomes the focus area document that has been produced by Co-Chairs of Open Working Group on SDGs as guidance to discuss the future goals and targets. In this regard, I would like to reiterate some points of view, as follows:

First, we need to ensure that the future development agenda will carry forward the spirit and the best of the current MDGs, such as poverty eradication, education, health, gender equality and women empowerment. These areas need to be consistently addressed and further strengthened in the SDGs formulation. They should be linked with the provision of adequate means of implementation, to ensure concrete actions and progress related to these areas can be attained in a timely manner.

Second, we need to promote Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) patterns. The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation has identified the importance of changing patterns of production and consumption as an essential requirement for sustainable development, therefore, failure to ensure SCP will definitely be a step backward for eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable development. In this regards, the Ten-Year Framework of Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns (the “10 YFP”) should serve as a global cooperation framework to accelerate the shift towards sustainable patterns of consumption and production.

Third, climate change and disaster risks are serious threats to poverty eradication and sustainable development. Developing countries are facing significant risks from the adverse impacts of climate change, and are already experiencing increased impacts. These include persistent drought and extreme weather events, massive flooding, sea-level rise, land and forest degradation, loss of biodiversity, and many more. In light of this, we believe that United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the primary international, inter-governmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change, Therefore, the discussions on climate change issues need to reflect adherence to the process in the UNFCCC and consistent with principles of common but differentiated responsibilities.

Fourth, Means of Implementation (MoI) and global partnerships are crucial for the achievement of sustainable development. Science, technology and innovation are drivers of social and economic development. While a renewed and strengthened global partnership is required for the implementation of the SDGs, the partnership should be equitable, inclusive with mutual accountability and a fair sharing of responsibilities. The implementation of Means of Implementation and global partnership, especially in financing, needs to have a strong accountability mechanism as well as clear timeline and pathway of delivery. The implementation should be based on the Rio principles, including that of common but differentiated responsibilities and respected capabilities.

Mr. Chair,

Indonesia would like to re-emphasize that the formulation of future development agenda has to be addressed in a balanced manner which would fully incorporate all three dimensions of sustainable development – economy, social and environment – and their linkages.

For that reason, Indonesia adheres to the importance of strengthening global cooperation in tackling the increasingly complex challenges. To this end, Indonesia is committed to enhance regional cooperation especially under ESCAP framework, to address the future challenges of development for the betterment of humanity.

Last but not least, we look forward to engaging in deeper discussions in the formulation of future sustainable development agenda in a constructive spirit; as well as to advance common understanding on topics where differences need to be bridged. Indonesia stands ready to work and cooperate with other countries in ensuring the success of future development agenda formulation, and accordingly for its implementation.

I thank you.