



STATEMENT BY

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AT

THE 39TH SESSION OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
CONFERENCE

"Review of the State of Food and Agriculture:
"Breaking the Cycle of Rural Poverty and Hunger by
Strengthening Rural Resilience: Social Protection and Sustainable
Agricultural Development"

Rome, 9 June 2015

Honorable Chairman,
Ministers and Heads of Delegations,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, I would like to congratulate Dr. José Graziano da Silva who has been re-elected as FAO Director-General on Saturday. We take note with appreciation the achievement made by FAO under the leadership of Mr. da Silva for the past four years, in particular the reforms process taken place in FAO by which a strong and effective accountability and internal control framework have been implemented.

We also praise the successful organization by FAO, in collaboration with WHO, the 2nd International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) last year, which

endorsed Rome Declaration on Nutrition and Framework for Action. We hope these achievements would be of importance as a milestone for further works and mandate of FAO.

**Ministers and Heads of Delegations,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

As the largest economy in South-East Asia, Indonesia's economy continues to grow steadily since the past decades, which led to gradually reduce the overall poverty reduction in the country. The proportion of people living below national poverty line decreased from 23.4 percent in 1999 to 11.4 percent in 2013, now the total population of Indonesia is more than 250 million people, which brings Indonesia achieve its MDG target and reduce extreme poverty. Thanks to its efforts in strengthening rural resilience, inter alia through development of sustainable agriculture and social protection, the Government has succeeded to break the cycle of rural poverty and hunger

The long experience Indonesia has in agricultural development suggests that sustainable agriculture productivity could be achieved if the Government puts strong effort to increase investment in agricultural infrastructures, particularly irrigation, increase access of farmers to the use of modern inputs and equipment, accelerate dissemination of agricultural technologies through revitalizing of extension services, and improve the agro-input distribution. All of these have contributed to the increased production in agriculture and food system.

Furthermore, to support increase of agriculture and food productivity, Indonesia has developed some appropriate technologies such as precision farming, Indonesian Carbon Efficient Farming (ICEF), integrated crop-livestock production, integrated rice-fish farming, multiple cropping, and waste management.

In view of the above, I am pleased to inform that Indonesia has shared its experiences and expertise in agriculture development and technologies through South-South Cooperation to other developing countries, especially for Asia, Africa and the Pacific.

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As far as the alleviation of rural poverty and hunger are concerned, the Government of Indonesia has implemented several programs, among others are: the Sustainable Home-Yard Food Garden (*Kawasan Rumah Pangan Lestari, KRPL*), the Village Food Resilience Program (*Desa Mandiri Pangan*), Government Rice Program for the Poor (*RASKIN*), and the National Community Empowerment Program (PNPM).

The Sustainable Home-Yard Food Garden is a typical family farming program established and developed in Indonesia, which mainly aimed to increase food security and nutrition of the households with the potential to improve their income generation. The program since the last couple of years has been successfully implemented in more than 15.000 villages involving over 200,000 smallholder farmers. Furthermore, it is worth noting that our Food Resilience Village Program has been awarded by Arab Gulf Fund (AGFUND) as one of the most promising and innovative program to alleviate poverty in rural areas.

Likewise, our Government Rice Program for the Poor increases the access of poor people to staple food and improves their livelihoods. Moreover, the National Community Empowerment Program (PNPM) provides poor communities with grants for high-priority local programs and projects. Until 2013, the PNPM Program has benefited 60 million Indonesians through thousands of PNPM projects in rural and urban areas.

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

To conclude, on behalf of the Government and the People of the Republic of Indonesia, we underline the need of a concerted effort to address the challenge of breaking the cycle of rural poverty and hunger, particularly to achieve global food security.

Thank you very much.