

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA AND NEW ZEALAND AT THE 9th JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMISSION

1. On 29 July 2020, Her Excellency Retno L.P. Marsudi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, and Rt Hon Winston Peters, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand, had a virtual meeting of the 9th Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC).
2. The Ministers exchanged views on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in their countries and in the wider region. They also discussed a wide range of regional and international issues of mutual concern and underscored the importance of working collectively to address international challenges.
3. The Ministers welcomed the elevation of the relationship to a Comprehensive Partnership in 2018, which coincided with the 60th anniversary of official bilateral relations. As part of their strong commitment to the relationship, a Plan of Action was agreed to set clear goals and direction for our Comprehensive Partnership for the next five years.
4. The Ministers emphasised their shared commitment to intensify the tempo of political engagement and deepen all spheres of bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation in line with the elevation of the relationship to a Comprehensive Partnership. They acknowledged the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic which require renewed focus on shared priorities, while at the same time offering new opportunities for collaboration and cooperation.
5. The Ministers committed to supporting one another in their country's respective COVID-19 responses and recoveries. To support local communities, they stressed the importance of maintaining global supply chains and resisting protectionist measures.
6. Both Ministers reflected on the importance of global solidarity to move toward an inclusive and sustainable recovery, and to build back better and stronger economies. New Zealand has supported Indonesia with NZ\$6.12 million (IDR 58 billion) toward boosting testing capacity, providing hygiene and infection prevention supplies, and ensuring the maintenance of essential health services.
7. To enhance mutual prosperity and strengthen trade and economic connections, the Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to increase two-way bilateral trade in goods and services to NZ\$4 billion (IDR 40 trillion) by 2024. They also reiterated their commitment to remove barriers that impede trade in order to achieve this target.
8. The Ministers highlighted the importance of increasing investment; promoting an open, stable and conducive business environment; investing in a skilled, innovative and agile workforce; boosting productivity; and increasing meaningful employment to support mutually beneficial growth in two-way bilateral trade. The Ministers also committed to improving the efficiency and robustness of supply chains.

9. The Ministers committed to work to upgrade the Agreement Establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA), to ensure the agreement remains modern, high-quality and relevant. They also emphasised both sides' commitment to support a modern, comprehensive, high-quality and mutually beneficial Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement, including through its signature in 2020 and implementation once it comes into force for Indonesia and New Zealand.
10. The Ministers emphasised both sides will continue to work toward their international commitments to reduce and mitigate the impacts of climate change as well as enhance efforts to support actions and cooperation in disaster risk reduction. They recognised the importance of sustainable development and promoting low-emissions and climate-resilient economies, through implementation of green policies, technologies and practices in line with the Paris Agreement, such as cooperation on renewable energy, climate-smart agriculture, and encouraging fossil fuel subsidy reform throughout the region.
11. As long term development partners, the Ministers affirmed both sides' commitment to agree to a new Joint Commitment for Development, taking into account priorities in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, and with a view to ensuring that such cooperation reflects the timeliness and priorities of Indonesia's Medium-Term Development Plan 2020-2024 and New Zealand's International Cooperation for Sustainable Development Policy 2019.
12. The Ministers reinforced their commitment to defence and security cooperation through bilateral visits and exchanges, training exercises, and other areas of cooperation as the COVID-19 situation improves.
13. The Ministers committed to deepening cooperation on regional and global security challenges, and strongly affirmed the importance of partnering to support important values and principles such as democracy and human rights. They highlighted their shared efforts on countering terrorism and violent extremism, and in countering transnational organised crime including through addressing people smuggling in the region. They also underlined the value of investing in global democracy initiatives such as the Bali Democracy Forum.
14. The Ministers underlined the shared mutual respect and support for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity and reaffirmed their shared belief in an open, transparent, rules-based and inclusive Indo-Pacific region which adheres to international law, and regional architecture that safeguards the sovereignty and interests of all states, regardless of their size.
15. The Ministers underscored ASEAN's central role in the evolving regional architecture and remained dedicated to strengthening regional and international organisations, including Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and ASEAN-led processes, particularly the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), and ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting-Plus (ADMM+); Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC); the World Trade Organization (WTO);

the World Health Organization (WHO); and the United Nations (UN) and associated bodies.

16. The Ministers reaffirmed support for the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific and New Zealand's priorities for the Indo-Pacific region in order to contribute to the maintenance of a peaceful, stable, prosperous, secure and more resilient Indo-Pacific Region, including exploring opportunities for cooperation with Pacific Island partners.
17. The Ministers expressed concern over developments in the South China Sea and underscored the importance of non-militarisation, self-restraint and avoidance of actions that may further complicate the situation. They reaffirmed the importance of maintaining peace, security, stability, freedom of navigation and overflight and the peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with international law, particularly the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The Ministers noted the ongoing negotiation of the Code of Conduct for the South China Sea and underscored the importance of the Code being consistent with international law, in particular UNCLOS, and without prejudice to the interests of third parties or the rights of states under international law, including UNCLOS. The Ministers reaffirmed that UNCLOS provides the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out.
18. This Joint Statement and the Plan of Action reaffirm the importance of the Indonesia-New Zealand relationship. The Ministers agreed that they reinforce the strong friendship, trust, and shared goodwill that have underpinned more than 60 years of formal diplomatic relations. As Comprehensive Partners, Indonesia and New Zealand committed to future-proofing the relationship so that it continues to strengthen and grow in the next 60 years and beyond.

29 July 2020