

**STATEMENT BY
THE HEAD OF DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
AT THE HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT DURING THE 13TH UNITED NATIONS CONGRESS ON
CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
DOHA, 12-15 APRIL 2015**

***Mr. Chairman,
Excellencies, distinguished delegates,***

At the outset, allow me through you Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, to congratulate Sheikh Abdullah Bin Nasser Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, upon his election as the President of the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Likewise, congratulations go to all members of the General Committee, as well. Rest assured of our full support and cooperation for the success of our deliberations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Government of the State of Qatar for the excellent organizational work and hospitality in hosting this important event. I should also like to express our appreciation to the Secretariat for the excellent work rendered in preparing for the Congress.

Indonesia associates itself with the statement of the Group of 77 and China, as well as the Asian Group, and wishes to add the following statement in its national capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia recognizes the role of this Congress as an important forum that provides unique opportunity for States, intergovernmental organizations and individual experts to exchange views and experiences in order to ensure holistic and comprehensive approaches to counter these crimes.

As we anticipate the new development agenda beyond 2015, Indonesia shares the view of other delegations that it is timely for us to re-emphasize the mutually reinforcing relationship between sustainable development and the rule of law. Indonesia has long experience in facing and addressing serious crimes -often perpetrated by transnational organized groups-, in particular, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, corruption, drugs trafficking, environmental crime, maritime crime and various economic crimes, which have had negative impacts and posed impediments to our socio-security conditions and national development goals. To address these challenges, Indonesia concretely makes the strengthening of law enforcement, judicial and the criminal justice system integral parts of its medium-term development plan.

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia takes note the view that upholding human rights and fundamental freedoms in supporting of crime prevention and criminal justice, including the integrity and impartiality of criminal justice system, is considered as essential to the enhancement of the rule of law.

However, we are also of the view that good intentions among States, based on the principles of non-interference, full respect of territorial integrity and sovereignty of States, are a central component to achieving effective implementation of criminal justice system.

Indonesia believes that it is the sovereign right of every State to implement its national crime prevention and criminal justice measures to ensure an effective application of and respect for rule of law, to hold criminals and perpetrators of related crimes accountable for their actions.

Mr. Chairman,

Indonesia also attaches great importance to international cooperation to combat transnational organized crime, as one of the focus of this Congress. There is no single country immune to the threat of transnational crime. Therefore, cooperation is the key. In our view, enhancing and improving cooperation at international and regional level is crucial to reinforcing the effectiveness of efforts to prevent and combat transnational organized crime.

On the particular issue of trafficking persons and smuggling of migrants, Indonesia has been working closely with other ASEAN Member States and supports the finalization of an ASEAN Convention against trafficking in persons. Indonesia and Australia as co-chairs are actively contributing to combating people smuggling and trafficking in persons within the framework of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime. Currently the Bali Process, with 48 members comprising of countries, territories and international organizations, has become the largest regional mechanism in the area of people smuggling and trafficking in persons. In 2013, Indonesia also initiated and hosted the Special Conference on Irregular Movement of Persons.

Mr. Chairman,

In addressing the issue of smuggling of migrants, Indonesia stresses the importance of implementing a victims-oriented approach to prevent, detect, prosecute and punish these crimes, in line with the relevant provisions of the related protocols of the UNTOC, and deploys every possible effort to bring the perpetrators to justice. Taking into account the transnational nature of the crime, the success of our joint endeavors also depends on the active participation of origin, transit and destination countries based on the principles of burden sharing and shared responsibilities among the countries.

My Delegation also wishes to underline the importance of concerted efforts by all States to implement effective measure to eliminate the violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families. We also call for states to respect and protect the rights of migrants, especially women migrant workers regardless of their immigration status, as well as ensure the humane treatment of migrants and provide victims with necessary protection and assistance as to avoid the re-victimization. In this regard, all necessary legal and administrative steps must be taken by States to prevent and counter crimes involving violence against these groups.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegations believes that the sixtieth anniversary of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice is timely for States to consider adopting a forward-looking approach in dealing with new and emerging crimes, beyond the traditional crimes. We must undertake significant efforts through harmonizing relevant national policies and regulations, thorough research and analysis, as well as enhancing cooperation to combat them.

On particular issues related to the trafficking of cultural property, Indonesia strongly encourages all States to take appropriate measures to strengthen law enforcement and related efforts to punish individual criminals and organized criminal groups, with a view to preventing and combating this crime, in accordance with national laws and relevant international instruments.

Mr. Chairman,

At this juncture, I would also like to highlight illegal fishing as one of the emerging crimes strongly linked with transnational organized crime, and which causes an impediment to the sustainable management of fisheries. Indonesia reiterates its concern that the current responses to address illegal fishing remain inadequate, especially as most of the measures being taken are voluntary.

It is important to pay close attention to the transnational nature of illegal fishing, which presents an unprecedented challenge to conventional management methods for sustainable fisheries and poses a threat to environment. In this connection, the reports conducted by the UNODC portray instances and examples of the close association between illegal fishing and transnational organized criminal activities. Furthermore, these connections were explicitly recognized recently by the UN General Assembly.

From Indonesia's perspective, the current practices of illegal fishing meet all criteria for it to be established as a transnational crime as stipulated in the provisions of UNTOC. Consequently, a new approach is needed to complement the existing measures by projecting the element of criminalization of illegal fishing as a transnational organized crime.

In addition, the transnational dimension of illegal fishing poses serious problems for the conventional approach to the management of sustainable fisheries, as the impact of illegal fishing to the ecosystem and society as a whole attests. Today, more than 75% of the ocean fisheries are being exploited beyond their sustainable yields, thus creating legitimate global concern about altering this situation. While illegal fishing, including overexploitation of fish stock, including endangered and critically endangered fish species, deteriorates not only the fishing industry but also the environment and biological diversity, States however fail to recognize illegal fishing as an emerging crime, and continue to undermine efforts to fight it.

My delegation is, therefore, of the view that illegal fishing needs to receive proper attention in this Congress, *inter alia*, by putting illegal fishing in the same basket as the other manifestations of transnational organized crime. Through this approach, we are able to emphasize the seriousness of this crime; thus promoting commitment and concrete measures to be taken by States to enhance close international cooperation in order to combat this crime effectively.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation also stresses the importance of the roles of the community, cultural leaders, media and non-governmental organizations in supporting the effective implementation of crime prevention and criminal justice. In that regard, Mr. Chairman, Indonesia looks forward to actively engaging in sharing experiences and good practices with other states in designing and implementing crime prevention strategies, plans and programmes that ensure the involvement of all sectors of society.

To conclude, as we mark the sixtieth anniversary of this Congress, Indonesia takes this opportunity to reiterate its view that it is timely for us to take a concrete approach and make a stronger commitment in the fight against crime in all its forms, especially the emerging ones, which remains our shared responsibility. The global nature of this crime requires a global response, and Indonesia remains steadfast in its support to promote cooperation in preventing and combating this scourge and at the same time, implement crime prevention and criminal justice measures to ensure the respect for the rule of law.

I thank you.