

Welcoming Remarks
At
International Expert Consultation
Strengthening Communities to Secure Children's
Right to Freedom From Violence
Norway, Oslo, 3 – 4 September 2015

- Her Excellency Ms. Solveig Horne, Minister of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion, Norway
- Ms. Marta Santos Pais, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General on Violence against Children
- Roland Angerer, Plan International Regional Director East and South Africa
- Distinguished Speakers,
- Distinguished Participants;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

First of all, I would like to express our gratitude to God Almighty. Only because of His abundant blessings allowing us all to gather here today to attend the important event. I also would like to express my highest appreciation to Her Excellency Ms. Solveig Horne, Minister of Children,

Equality and Social Inclusion for supporting this International Expert Consultation Strengthening Communities to Secure Children's Right to Freedom from Violence.

And I would like to thank to Ms. Marta Santos Pais, The Special Representative of The UN Secretary General on Violence Against Children, and Plan International, for taking the initiative to organize this important meeting. The result of this meeting hopefully will accelerate all efforts to protect children from all forms of violence. It is an honor for me to be here with you all on this beautiful day. Our present in this room show our commitment to work together, hand in hand to promote child protection in our nations.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Indonesia is the world's fourth most populous nation, with more than 240 million people of various ethnicities living across thousands of islands. Around 33.4 per cent or around 80 million out of Indonesia's total population is children aged between 0 to 17 years old. Among this number, 51.2 per cent is boys and 48.8 per cent is girls.

The commitment of Government of Indonesia to protect their children shown by **the issuance of Presidential Regulation No. 47 of 2009 that**

established a stronger mandate for the promotion and protection of children rights by adding “children protection” nomenclature to the Ministry of Women Empowerment. This measure is not only upgrading the coordination function of the Ministry but also expanded unit and resource within the Ministry to deal with child issues. Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection was mandated to strengthen, coordinate and synchronize government policies and programs on crosscutting gender and children issues that require inter-sectoral cooperation.

Numerous laws and regulations pertaining to the rights of the child have been enacted. Among others are Law on Compulsory Education of 2008, Law on Pornography of 2008, Law on Juvenile Justice System of 2012, Law on the Amendment of Civil Administration Law of 2014, Minister for Social Affairs Regulation on National Standard for Child Care for Institutions for Child Social Welfare of 2011, Minister for Education and Culture Regulation on Organizations of Special Education Services of 2013, Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection Decree of 2013 on the implementation of Family Development; and Law on revision of Law No. 23 on Child Protection of 2014. The latest measure is Presidential Instruction on the National Movement to Combat Sexual

Violence against Children of 2014. This legislation will strengthen measures to prevent and address cases of sexual violence against children.

Ladies and gentlemen,

To response on women and child as victim of violence, the Government of Indonesia has established 247 units Integrated Services Centre for Women and Children. The Integrated Service Centre provides counselling, medical treatment, and advocacy for women and girls. Meanwhile, the number of Women and Children Service Unit in Police stations has increased to 510 from 306 in 2011.

The government also works to ensure that in the formulation of legislation, policy and programs, the principle of best interest of the child and the respect for the views of the child are incorporated. Advocacy is conducted on the importance of integrating child perspective in all development stages, from planning, budgeting and monitoring to evaluation.

The Ministry for Women's Empowerment and Child Protection through Presidential Regulation No. 7/2005 regarding Medium-Term National Development Plan 2004–2009, has conducted a campaign to establishing a child forum such as the National Forum for Child Participation,

Teen Parliament, Indonesian Child Congress, Child Council, Election of Young Leaders, and National Child Consultation. These mediums has established to ensure children's views, aspirations and hopes heard and fulfilled through advocacy of policies to integrate child needs and rights into development programs in provinces, district, sub-district and villages level.

Several activities to involve child participation namely preparing the National Action Plan for the Elimination of Violence against Children 2015 – 2019 and also Medium-Term National Development Plan 2015–2019. In fact, in some of the local Musrenbang (Discussion on Development Planning), children are invited to participate and contribute on matters relevant to their interest. Since 2006, the government has encouraged the establishment of child friendly cities, as the implementation of Indonesia's international commitment in "World Fit to Children". The number of districts committed towards child friendly city have increased steadily.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Family environment and alternative cares are crucial part for child development. The objective of the government is to ensure that children are raised by their parents or immediate family. The strategy in this regard is improving

family's economic resilience so they able to care and fulfil the needs of their children and reduce the number of children placed in institutions. The Government through Ministry for Social Welfare has initiated the Social Programme for Children's Welfare that provide social care for children such as: neglected children and toddlers, street children, children in conflict with the law, children with disability and other children with special needs.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The Government of Indonesia has invested considerable efforts into developing national child protection system. This initially concentrated on formulating legislation and conceptualizing the role of formal structures and services such as social welfare departments, police and health; however the importance of involving children, families and communities in the work of national child protection system and in efforts to protect children become increasing emphasized. Therefore a mechanism managed by community themselves need to establish to raise awareness on role and responsibility of community, and also to contributing towards prevention and response to any violence against children.

Several initiatives has been established by government program and non government organization and

other partners to strengthen roles of communities to promote child protection. One example of community based child protection mechanism (CBCPM) is developed by Plan International Indonesia. There are 280 CBCPMs supported by Plan International Indonesia that reached around 1 million children in 9 Plan working areas. Plan supported CBCPMs in close cooperation with local, sub-district and district authorities.

At national level, Ministry for Women Empowerment and Child Protection is being drafted policy that would guide province and district government in developing regulation on child protection that require every village to establish a CBCPMs. In addition, the linking of CBCPMs with the City Fit For Children (Kota Layak Anak) initiative has further strengthened CBCPMs in their advocacy and development of laws and is contributing to increased efforts to establish CBCPMs in urban and peri-urban settings as well.

This global consultation will give us the opportunities to sharing experiences and showing the evidence of effectiveness and functionality of CBCPM towards different countries. The discussion among participants will provide us for inputs to International Non-Government Organizations, UN Agencies. This consultation will also can promote and build on national commitment on CBCPMs that are expected

to consolidate achievements, good practice, linkages between CBCPMs with child protection system at national level and its challenges.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I hope that today's dialogue and its outcomes will be a meaningful contribution to our national efforts to address any gap between our commitment and its implementation to promote holistic and integrated child protection through concrete cooperation between communities and government.

Thank you.

Minister for Women Empowerment and Child Protection
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