

**ANNUAL PRESS STATEMENT  
OF THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA  
2020**

*Bismillahirrahmanirrohim*

*Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh*

*Good Morning and Peace be upon us all*

*Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs... Former Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Former Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs...*

**Honorable Chair, Leader and Members of Commission I of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia,**

**Excellencies, Ambassadors and Leaders of International Organizations,**

**Our seniors,**

**Ambassadors, the elders and the family of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, both in the country and abroad,**

**Chiefs of mass media, fellow journalists, stakeholders**

**Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.**

Allow me to begin by wishing all of you a very happy and prosperous New Year.

May 2020 be a better, more prosperous and peaceful year for all.

On behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I would like to say "Happy New Year 2020".

We must work harder... to make 2020 a better year for us all.

I would also like to welcome the Ambassadors and Head of Indonesian Missions... who are present in this PPTM/APSM.

Starting tomorrow until 11 January 2020, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will hold a meeting with all Indonesian Head of Missions abroad.

The main focus of this year's meeting is strengthening Economic Diplomacy.

**Honorable guests,**

We have just watched a video on Indonesia's foreign policy measures in the last 5 years.

Indonesia's diplomacy stood tall... with dignity... defending its national interests and contributing to world peace and stability.

Indonesia is always consistent... in ensuring the implementation of its foreign policy as part of the solution to our common challenges.

Indonesia consistently implements a free and active... foreign policy... in the midst of global challenges..., where:

War and conflict are still ongoing in many places

The global economic growth is on a downward trend  
Various humanitarian issues are still of concern  
The future of Palestinian... for instance... is facing even bigger obstacles

Besides the points conveyed in the video... .. allow me to deliver some additional notes and emphasis for 2019.

**Distinguished guests,**

Indonesia started 2019 with Indonesia's membership in the UN Security Council. It will continue until the end of 2020.

"Investing in peace" is the grand spirit that underlies Indonesia's work as non-permanent member of UNSC.

Investing in women also means investing in peace... I am sure that all of you agree.

Therefore... during the past year... Indonesia has made large investments on... women, peace and security issues.

During Indonesia's Presidency in the UNSC, last May... female peacekeepers empowerment became one of the main topics of discussion in the UNSC.

Women are assets ... women can contribute to peace.

In this regard, in 2019 Indonesia organized:

*Regional Training for women, peace and security;  
ASEAN women interfaith dialogue; and  
Discussion on the issues of women, inclusivity and the state of democracy on Bali Democracy Forum... attended by several female Foreign Ministers.*

At the margin of the UN General Assembly, Indonesia also actively participated in the launch of *Global Alliance of Regional Women Mediator Networks*.

In December 2019, Indonesia also organized a dialogue between Indonesian and Afghanistan women.

Indonesia hopes.... that Afghanistan women could continuously contribute both in the peace process and also in the future of Afghanistan.

**Honorable guests,**

2019 was also marked by growing protectionism... slower economic growth and global trade down to its lowest point since the 2009 global financial crisis.

In the midst of such situation, Indonesia consistently broadens its economic cooperation **based on the principle of mutual benefit** ... I repeat... **based on the principle of mutual benefit**.

Trade and investment cooperation should be *mutually beneficial*... fair... and not a zero-sum game.

With this mindset... Indonesia continues to bolster its economic diplomacy.

In 2019:

CEPA negotiations with Australia and EFTA were concluded;  
PTA negotiation with Mozambique were also concluded. Indonesia's first PTA in Africa;  
FTA negotiation with Chile also concluded... this is Indonesia's first trade agreement in Latin America and the Caribbean region;  
RCEP negotiation concluded after 28 rounds since 2013;  
Indonesia has signed the MoC with EAEU;  
Indonesia has initiated negotiation with Fiji... the first negotiation with the South Pacific region;  
Negotiations with the European Union is still ongoing.

