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**Commission on Population and
Development
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**Statement by
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Agenda Item 4:

**“General Debate on National Experience in Population Matters:
New Trends in Migration: Demographic Aspects”**

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Agenda Item 4: General debate on national experience in population matters: new trends in migration – demographic aspects

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me on behalf of my delegation to convey our sincere congratulation to you and other members of Bureau on your election as the Chair and Vice Chairs of the 46th Session of CPD. I believe under your stewardship, this year's session will bear a fruitful result.

I would also like to thank you for the opportunity given to share Indonesia's experience in population matters, specifically on the new trends in migration viewed from the demographic aspects.

My Delegation aligns itself to the statement made by the Delegation of Fiji on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Mr. Chairman,

As the world's fourth most populous nation, the issue of population dynamics is indeed a major concern for Indonesia in its ongoing efforts to create a just, equal and inclusive society.

Let me give you a glimpse of what Indonesia will face in terms of population.

In 2030 (twenty thirty), Indonesia is expected to have 295 (two hundred and ninety five) million population and by 2035 (twenty thirty five) the population is projected to be around 305 (three hundred and five) million.

In other words, we are anticipating an additional of nearly 60 million new generation of young people by 2030. Some of them are now born already.

The growing population has unavoidably affected the internal and external migration trends in Indonesia and consequently intensifies the migration problems. Thus making migration as one of national priorities and development strategies for Indonesia.

There have been changes in internal migration behavior in Indonesia, in which opportunities and options to migrate are increasing, partly due to the availability of a better and cheaper mode of transportation. This factor, coupled with better information and smaller family sizes, also set off different types of population mobility in Indonesia. The new trend of mobility including, among others, a rising in commuters and seasonal migrants that create a complex, internal migration, at the same time, more overseas

migrations and return migration and increase in flow of foreign migrants has expanded the international network of migrants in Indonesia.

As a consequence of economic and social development, Indonesia is going through the process of changing from largely rural to increasingly urban societies, bringing some positive impacts on economic growth and people's well-being.

The increasing urbanization in Indonesia is, however, accompanied with social development problems.

For example, high positive net lifetime and recent migration—more people coming than leaving—in some natural resources-rich provinces, such as East Kalimantan, have caused deeper income and welfare gap between migrants and local people. This in turn will have serious political and social implications as local people are less likely to enjoy development opportunities than better-educated and skilled migrants.

The bulk of the upcoming generation raises the inclusion of sexual and reproductive health in formulating the future development agenda. The upcoming generation will add more pressure on other resources such as land for providing enough food and for their housing beyond 2030 when they will start joining job market. In the meantime, this group will add to the pressure of creating job opportunity, employment as well as preparing high quality education to compete in the future global market.

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia also pays great attention to the plight of our migrant workers. As population grows, migration also surges. Some 4.2 million of our people - 77 percent of them women - are making a living as migrant workers abroad. Indonesia therefore continues to participate in creating a global partnership migration management that aims to promote and protect the of migrants and make the best use of their potentials and productivities for development and welfare of all.

Taking note of the increasing problems faced by Indonesian migrant workers abroad, particularly those who work in informal sectors, the Government continues to improve its legal and institutional framework by issuing Law No. 39 of 2004 on Placement and Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers Abroad, that firmly regulates the placement and protection of Indonesian migrant workers overseas. It includes the provisions on training and competency certification required for the placement of Indonesian migrant workers overseas.

Furthermore, we are now in the process of reviewing the Law to reflect the principles and norms of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, which we ratified in 2012.

At the regional level, Indonesia commits to engage in the promotion and implementation of *ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers*. Indonesia has also actively engaged in the discussion of migration issues in *Colombo Process*, *Abu Dhabi Dialogue* and *Global Forum on Migration and Development*.

Mr. Chairman,

Our National Long-Term Development Plan (2005-2025) firmly puts people at the center of our development agenda. We recognize people as the most precious resources of our nation and that meeting their human rights and ensuring their access and benefits from development will improve the quality of life of the people and the wealth of our nations.

Through the National Medium-term Development Plan of 2010-2014, the Government of Indonesia has committed to achieve a balanced population growth, which is a prerequisite for enhancing the quality of human resource in social, cultural and spiritual life. Accordingly, population issues have been integrated in all development stages, from the formulation and implementation, up to the monitoring and evaluation of policies, including those relating to sustainable development goals and the achievement of MDGs.

The Government of Indonesia has also taken concrete steps to put Population and Family Planning back as a high priority at all levels of government. In order to overcome global strategic environment changes, the Government of Indonesia also issued the Law No. 52 of 2009 on Population and Family Development to replace Law No. 10 of 1992 regarding Population and Family Welfare.

The Law states that people are an important asset and dominant factor of development, and they must be central in sustainable development; a large population with low quality of human resources and high growth will slow down the achievement of ideal condition between population size and human resource quality/environmental carrying capacity.

By this set of laws, governments at all levels, are to formulate family development policies through family resilience and welfare plan. Such interventions should be conducted through child quality improvement programme by among others giving access to information, education, counseling and services on child care, parenting and development, and through the implementation of poverty alleviation among female-headed households. Over the last five years, governments and other strategic stakeholders have collaborated in making this programme as the focus of family development policies in every local government.

Meanwhile, facing the challenges of over population in some regions and also in the efforts to further stimulate growth in less develop regions of Indonesia, the Government has promoted internal migration policy or Transmigration. Since its first issuance in 1972, the Law on Transmigration has undergone some revisions until the adoption of Law No. 29/2009 on Transmigration. The new Law, that is more in line with the current decentralization process, instructs governments at all level to implement sustainable transmigration programme.

The Law also stipulates sustainable population mobility direction and population distribution policy formulation to achieve optimal population distribution based on the balance between population size and environment carrying capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

Based on our national experience, we are of the view that migration issues should continue to be part of our global discourse on population and development issue, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

Along this line, the upcoming post-2015 development framework should foresee how the world's population outlook, i.e its structure and composition, growth, distribution and mobility, would impact development. It must also anticipate the tremendous pressures of increased population exerted on the world's dwindling natural resources.

As a final note, we look forward to engaging in a constructive discussion in this Session. I can assure you that Indonesia is committed to work together in finding a sustainable solution in addressing the challenge of population and development.

I thank you.