INTERVENTION BY Mr. TRI THARYAT THE DELEGATION OF INDONESIA AT COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 18: CHEMICAL

4 MAY 2010

Madam Chair,

As the Secretary-General's report stated and panelists eloquently elaborated, it is evident that chemicals have become an important part of modern life. The challenges we are facing are how to ensure that chemicals are soundly and safely managed.

The Agenda 21 and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation as well as the 17 different multilateral agreements prove that the international community is committed to the sound chemicals management.

What is pressing now is to make the agreements on chemical fully implemented and understandable to all relevant agencies, and bodies, at national, regional and global level, and ensure that it can be supportive towards sustainable development.

Madam Chair,

There are some issues that CSD-18 should take into consideration:

- The lack of institutional and technical capacity has been a major obstacle in effective chemical management, particularly in developing countries. In mainstreaming sound management of chemicals into the national development plan, capacity building, technology transfer, and sharing of best environmental practices are therefore essential.
- 2. Financing for chemical management has also been inadequate. We appreciate initiatives such as the Quick Start Programme which has provided resources for chemical management. Such mechanism should be further developed into a more permanent funding mechanism. We should also seek other alternative financing mechanism including through public-private partnership.
- 3. In implementing sound chemical management, we call on countries, particularly developed countries to consider its spill over effect. Chemical management should not result in unwarranted restrictions or barriers to trade. This is important as trade

in chemical is increasingly becoming important for developing countries. In the case of Indonesia our trade in chemicals showed an increasing trend where in 2007 it was 14,065 ton, 2008 was 35,802, before slightly decreasing in 2009 to 26,494 ton.

4. It is therefore important to ensure that the global chemical management meets the three pillars of sustainable development, as well as taking into account the need of developing country to fulfill its economic growth. It should also be built on the basis of the Rio Principle # 7, "common but differentiated responsibilities".

Madam Chair,

- 5. In order to strengthen the impact of chemical management, the Government of Indonesia enacted Law No. 32/2009 on Protection and Environmental Management replacing the old Environmental Law. Indonesia is also actively involved in development of Strategic Approach to International Chemical Management (SAICM).
- 6. As part of our continuing effort to facilitate effective and efficient global chemical and waste management, Indonesia had the honour to host the Extraordinary Conference of the Parties (ExCOP) to the Basel, Stockholm, and Rotterdam Convention in Nusa Dua, Bali, 22-24 February 2010.
- 7. As the largest archipelagic country, Indonesia continues to be vulnerable to illegal trafficking of chemical and illegal transboundary movement of hazardous wastes. We are undertaking actions to address these challenges, including through strengthening international cooperation related to chemical management, including wastes management.

Thank you