Indonesia's economic cooperation priority with Africa is embodied, among others through the "*Indonesia-Africa Infrastructure Dialogue*"... as a follow up to the Indonesia-Africa Forum in 2018.

Since the convening of the Forum, various Indonesian enterprises have established business cooperation with contracts around USD 2 billion in 9 countries namely Senegal, Niger, Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Tanzania, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Egypt... along with several entities such as Africa Export-Import Bank, Standard Chartered Bank, Commerzbank and Development Bank of the Central African States.

Based on Indonesia's initiative, on 19 December 2019, the UN General Assembly adopted by consensus the resolution on creative economy ... and declared the year 2021 as the *International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development*.

### **Distinguished Guests,**

At the end of 2019, Indonesia's Foreign Policy, was concluded among others with a grant from the Government of Indonesia to the Government of Myanmar through the ASEAN Secretariat ... to support the repatriation of displaced persons from Cox's Bazaar to Rakhine State.

Indonesia continuously endeavors to be part of the solution to the Rakhine State issue.... we want to ensure that ASEAN could contribute... and we want to assure that progress occurs on the field.

The displaced persons have suffered for too long... Indonesia does not wish to see their condition worsened.

Indonesia appreciates the second visit of the ASEAN team... along with the Government of Myanmar and facilitated by the Bangladesh authorities to Cox's Bazaar... near the end of December 2019.

Communications with the *displaced persons* must continue ... their voices must be heard... *trust building* should be consistently fostered... so that voluntary, safe and dignified repatriation can take place ... and conducive environment in Rakhine State can be sustainable.

Still on humanitarian diplomacy... in early December 2019... Indonesia **handed over a hospital in Mrauk U, Rakhine State, from the people of Indonesia**... to the Government of Myanmar.

The hospital was built by people from various religions and ethnicities backgrounds... and is hoped to bridge closer ties between communities in Rakhine State.

The Hospital is also hoped to fulfill the needs of the local communities for inclusive healthcare.

Indonesia continuously communicates with multiple parties... with the Government of Myanmar... Bangladesh... UN Secretary General... Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General... UNHCR... IOM... ICRC and other related parties... to help ensure progress on the field.

Indonesia stands ready to contribute in supplying basic needs for the people in Rakhine State... as well as build mutual trust in the society.

Throughout 2019... *engagement* with the Pacific was consistently strengthened.

We have built a new era of partnership with the Pacific countries, "Pacific Elevation".

For the first time ever... Indonesia organized the **Indonesia-South Pacific Forum in Jakarta ...** and the **Pacific Exposition in Auckland.**

### **Honorable guests,**

Major world powers continue its efforts to increase their spheres of influence in the region... *distrust* hinder the creation of a conducive environment.

In this situation,... Indonesia proposed the Indo-Pacific concept.

Indonesia hopes that stability... the *habit of dialogue*... collaboration... respect to international law ... will always be upheld in the Indo-Pacific region.

Power rivalry should be converted into cooperation.

Indonesia will continuously support ASEAN in playing a central role in the promotion of peace, stability and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region.

ASEAN must continue to come up with *disruptive innovations*,... to step away from the comfort zone, and stay relevant in responding to current challenges.

With such commitment, ASEAN Leaders **adopted the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific**... as the guideline for ASEAN to establish *engagement* in the Indo-Pacific.

This Outlook is inclusive and open for cooperation with all interested parties.

### **Distinguished guests,**

We closed 2019 with the release of 2 Indonesian hostages who were held in the Southern Philippines. For the last five years, the government successfully released 45 Indonesian hostages.

Currently, one Indonesian citizen is still being held hostage.

Going forward... it is important for Indonesia-Malaysia-The Philippines to strengthen preventive measures... and avoid more victims.

Trilateral cooperation,... security protection in and around Sulu sea,... should be intensified.

