

Please check against delivery

**Intergovernmental
Preparatory Meeting of
Commission on Sustainable
Development - 17
5th meeting**

**Intervention by
Mr. Tri Tharyat
Deputy Director of Sustainable Development
Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of
Indonesia**

**At the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting of the
Commission for Sustainable Development -17
On Land**

New York, 25 February 2009

Madame Chair,

My delegation should like to associate ourselves with the statement made by the distinguished representative of Sudan on behalf of G-77 and China. My delegation wishes also to convey our appreciation to the Secretary General for his report on land and to the panelists for their insightful presentations on policy options with regard to land issues.

Madame Chair,

Land plays an important role in achieving sustainable development and poverty eradication. In pursuing these goals, land must be managed in a sustainable manner along with other natural resources.

International cooperation is critical for effective land management. This is due to the fact land falls within the larger context of impact from external economic market forces, including global population growth, international migration, and growing competitive use of land.

The recent global food crisis has highlighted the importance for better planning and policy decisions linked to sustainable land management at all levels. Enhancing the productive capacity of land resources, preventing land degradation, and avoiding the loss of agriculturally productive lands, must all be part of inform approaches to sustainable land management and sound agricultural production system.

Indonesia views that equitable access to land and tenure security as a key element to sustainable land management and for the promotion of sound agricultural production systems. Towards this end, Indonesia launched the Land Titling Services for the People program called "LARASITA" in 2008. This policy is designed to provide the poor with greater access and titling to land, especially in remote areas.

Also important is the use of digital technology for national land registration systems to replace paper-based manual titling systems. This will enhance the long term stability of land registration systems.

Madame Chair

The preservation of forest resources must not be overlooked as an integral part of sustainable land management. Efforts to reduce deforestation and land degradation are inextricably linked to poverty eradication and employment creation in developing countries. An international framework must provide incentives for carbon sequestration, afforestation, and reforestation, to reduce the loss of valuable forests, deforestation and land degradation.

Other constraints to sustainable land management which necessitate attention are climate change and conflict over the land. An international early warning system should be in place as well to lessen human vulnerability to these extreme events of climate change. Appropriate institutions are also urgently needed to reconcile different land interests and ensure the equitable land allocation to prevent the resurgence of conflict.

Finally Madame Chair, international support is critical to ensuring effective sustainable land management in developing countries. Support and cooperation should be directed toward ensuring adequate financial resources, comprehensive capacity building and technology transfer to assist developing countries effectively improve their legal, financial, institutional and technical capacities to implement sustainable land management.

I thank you.