



STATEMENT

Excellencies Mr. President and Mr. Vice President,

Honourable Ministers, and distinguished delegates,

As the largest archipelagic state and megamarine biodiversity, Indonesia is fully cognizant that our marine ecosystem and its rich blue carbon biodiversity shall play a key role in regulating the ocean health.

Our waters stretching around 6.4 million kilometres square have provided spawning ground of marine biodiversity residing between 17,500 islands and beyond.

The blue carbon resources, such as mangrove, sea grass, along 108 thousand kilometres of our coastline, have absorbed released carbon and produced considerable fresh air benefiting the world.

In the light of this, Indonesia pledge to create healthy and sustainable ocean, to fight unsustainable fishing and crimes in fisheries sector, and to develop blue economy and its financing scheme.

Indonesia also adheres to combat marine plastic pollution, and improve understanding on ocean and climate. Most importantly, Indonesia pledges to drive collaboration with all stakeholders.

Today, I am honoured to stand at this distinguished podium to reaffirm that Indonesia has met its key commitments made in 2017.

Excellencies, honourable Ministers, and distinguished delegates

Allow me to outline the initiatives and policies facilitating the accomplishment of our commitment.

In the area of preventing unsustainable fishing practices and fighting crimes in fisheries, Indonesia launches three key initiatives namely

- improving national regulation on Requirements and Mechanism in Fishery's Human Rights Certification.
- Strengthening the implementation and monitoring process for the quota-based capture fisheries by improving satellite-based-surveillance capability; and
- Leading international and regional norm-making process to introduce better cooperation and effective enforcement.

The policies outlined are complemented by sound fisheries policy. The objective is providing substantial space and time that allow robust fish population.

Hence, aside from quota-based policy, Indonesia focuses also on aquaculture products such as shrimps, crabs, lobsters, and seaweeds that hold a strategic value for absorbing carbons and be materials for industries.

On the area of preserving and protecting our ocean, Indonesia has expanded its marine protected area to 28.4 Millions hectares, exceeding its commitment of 20 Million hectares. Starting from the effort to protecting the marine environment, the marine spatial planning policy has been the primary reference for economic development and environmental conservation.

Indonesia is keeping our commitment to expand our marine protected areas to 32.5 million hectares by year 2030. Today we have reached the 86.5% completion of 2030 target.

Our primary focus lies not only in the expansion of the area. Our effort also directed to increase effectiveness MPA management.

We also work closely with our strategic partners to develop strategic blue financing framework. The blue financing scheme aim to facilitate critical investments in technical assistance, creation of community-based MPA, management improvement, as well as surveillance, and enforcement. This shall allow progressive concept like the Blue Halo-S to be replicated beyond Indonesian archipelago. In this regard, in this great opportunity, I would like also to announce that Indonesian government will issue a blue bond under blue principles.

Excellencies, and distinguished delegates

With regard to the commitment on the prevention of marine plastic pollution, Indonesia issued Presidential Regulation Number 83 Year 2018 on Marine Debris Handling. Since its inception, we witness increased financing in public investment and waste handling. Provision of incentive for private sectors and community led initiatives also grows.

In the beginning of 2022, Indonesia, initiates the **“Bulan Cinta Laut” or “Love the Ocean Month”** program. This program aims to encourage participation of fishermen in dealing with marine debris. Every year, a full month is dedicated to encourage fishermen to collect garbage instead of fish. One kilogram of garbage collected will be priced equal to one kilogram of fish. The program has been conducted across Indonesian territory to reduce ocean waste by 70% before 2025. Within the last 3 (three) years, Indonesia has able to reduce waste leakage by up to 28.5 percent.

Honorable Delegates,

The ocean plays a critical role in sustaining all life on Earth by absorbing 30% of the carbon dioxide emissions. The progressive increasing of CO₂ in the atmosphere has created significant environmental impacts.

Indonesia continues to develop policies and allocate resource to understand our ocean and climate. In 2017, a concerted effort has been conducted to manage all stakeholders' data and publicly available information on the topographic condition of Indonesia seabed. The efforts created a national platform called Indonesian National Bathymetric Data that contributes to the UN 2030 Seabed initiative.

The collaborative work to understand the baseline condition and real potential of Indonesian ocean has also produced Indonesian national ocean account.

Even more important, Indonesia has also fulfilled its commitments to ensure safe-coastal resilience. We strengthen technological innovations and policies on tsunami early warning systems,

coastal disaster mitigation, and implementing coastal flood monitoring systems.

Indonesia is putting science and informed decision-making as the foundation of our policies.

Excellency, Honourable Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

During the 1st UN Ocean Conference in 2017, in its country statement, Indonesia announced that Indonesia will push concrete collaboration among the Archipelagic and Island States.

This Forum is aimed to be an open, innovative, and engaging platform for all Archipelagic and Island States.

Today, the embryo of the secretariat of AIS Forum has able to initiate unique collaboration among the island nations. It has collaboration with 31 countries, conducted more than 200 sharing session, training, technical assistance, scholarships, research grants, and innovative programs with more than 300 stakeholders. We

are ready to promote regional and global agendas for the ocean.

Through the AIS Forum and our G-20 Presidency. We will promote the importance of a blue economy, blue carbon, ocean waste management, and blended finance.

Indonesian delegation also welcomes the outcome of the negotiation conducted by our colleagues in New York, namely the Political Declaration for the UN Ocean Conference 2022, which will be adopted at this conference. The declaration reflects various commitments and global approaches to achieving SDG 14. We will fully support global collective efforts to make it a reality, not just mere declaration.

I thank you.