Citizen protection continued to be strengthen throughout 2019:

Handling 27.033 consular cases of Indonesian citizens abroad;

Recovering 197,71 billion rupiah of Indonesian citizens/migrant workers financial rights;

Repatriating 17.607 Indonesian citizens facing difficulties; and

Releasing 25 Indonesian citizens from capital punishment.

*High profile* cases that garnered public attention were also addressed:

Siti Aisyah was released from murder charges;

40 Indonesian citizens who were victims of mail order bride were successfully repatriated.

Indonesia has also been active in the global and regional *norm setting* process including:

The adoption of UN Resolution on “*Violence Against Women Migrant Workers*”, November 2019;

*Bali Process Policy Guide on Return and Reintegration*.

The bilateral mechanism for citizen protection and consular cooperation were also strengthened. In 2019, consular consultations were conducted with Australia, India, Iran, European Union, Japan, and Korea.

Multiple improvements by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on public service in 2019.... resulted in many recognitions and public appreciations.

### **Honorable guests,**

We continue to intensify the process of boundary negotiations.

Indonesia and the Philippines concluded negotiations and deposited the EEZ Boundary Agreement to the UN in September 2019.

Both countries will immediately start and intensify negotiations on continental shelf boundary delimitation.

Still in 2019, ... Indonesia and Malaysia technical teams has principally agreed on the territorial sea boundary delimitation in Sulawesi Sea. It is an advanced progress. There has been no maritime boundary delimitation agreed since 1970.

On land boundary demarcation ... 4 out of 9 outstanding boundary problems has been settled with Malaysia... pending since 1989.

In 2019... Indonesia and Singapore has principally agreed on the FIR (flight information region) realignment plan...based on Indonesia’s territorial boundary post UNCLOS 1982.

This agreement will be continued by technical negotiations of the two countries and is expected to be concluded in the near future.

### **Distinguished guests,**

2020 began with worrying situation in Iran, Iraq and its surroundings. Indonesia hopes that all related parties can exercise self-restraint... so as to avoid further escalation. Contingency plans; hotlines in Indonesian Missions and Crisis Center at MOFA have been established to anticipate implications of the crisis towards Indonesian citizens.

Now allow me... to convey the foreign policy priorities for 2020...and directions for the next 5 years.

Indonesia will conduct its diplomacy based on 4+1 priority namely:

Strengthening Economic Diplomacy;  
Protection Diplomacy;  
Sovereignty and National Identity Diplomacy;  
Indonesia's Leadership in the Regional and Global Stage  
And the plus one... is strengthening Indonesia's Diplomatic Infrastructure

In the next five years ... economic diplomacy would be earnestly strengthened. The President of Indonesia has given a mandate to the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs to bolster Indonesia's economic diplomacy.

Concrete assignments will be entrusted to the Head of Missions to support the efforts in strengthening economic diplomacy.

**Honorable guests,**

Every country aspires to achieve quality and high growth.

The world's great aspiration for quality and high growth...requires a robust enabling environment.

One of the required *enabling environments* is world peace and stability.

Heightened rivalry, competition even proxy have the potential to create conflict and instability.

Protectionism... narrow nationalism... and populism... will continue.

This negative trend should be transformed into positive energy.

Pessimism in the world... should be changed into optimism.

Rivalry... is important to be turned into cooperation.

*Trust deficit*... should be transformed into *strategic trust*.

In short... Indonesia wishes to be at the front... to be part of the efforts to promote mutually beneficial collaboration in the world.

Amidst the rivalry...Indonesia consistently builds a global coalition to strengthen the paradigm of cooperation and collaboration.

In the midst of growing protectionism.... Indonesia will foster alliances to continuously promote a fair and mutually beneficial paradigm and not a zero-sum game.

The keyword is... collaboration

Collaboration will create opportunities... develop new centers of economic growth... and find solutions to the global challenges.

This is the essence that Indonesia and ASEAN aims to project through the *ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific*.

