

Statement by Minister of Environment and Forestry*
The Republic of Indonesia
at “The High-Level Signature Ceremony of the Paris Agreement”
New York, 22 April 2016

Secretary General,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

Indonesia would like to extend appreciation to the UN Secretary General for organizing this important event, as mandated by COP21 UNFCCC last year. It is encouraging that over 160 countries are represented in this event, which is over of the 195 countries that accepted Paris Agreement in COP-21.

It is now time for action. The year 2016 will be a crucial moment for addressing climate change challenges, in which the implementation of the Paris Agreement should be pursued.

Indonesia remains committed to contribute to the global efforts to address climate change, while at the same time continuing national development, meeting state responsibility to provide decent livelihood and good environment for people, around 255 million. One of the development objectives is set for 12,650 villages to have electricity in 2020 by developing 35 Giga Watts in which among other sourced from renewable energy such as biomass, biofuel, micro-hydro, geothermal and bio-diesel, complementing and gradually substituting the source of coal up to 2020.

As indicated yesterday evening by UN Secretary General, the people daily life is of paramount importance in the implementation of the Paris Agreement. During 2015, through program of Corporate Performance Evaluation (PROPER), we found that energy efficiency could contribute to emission reduction of about 39,8 million tones of CO2 equivalent. Compared to 2011, such figure counts for 65 % GHGs emission reduction. Moreover, through Eco-Driving programme, we encourage people to participate in more environmentally sound driving which reduce emission by 10 %.

Indonesia realizes, that forestry and other land uses is the most significant sector for climate change mitigation that generate co-benefits including climate change adaptation. This is because of forest area covers about 65% of area of the country of 187 million square kilometer as well as a home of mega-biodiversity. Peatland covers 15 million hecaters of the overall ecosystem in the country which relates to the GHG emission, due to forest fire as we experienced in 2015. In February 2016 Indonesia established Peatland Restoration Agency. Indonesia continues to impose policies on licence suspension on peatland and primary forests. In addition, to stop and control on palm oil and mining licences has been declared just recently. Local Governemnt has responded positively to the policy as declared by Governor of Aceh for palm oil in Leuser Ecosystem and by the Governor of East Kalimantan for coal mining licence.

Furthermore, through national programme called PROKLIM (climate village programme), Indonesia has engaged communities in the villages on climate change mitigation and adaptation actions with an approach that allow all non-party stakeholders to engage more effectively in a DMRV-able climate actions at all sectors.

Under the circumstances, Indonesia has to place both mitigation and adaptation in the mainstream of national development approach as reflected in INDC, engaging communities, corporates and local government.

Indonesia's commitment to ensure the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement is strong. Indonesia will do its utmost to be among the first 55 countries to ratify the Paris Agreement. Our parliament has given its political support for the ratification of the Paris Agreement.

We are currently in the process of transforming our INDC into NDC and we wish to submit the NDC in due time. We recognize, however, that our total global commitment expressed in the INDCs is not sufficient to keep global temperature increase well below 2°C. In this regards, Indonesia consistently support the 5 year-cycle of NDC representing a progression over time. Likewise, we encourage developed country parties to show leadership in increasing ambitions before and after 2020 both in reducing emission and in providing support to developing nations in the forms of finance, technology and capacity building.

We are pleased to learn that history has recorded it is possible to reduce GHGs emissions while achieving economic growth as shown by a number of developed countries. History has also shown that it took several decades to reach that level of development. Indonesia believe that appropriate policy approaches at the global level is needed to enable developing countries, the home of more than 80% of the global populations, to reach the same level of development.

May God bless us all in this massive global endeavour to put climate change control for present and especially future generations.

I thank you.