

**The 41st Annual Meeting of
International Fund for Agricultural Development's Governing Council
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NATIONAL STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

**By
Rionald Silaban
Governor of the Republic of Indonesia to
the International Fund for Agricultural Development**

**His Excellency Chairperson of the Governing Council,
His Excellency President Hounbo,
Distinguished Governors, Alternate Governors,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is my great pleasure to deliver national statement on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia in the Forty First Meeting of IFAD's Governing Council. At the outset, I would like to thank President Hounbo for his visionary leadership. We wish him all the best.

Indonesia has always valued the contributions of IFAD towards elimination of rural poverty and hunger across the world. Recently, according to the World Bank, global poverty is still stood at more than 10 percent of the population or about 800 million people across the globe are still living in poverty. The World Bank has set the target to decrease poverty level at 3 – 4 percent of the global population in 2030. This policy requires collaborative and synergetic policies and agenda among the stakeholders, including the international financial institutions.

As a United Nations specialized agency and an International Financial Institution, IFAD can play important role and contribute to the global actions in fighting against poverty and hunger. IFAD's Strategic Framework 2016-2025 provides a clear roadmap for an inclusive growth and sustainable rural transformation. Implementation of this Strategic Framework has entail to the commitment and support from member countries.

Indonesia shares strong support to the IFAD. Our commitment has reflected in the financial contribution that has been increasing over the last one decade and we intend to continue being an engaged member. The establishment of IFAD's Country Office (ICO) in Jakarta at 2016 is also other form of Indonesian support to IFAD.

Indonesia has a long historical collaboration with IFAD. Under the interim Country Strategic Opportunities Programme (COSOP), the Government of Indonesia and IFAD have been implementing synergetic programs and agenda to achieve development targets related to the

agricultural and fisheries sectors. It also aims to empower smallholder producers to become more productive and better integrated with markets to enhance food security, increase incomes and reduce poverty and vulnerability.

In Indonesia, poverty has halved since the 1997 Asian crisis, but inequality remains high. This is a signal that Indonesia, with IFAD support, needs to do more to share its nation's prosperity.

The focused cross cutting theme of IFAD's Eleventh Replenishment covering issues of nutrition, gender and climate change, are indeed aligned with Government of Indonesia strategic development plan in promoting inclusive growth.

The Government of Indonesia has allocated 5 percent of the total budget for healthcare program. The Government has also committed to reduce cases of stunted growth in children under five years to 5 percent and to reduce cases of underweight in children up to below 15 percent. In this regard, the Government has continuously increased the quality of food consumption to deal with malnourished as well as under nutrition problem by increasing the protein resources.

Gender equality and equity have been fully integrated into Indonesia's development agenda, from the planning to the budgeting mechanisms. The Government of Indonesia has encouraged the participation of women in political as well as executive sphere. In the political sphere, women are still under represented. More needs to be done through continuous dissemination, as well as grooming and capacity building for women candidates. Meanwhile, in the executive sphere, the proportion of women having managerial positions in government agencies shows an increased trend during 2011-2015. Ministry of Finance of Indonesia has launched the initiative of the Indonesian Gender Responsive Budgeting to address gender bias and discrimination. It is a step not only towards accountability to women's rights, but also towards greater public transparency and can shift economic policies leading to gains across societies.

Climate change has been global challenge especially to agricultural sector which rely heavily on climate. We have experienced in unpredictable climate, increase in temperature, extreme weather, drought and flood. Those are bringing impact on crop failure and threat to farmer income as well as to food security. Indonesia engagement is shown in our commitment to Paris Agreement, and agreed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

It is our hope that IFAD can do more in supporting member countries development, including Indonesia. In this regard, we do see that like other financial institutions, IFAD also need to improve its operation and business to be more effective and efficient in using its fund to achieve its goals. We do appreciate IFAD's responses on those demand and attempt to enhance its business model. We strongly encourage IFAD to decentralize some of the operation and management to regional office or country offices, by delegating some authorities, as well as simplifying the disbursement process, project management in reporting, and monitoring and evaluation to ICOs. Moreover, with the fast changing in technology, IFAD should be able utilize and optimize it for the more efficient business doing. IFAD has the capacity to implement all its programs bigger, better and smarter.

Thank you.