



Statement by
Alternate Head of the Delegation/Deputy Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Indonesia, Ambassador Mohammad K. Koba
On Agenda Item 5 - General exchange of views
The 4th Intergovernmental Conference on Marine Biodiversity of Areas
New York, 18 March 2022

Madam President,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Indonesia align itself with the general statement made by the distinguished delegation of Pakistan on behalf of the G-77 and China.

In this closing session or exchange of views, my delegation wishes to reflect the following pertinent points:

First, our enormous endeavours, through constructive deliberations during the last 2 weeks, have demonstrated not only robust determination and vibrant interaction among delegations, but also how significant this matter is for our planet and all States.

We fully appreciate the able leadership of Madam President, and the work of all parties including the facilitators, the Secretariat, and civil society organizations.

Second, despite the persistent efforts that we have undertaken so far, my delegation is fully aware that the significant limitations imposed by the pandemic have become a hindrance to the comprehensive deliberations of ILBI BBNJ.

This further aggravates the difficulties in resolving outstanding issues in ILBI BBNJ negotiation.

Therefore, my delegation supports the convening of IGC 5 to enable us finalize our negotiations on the BBNJ Treaty.

Third, on the substantive part, allow me to underscore as follows:

First, we believe that the forthcoming new legal instrument on BBNJ shall establish a balance between the rights and obligations of States, including by acknowledging the special characteristics and legitimate interest of all states.

Current studies on ecological connectivity demonstrate that archipelagic States face greater vulnerability of being impacted by unsustainable activities in the ABNJ.

The unsustainable activities in the ABNJ will also significantly affect the socio-economic condition of the archipelagic States, where the majority of coastal communities rely significantly on marine and coastal resources to support their livelihoods.

Second, as one of the essential sources of Marine Genetic Resources (MGR), fish and its derivatives need to be explicitly incorporated within the meaning/scope of MGR in the draft Agreement.

This incorporation does not mean to re-regulate the right to fish in the ABNJ regulated under the Convention and relevant international laws. In fact, the aim is to eliminate uncertainties or gray areas for those fish caught for consumption purposes but lead to bioprospecting activities.

Third, Indonesia would like to emphasize the importance of adopting a set of regulations/standards in conducting EIA for activities carried out in ABNJ.

In order to achieve this, the EIA provisions under ILBI BBNJ shall be imposed only to activities carried out in ABNJ, while the activities carried out in areas under national jurisdiction are subject to the national EIA provisions under the purview of the coastal State.

We are of the view that the location-based approach in regulating the EIA is the most appropriate one.

We believe that this approach paves a way for a more effective operationalization of EIA framework in ILBI BBNJ to fulfil the objectives of Article 206 of UNCLOS.

Fourth, Indonesia is of the view that the arrangement of ABMT including MPA should consider the interest of adjacent coastal states. This proposition is well-founded to create a balance regime between ABNJ and adjacent coastal states in the future.

Finally, **Madam President**, rest assured of Indonesia's readiness to continuously work with all relevant parties in maintaining the momentum and achieving a new treaty on BBNJ.

I thank you.

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