



**MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING/
HEAD OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AGENCY
DR. (H.C.) H. SUHARSO MONOARFA**

**NATIONAL STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
2021 HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Excellencies,

1. As we plot together a sustainable and resilient recovery, we are reminded that the pandemic is definitely not over. Countries have been affected differently, and they have also been responded differently.
2. The pandemic triggered an economic crisis of large proportions. The common people are hit the hardest, especially the poorest and most vulnerable.
3. As with many developing countries, Indonesia has limited fiscal breathing space. However, every possible effort is being explored to manage health and access to vaccine, economic challenges, while at the same time, ensuring social protection for the people.
4. We are continuing to halt the spread of the virus. The health sector is continuing to be strengthened, including additional incentives for medical workers. Social impacts are cushioned through more adaptive social protection, particularly for the poorest and most vulnerable. Economic stimulus packages were also introduced including tax relaxation, debt restructuring, support for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and informal sector.
5. COVID-19 exposed our weaknesses and divisions. Yet, we seized the opportunity to come together as a global community. International cooperation and solidarity are the foundation for an inclusive recovery.

6. Closer cooperation is our only choice to bring the pandemic under control, while remaining vigilant of the potential pocket of cases in the future. We all have the common goal of limiting the economic and social fallout of the pandemic as well as enabling growth.
7. I wish to highlight some key points:
 - *First*, collaboration to meet global herd immunity is necessary, particularly to accelerate access to vaccine for everybody.
 - *Second*, cooperation for immediate and medium-term financing that will prevent deepened inequality and new poverty. Long term measures can be directed to promote synergies between health and education.
 - *Third*, trade can and should be part of the solution. Concerted, constructive and collaborative engagement from all WTO members is needed to revive international trade and much needed investment, particularly SDG-related investments.
 - *Forth*, Governments and all relevant stakeholders must work together to ensure that digital technologies benefit the economy and society with inclusion at the heart of the actions taken.
8. We all recognize that this won't be the last time that the world will face a threat to humanity. Leadership and solidarity are the latchkeys to to build our capacities and systems in preparation of potential disruptions. The UN must remain the epicenter of the discourse and consensus.
9. Our legacy will be to realize the call to build forward better by building more sustainable, peaceful, just, equitable, inclusive and resilient societies.

Thank you.