The Indo Pacific region... is... ***the present and future of Sustainable Global Growth***.

***Collaborative Strategic Outlook***... is very important to be brought forward... for it will be the game changer for the current concerning world situation....and it will boost higher world economic growth.

It has been Indonesia's commitment to be at the forefront... to reinforce the paradigm of Collaborative Strategic Outlook.

### **Distinguished ladies and gentlemen,**

Indonesia has large assets to develop a quality and sustainable economy.

Indonesia's market is immense... so is its productive age population.

These assets should become a bargaining chip of its own... and must continue to be capitalized... in developing mutually beneficial economic cooperation with other countries.

Indonesia will continue to build high-value industries... based on national natural resources... to enhance the quality of development and avert the "middle income trap".

Several priorities for economic cooperation negotiations in 2020 includes:

Ratification of IA CEPA;

Ratification of I-EFTA CEPA;

Signing of RCEP;

Intensifying negotiations on PTA/FTA/CEPA with African... South/Central Asian... and Pacific countries;

Assessment of FTA with Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU);

Pushing the implementation of economic treaties... signed with partner states.

This year ... Indonesia will organize:

**World Economic Forum on ASEAN & the Indo-Pacific 2020**... on the 7-9 July 2020;

**Halal Industry Summit**... aimed to become a platform for cooperation in the development of halal industries;

**International Conference on Digital Diplomacy**... to support the consolidation of economy 4.0;

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Indonesia-Latin America and the Caribbean (INA-LAC) Business;**

**Indonesia-Middle East Energy Forum 2020;**

**The 5<sup>th</sup> World Cocoa Conference** on September 2020.

Economic diplomacy... will also focus on attracting quality investment to support sustainable Indonesian development... infrastructure development... human resource development... reinforcing downstream industries and the development of frontier and outer most islands including Natuna islands.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will continue to push for and guard Indonesia's Outbound Investment policy abroad so as to expand market for its products as well as enhance global competitiveness of Indonesia's industries.

Initial mapping by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs... shows that there are at least... 285 Outbound Investment from Indonesia at present... with values up to US\$ 14.40 billion. This is Indonesia's economic asset which has to be safeguarded, facilitated and developed.

**Honourable guests,**

Globalization will continue to propel the migration of Indonesian citizens to other countries.

The intensity and the complexity of issues faced will also grow.

Therefore, strengthening protection has become even more relevant.

**Holistic strategies of protection is needed**, at both domestic and international levels.

**At domestic level**, upstream and downstream cooperation must be improved, among others through:

National Action Plan in the framework of the implementation of *Global Compact for Migration*;

Public awareness campaigns on safe migration;

Developing the ecosystem for the usage of *Safe Travel* app... through cooperation with several travel agencies to overseas for Indonesians; and

Reinforcing one data policy... where more accurate database of Indonesians abroad through Portal Peduli WNI... will be integrated to the national database system.

**At international level:**

Indonesia will continue to promote the **universalization of the Global Compact for Migration...** to encourage safe... orderly and regular migration;

Encourage the establishment of guidelines to address the issue of abandonment of seafarers in the *International Maritime Organization (IMO)* forum;

Support the implementation of *ASEAN Consensus on the Promotion and the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers*;

Strengthen cooperation in combatting human trafficking; and

Intensifying efforts to finalize the MoU with receiving states on the placement of Indonesian Migrant Workers

Allow me to reiterate that... the presence of the state in the protection of Indonesian citizens will continue to be **reinforced** at all levels.

**Honorable guests,**



With regards to the **sovereignty and national identity diplomacy**... there are three priorities.

First... to intensify both land and maritime negotiations.

For maritime borders... among others with:

Malaysia... formalizing borders of territorial waters in Sulawesi Sea segment and then negotiating Malacca Strait segment;  
Viet Nam... on EEZ borders;  
The Philippines... on continental shelf borders;  
Palau... on EEZ borders; and  
Timor Leste... after land borders demarcation is completed

For land borders... the priorities are:

Demarcation with Malaysia in Sebatik Island and Sinapad River; and  
Finalizing demarcation with Timor Leste in accordance with agreed principles.

