

**STATEMENT BY
DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
AT THE 11TH SESSION OF WORKING GROUP
ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
6 – 7 JULY 2020**

Agenda Item 2: The use and role of joint investigative bodies in combating transnational crime

Thank you Mr. Chair,

On behalf of the Indonesian delegation, allow me to join other delegations to thank the Secretariat for preparing the background papers to guide us in discussing this year's thematic discussions

Rest assured of our full support to your Chairmanship and to the success of this auspicious meeting.

Mr. Chair,

The background paper on joint investigation refers to Article 19 of the Organized Crime Convention,

- ➔ It encourages, but does not require, States to enter into agreements or arrangements to conduct joint investigations, prosecutions, and proceedings in more than one State, where a number of States parties may have jurisdiction over the offences involved.

In line with the spirit of the article, the Attorney General's Office of Indonesia serves as observer on the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP), an organization that assists prosecutors internationally in the fight against organized or other serious crimes and promote measures for the eradication of corruption.

To achieve those purposes, IAP promotes international cooperation in order to gather and provide evidence which eventually leads to effective, fair, impartial and efficient prosecution of criminal offences.

The Attorney General's Office is also a member of the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA), which actively takes part in international cooperation on corruption cases.

- These examples indicate that the Attorney General's Office realizes the importance of international cooperation in its effort to comprehensively process cases involving transnational actors.

Furthermore, the Office currently has MoUs with Prosecution Authorities from the Republic of Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, the Netherlands, the USA, Russia, China and Australia, and is currently in the process of drafting a Memorandum of Understanding with the Attorney General's Office of Kazakhstan.

- These MoUs also touch upon the possibility of conducting joint investigations.

This trend of international as well as regional cooperation and participation also applies to other law enforcement agencies in Indonesia, including the Indonesian National Police.

One good example of its longstanding commitment to international cooperation started in 2002, when members of the Indonesian National Police and the Australian Federal Police partnered in creating joint investigations after the 2002 Bali bombings, and continued in 2003 when they formed another joint investigation initiative after another bombing incident in Marriot Hotel.

Their good relationship continued to flourish, as was evident in 2016, when the Indonesian National Police and AFP conducted joint investigation in relation to a bribery case in 2014 involving individuals from both the private sector and the government. In the process, Indonesian authorities undertook investigation towards home-based public officials, while AFP conducted investigation towards the business sector individuals who were alleged to have committed bribery.

Mr. Chair,

Despite the longstanding commitment of both the Attorney General's Office and the Indonesian National Police in relation to joint investigation initiatives, there is a feeling amongst officers that the implementation of a joint investigation is often constrained because of differences in the investigation system.

They usually would have questions on a few technical aspects, such as whether the joint investigation can be carried out against suspects who have not been arrested or have been detained, or whether foreign citizens who are asked to be witnesses in criminal cases in Indonesia are obliged to provide information.

Nowadays, we also have to adapt to the current pandemic COVID-19, which has presented us with new obstacles, as it has made it more challenging to experience direct contact, resulting in the slowing down of progress on all of our joint investigation initiatives. Therefore, it is perhaps necessary to establish procedures for cooperation in tracking assets abroad during this pandemic, in order to continuously reap the benefit of any technical support.

My delegation is confident that this Working Group would be able to materialize this vision and address the challenges above. And for that, Mr. Chair, I wish to once again reiterate Indonesia's commitment to working with you and to support you to make this meeting a fruitful one. I wish all of us the best in our endeavor.

I thank you.