

REMARKS
DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
AT THE HIGH LEVEL BRIEFING ON
THE STATE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE
WORLD AND THE STATE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
TUESDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2018

H.E. Ms. Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garcés,
H.E. Ms. Ambassador Maria Angela Zappia,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, allow me to thank Italy as the Chair of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition for initiating and organizing this important event.

I highly appreciate the work and briefing by our esteem colleagues from the FAO, IFAD, and WFP on the state of global food security, nutrition and agriculture.

Let me start by saying that despite our efforts, we note with concern the rising of undernourishment from 804 million in 2016 to 821 million in 2017. The Asia Pacific region, unfortunately, is not spared from this dire situation as nearly half a billion people still suffer from undernourishment.¹

We also take note of the need to ensure policy coherence between migration and agriculture and rural development. Policies should also focus on maximizing economic and social benefits as well as minimizing the costs to migrants and societies.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

For Indonesia, ensuring food security and nutrition for more than 260 million people as well as promoting agriculture and rural development remains our top priorities.

¹ Asia and the Pacific Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition published by FAO, UNICEF, WFP and WHO.

Allow me to share Indonesia's key efforts in this area, as follows:

First, we continue to focus on rural development and sustainable food production system to ensure food security and to alleviate poverty.

- ➔ We have invested heavily to connect rural areas in order for farmers to be integrated into local food production system as well as invest in rural development to boost economic activities.
- ➔ We are also focusing on land reform as well as promoting social forestry to enable communities in forests and its surrounding areas to manage their food source sustainably.
- ➔ We have programs to optimize land usage and agriculture production, including use of farming machinery, irrigation, rehabilitation, and cultivation of high yielding crops.
- ➔ We have made investments to diversify local staple food production and improve the quality of local staple food sources through self-sufficient food production areas to meet the population's nutritional needs and combat stunting.
- ➔ To mitigate the impacts of climate change, we has a planting calendar policy, which guides farmers on the best time and place to farm their crops in order to reduce risks of crop failures.

Second, we have ensure more coordinated and cross sectoral approach to improve food and nutrition.

- ➔ In Indonesia, there are regulations to integrate health services, specifically maternal and child health.²
- ➔ We formulated the National Action Plan on Food and Nutrition for the period of 2015-2019 supported by the Regional Action Plan on Food at the provincial and district levels.
- ➔ We have developed the Scaling-Up Nutrition platform (SUN) that involves relevant stakeholders, such as philanthropy and businesses, CSOs, academics and development partners.
- ➔ Food and nutrition is closely related to education, including parenting and eating pattern, and the need to improve access to education.

² The enactment of Presidential Decree No. 42 of 2013 concerning the National Movement for the Acceleration of Nutrition Improvement

Third, we must ensure availability of accurate data and information to support program planning and implementation.

- ➔ Indonesia uses the Food Security and Vulnerability Atlas (FSVA) to monitor hunger and food insecurity that observes various elements at the sub-district levels, including access to health care services, and clean water.
- ➔ The FSVA is also very useful to prioritize development activities and to ensure efficient budget allocation.

**Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

With all our efforts, according to the food security index by the Economist Intelligence Unit, Indonesia has improved its ranking from 75 in 2015 to 65 in 2018.

Nonetheless, there are still a lot of work to do and we are still facing multi-dimensional challenges in addressing hunger, poverty and rural development.

Taking into account our experience, it is imperative that we use local resources, develop local capacities, know-how and technologies, as well as ensure inclusivity, particularly the rural population.

In this vein, we must not lose the momentum to create a world without hunger and malnutrition by 2030.

Thank you.

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