



Statement by

Mr. Siswanto Agus Wilopo,

**Deputy Chairman of National Family Planning Coordinating Board
of the Republic of Indonesia**

Before the Agenda Item 3:

At the 41st Session of Commission on Population and Development

Check against delivery

New York, 7 April 2008

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

325 East 38th Street, New York, NY 10016 • Tel. (212) 972-8333 • Fax: (212) 972-9780

www.indonesiamission-ny.org

email: ptri@indonesiamission-ny.org

Mr. Chairman,

As this is the first time I am taking the floor on behalf of the Indonesian delegation, let me join those who have spoken earlier and convey my delegation's congratulations to you on your election to preside over this session. By the same token I congratulate the vice-chairpersons on their elections. With your able stewardship, my delegation is confident that the theme of this session and its impact on development will be effectively addressed.

My delegation expresses its appreciation for introducing the reports of the Secretary-General which highlight important trends in population in relation to urbanization and internal migration. Indonesia associates itself with the statement by Antigua and Barbuda on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Mr. Chairman,

Urbanization is undeniably a positive force for change. Yet the phenomenon raises the question of whether it actually enhances achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs. While it is important to recognize the growth of the urban population, this session has rightly directed our attention to the serious consequences of rural-urban migration.

In developing countries, internal migration often creates employment imbalances which affect rural and urban development. But one of the ways in which the rural community can benefit from this exchange is through the growing use of information and communication technologies by urban dwellers with roots in the countryside. We should not however overlook the negative impact of urbanization on the global community inter alia: First, it has changed consumption and production patterns. Second, the rural economy is weakened and produces far less than it is capable of doing. Third, it has influenced the degree of environmental pollution.

The adverse effects of such dramatic changes have already begun to affect us directly. The most distressing of the change is rising food and energy prices as well as environmental pollution worldwide.

It is my delegation's view that this session must therefore emphasize the following:

- Call upon international community to pay more attention to managing population growth especially imbalance between urban and rural population.
- Close attention must be paid to the increasing of energy and food prices which is putting the poor at grave risk.

- The need to enhance productivity in rural areas so that the transition from rural to urban communities produces minimal social impacts.
- Promote and facilitate efforts to close the gap between the rural and urban sectors by continuing the decentralization process in development.
- Develop urban-rural linkages and synergies to encourage a system where the poor can be transformed collectively into a repository of valued skills and resources.
- Improve basic service delivery for the poor, among these being education, health and family planning. Continued focus on improving basic services, with support from the international community in order to enhance productivity for both urban and rural areas.
- Develop new forms of partnerships to build capacity, channel financing and technologies including environmentally sound technologies as well as sharing of information and experiences.
- While national governments have the main responsibility for implementing poverty reduction, economic and social change can also take effect through corporate social responsibility and civil society. In many cases, the private sector and civil society have shown that they are a willing partner in helping governments achieve the MDGs and related targets. Both are also important in the global response to climate change. Their participation should be further promoted.

Thank you.