On a specific note, ... **I would like to reiterate one principle with regard to sovereignty and sovereign rights within Indonesian waters**... any claims... by whosoever... shall be conducted in line with international law... including UNCLOS 1982.

**Indonesia will consistently reject claims that are recognized under international law.**

Second... protection of Indonesian territorial integrity.

As it is in other countries... the question of sovereignty and territorial integrity... are non-negotiable.

The Indonesian territory and sovereignty IS NOT UP FOR BARGAIN BY ANYONE... AT ANY GIVEN TIME.

Indonesia will always stand up... to foreign countries that deliberately... give support to separatism in Indonesia, as it is a clear violation of international law and the principles of the UN Charter.

Third... Indonesia will continue to mainstream issues deemed as national assets... including pluralism... democracy... tolerance... and women empowerment.

With that in mind... in 2020... Indonesia will organize several events... among others:

Bali Democracy Forum;  
The launching of *Indonesia-Middle East Strategic Dialogue on Islam, Peace and Democracy*;  
Promoting the dialogue and practical cooperation for Afghan women. In this case... I will visit Afghanistan in early 2020;  
*Regional Conference on Women, Peace and Security*... especially strengthening the capacity of women negotiators and mediators;  
Establishing *South East Asia Network of Women negotiators and mediators*;  
Strengthening interreligious and inter-media dialogues with various countries;  
Encouraging youth-to-youth contacts as an asset to promote tolerance through the *Outstanding Youth for the World* program.

## **Distinguished guests,**

As I mentioned earlier... Indonesia will always strive to contribute... and be part of solutions for the global challenges.

In 2020... Indonesia looks forward to seeing stronger ASEAN contributions in addressing the issue of Rakhine State.

Indonesia views... several priorities that requires the attention of ASEAN includes:

A fully-functioning Ad-Hoc Task Force at the ASEAN Secretariat;  
The presence of ASEAN in Rakhine State... in order to strengthen *reception; transit center*; and provide confidence to repatriates that have returned to Rakhine State;  
Support dissemination of information, by continuing dialogues with representatives of displaced persons at Cox's Bazar;  
And most importantly... for ASEAN to play its part in ensuring voluntary, safe and dignified repatriation.

Still on ASEAN, Indonesia is currently developing a narration on ASEAN Identity. Indonesia hopes this narration could be agreed on 2020.

This is part of Indonesia's effort to strengthen the role of ASEAN in the region... allowing the ASEAN community to experience the benefits of ASEAN even more... and fortifying ASEAN centrality.

Faced with the age of disruption... ASEAN must be adaptive... keep reforming to ensure its efficiency and effectiveness... including in its decision making process.

Indonesia will continue to promote such aims... including during our Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2023.

In the Pacific Region... economic and development cooperation will continue to be bolstered, among others through:

The launching of Platform for Development Partnership with the Pacific... to address challenges such as climate change, natural disaster and achieving SDGs.  
Appointing Ambassador-at-Large for the Pacific Region;  
Hosting the 1st Leaders Meeting Archipelagic and Island States (AIS) Forum on November 2020.

## **Honorable ladies and gentlemen,**

In 2020... Indonesia will continue to sit in the UN Security Council... at the same time we will also assume our role as member of the UN Human Rights Council.

During Indonesia's Presidency in the UN Security Council in August 2020... Indonesia will carry the theme of countering terrorism.

Indonesia will also encourage the UN Security Council to speak in one voice. This is the only way for the UN Security Council to carry out its mandate in safeguarding international peace and security.

Indonesia will convene *Security Reform Informal Gathering* to encourage UN Security Council reforms.

