Agenda Item 3

Successful strategies concerning the use of technology, including information and communications technology, to prevent and investigate the smuggling of migrants and to mount a robust response to the increasing use of cyberspace by criminal groups

Thank you, Chair, for giving me the floor.

I would also like to thank the Secretariat for preparing a background paper to guide us in discussing ways to utilize technological advances to prevent and investigate the smuggling of migrants.

Mr. Chair,

64% of the Indonesian population are active internet users. On the one hand, the internet has provided us with a means to connect to families and friends abroad as well as ways to gather knowledge and information. On the other hand, criminal groups are taking advantage of the internet or dark web to recruit, collect real-time data on routes, communicate, and advertise their services.

Myriad of information is available online. Yet, with a lack of integration and interoperability, it isn't easy to navigate the information islands to search for the correct information. This fact alone may jeopardize migrants from the lure of smugglers.

Mr. Chair,

Allow me to share some key points under this agenda item:

**First, Prevention.** Indonesia puts the importance of creating safe migration. The government has implemented several measures to raise public awareness through public information campaigns that provide information regarding safe migration, basic human rights standards, and relevant authorities that could provide protection if needed.

One such example is Portal Peduli WNI and Save Travel app, developed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to integrate information systems from various governmental institutions, prioritizing those dealing with migrant workers.

**Second, in terms of disrupting criminal activities,** with the assistance of IOM, the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries seeks to identify human rights violations in the fisheries sector through a digital application. The application is used by first responders to investigate allegations of human rights violations. It is equipped with a list of questions for identification and can be utilized in six international languages.

**Third, as for data and information sharing,** at the national level, relevant line Ministries are under close coordination with the law enforcement officials to share data/information on criminal groups. For example, coordination with the Indonesian Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Center to investigate suspected banking accounts and with the Ministry of Information to block websites or social media accounts that are used by criminal groups.
Led by the Indonesian Ministry of Labour, we also share relevant information online with Saudi Arabia to assist in the placement and protection of our migrant workers. As a pilot project, this practice will be evaluated every three months by the joint-task force.

Mr. Chair,

Of course, with the proliferation of platforms and apps that enable data sharing, regulatory aspects on data protection and security threats, as well as misuse of these platforms will undoubtedly be another aspect that should be continuously addressed as it evolves.

I thank you.