During its membership in the Human Rights Council... Indonesia looks forward to seeing the Council functions as a multilateral mechanism to advance cooperation in the promotion of human rights protection. Indonesia does not wish to see the Human Rights Council be made a political tool.

Consultation with national stakeholders in human rights protection will be intensified.

In regional level, Indonesia will invite countries in the region to participate in *Regional Conversation on Human Rights*... to discuss agendas to advance human rights at the regional level.

### **Esteemed guests,**

In 2020... Indonesia will also **Chair the Foreign Policy and Global Health**. The theme of Indonesian Chairmanship is **Affordable Health Care**.

Indonesian diplomacy... to defend the Palestinian issue... will continue.

Indonesia realizes... that the way forward will be steeper and more difficult.

However,... our efforts to help Palestine will not cease... among others by:

- Applying zero tariff... beyond the 2 products... already applied;
- Constructing a hospital in Hebron;
- The expansion of the hospital in Gaza;
- Building a school in Ramallah;
- Providing training in *unconventional water treatment*; and
- Capacity training to the Palestinian police, especially with regards to Interpol.

Indonesia's efforts to support Afghanistan in realizing peace will also continue... among others by:

- Organizing Indonesia – Afghanistan ulema dialogue;
- Providing training based on needs... on:
  - Economic empowerment as well as micro, small and medium enterprises;
  - Education;
  - Health; and
  - Religious tolerance.

Indonesia will continue to promote the interest of the Ummah around the world.

In 2020, Indonesia will run as a candidate to be a Member of ECOSOC for the 2021-2023 period. Indonesia seeks support for its candidacy.

### **Distinguished ladies and gentlemen,**

As part of Indonesia's commitment to provide greater contributions to peace and humanities... at the end of 2019... Indonesia launched Indonesian-AID... a development cooperation fund.

To obtain greater impact in development cooperation... Indonesia has explored cooperation agreement with other countries and relevant institutions.

Cooperation that has been established to date... includes those with Norway, JICA, GIZ, USAid, and AusAid.

**Honourable guests,**

The last priority... is the development of diplomacy infrastructure.

During the past 5 years... various infrastructures for diplomacy has been established.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Indonesian Missions abroad... will continue the carry out reforms and efficiency.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has abolished Echelon IV positions since 2017, and will shortly omit many Echelon III positions... to be replaced by reinforced functional positions.

Workload... multiple accreditations and issues related to Indonesian Missions abroad will be reviewed as needed.

This year, Indonesia will establish missions in Yaounde, Cameroon and raise the status of the head of mission in Antananarivo from Chargé d'Affaires en pied to Ambassador.

In the last five years, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has acquired buildings for 11 missions..., which means an approximate of Rp 20 billions saved each years.

In 2020... the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will renovate buildings of 51 Missions abroad... following the 28 mission buildings renovated in 2019.

Four new mission buildings... our Embassy in Phnom Penh, Consulate General in Kuching, Consulate in Tawau, and our Embassy in Warsaw... will be inaugurated.

In this era of disruptive technology, information and communication technology infrastructures will be fortified as an integral element to support Indonesian diplomacy.

This year... the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will implement digital transformation... both at the headquarters and in our missions abroad.

Robust digital systems will:

Support *remote working*;  
Develop paperless office system; and  
Increase data management and analysis capability.

In closing... I would like to express my appreciation to all diplomat and staff at the headquarters and at our missions abroad, especially those in our hardship posts, for their dedication and tireless work.

I also appreciate the House of Representative of the Republic of Indonesia, especially Commission I, for the good cooperation extended.

In addition to that, I thank all stakeholders who have assisted in conducting Indonesian diplomacy.

For all members of the press, I thank you for our good partnership.

Allow me close with a statement from President Soekarno... "Those who seek pearls, must have the courage to dive into the deepest oceans"

I am a firm believer that our efforts will give way to bigger results.

I thank you.

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