



## Economic and Social Council

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### Commission for Social Development

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**Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and  
the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:  
priority Theme: Affordable housing and social protection  
systems for all to address homelessness**

### **Statement submitted by Pos Keadilan Peduli Ummat, non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council\***

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

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\* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



## Statement

The Indonesian Government has recorded constructive development and advancement of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) since September 2015. Indonesia is one of the 193 countries that consented to the agenda of the sustainable development. The Indonesian Government is committed to achieving the targets of the sustainable development through a number of efforts, for instance by establishing the Presidential Regulation on the Sustainable Development Goals which serves as the legal basis of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Indonesian Government has also collaborated with various parties in a bid to support the realization of the SDGs, for example by involving Civil Society Organizations (CSO). Civil Society Organizations in Indonesia have significantly contributed to disseminating the Sustainable Development Goals to the society as well as conducting a wide range of activities, for example by establishing the Civil Society Coalition whose role is to underpin the realization of the SDGs.

In addition, local governments in Indonesia have also facilitated the realization of the SDGs by providing technical support and issuing regulations. Moreover, the Higher Education Institutions in Indonesia have also actualized a number of efforts to support the Indonesian Government in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The commitment of the Indonesian Higher Education Institutions to supporting the implementation of the SDGs is evidenced through their teaching and learning processes. These points show that the Sustainable Development Goals accommodate the challenges of sustainable development more comprehensively than the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) both in terms of the qualitative aspect namely by accommodating issues which were not highlighted in the MDGs as well in the quantitative aspect namely by targeting through resolution of the goals and targets.

The Sustainable Development Goals are applied universally; hence they give equal opportunities for all countries across the globe either developed countries, developing countries, and less-developed countries to contribute to achieving sustainable development. Therefore, each country has an equitable role and responsibility in realizing the Sustainable Development Goals. Pos Keadilan Peduli Ummat (the current name: Human Initiative) as part of the Civil Society Organizations (CSO) has initiated multifarious programs and activities under consortium and associations such as the Humanitarian Forum Indonesia (HFI) and the Indonesian Humanitarian Alliance (IHA) in a bid to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, we also actively coordinate with the Government to support the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

The year of 2015 was marked as the start of the era of sustainable development. There are four global agreements on sustainable development. One of these is the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction until 2030. Regarding disaster management, Indonesia have been hit by enormous disasters from 2018 to 2019, for example huge earthquakes, a tsunami and liquefaction. The disasters had caused more than 200,000 families to lose their homes. As a developing country, the issue of homelessness has posed a new challenge for the Indonesian Government especially on how to help the survivors recover from the impacts of the disasters and protect them especially in accommodating appropriate settlements for the survivors. A number of issues related to homelessness have continuously emerged since the disasters hitting several areas across Indonesia, such as the inability of survivors to build new housings, the unavailability of land support the relocation of new housings, the loss of jobs, and the emergence of dangerous zones in the available lands. Responding to the aforementioned issues, our organization is committed to

conducting emergency responses and distributing disaster assistance by providing shelters since the emergency response period. We also actively coordinate with related stakeholders such as local governments, donors, organizations, and society through shelter cluster meetings in a bid to discuss efforts to provide proper housing for families who lost their housing and lands. We also have guided and strengthened the capacity of the survivors so that they can build their own houses by using their own resources. In addition to providing assistance for the survivors, Human Initiative also approached survivors by encouraging their participation to rebuild their housing independently.

Throughout 2019, Indonesia has also been hit by drought. The drought is the result of climate change and rising temperatures caused by land and forest fires happening in a number of areas across the country such as Sumatera, Kalimantan, and Sulawesi. The land and forest fires caused a thick haze spreading to other countries namely Singapore, Malaysia, and Brunei. Human Initiative is committed to tackling the issue of climate change which is in line with the Paris Agreement made in 2015 concerning the efforts to overcome the impacts of the climate change. Land and forest fires as well as illegal logging have increased massively throughout 2019. In addition to the restriction of lands for human settlement due to the occupation of lands by corporations, land and forest fires also pose a serious threat for human health. The Research Team of Harvard University and Columbia University in 2015 projected that there would be 91,600 deaths in Indonesia, 2,200 deaths in Singapore, and 6,500 deaths in Malaysia as the long-term impact of land and forest fires. The research was conducted by observing the spread of haze through satellite. The research team found that the deaths occur because adults inhale particles which have a size of 2.5 Particulate Matters (PM 2.5).

An article written by the joint research team of the same universities entitled Fires, Smoke Exposure, and Public Health: An Integrative Framework to Maximize Health Benefits from Peatland Restoration and published in July 2019 mentioned that if the management and control of land and forest fires are not maximum, mortality rate is expected to reach 36,000 lives per year in all areas affected by the land and forest fires from the period of 2020 to 2030. 92% cases of the deaths are estimated to happen in Indonesia. As a humanitarian organization with a predominant duty to facilitate disaster management including in health affairs, Human Initiative has made efforts to protect survivors from the exposure of haze and help their recovery during the emergency response period. We also continue to coordinate intensely with local governments in managing the disaster. In addition, Human Initiative also cooperates with other Civil Society Organizations and institutions to support the governments' efforts both in national and regional levels in managing land and forest fires, and guiding societies in preventing, anticipating, and overcoming land and forest fires.

One of the integral aspects in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals is outstanding leadership. Outstanding leadership can be shown through the participation of the global community in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore, all countries including the developed and developing ones must synchronize their interests in a bid to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, governments and all related stakeholders need to build synergy and focus on resolving a wide array of issues related to humanity, environment, as well as appropriate and affordable settlements for the well-being of humans in a bid to support the SDGs. The Sustainable Development Goals also need to be fortified by active contributions from various stakeholders and parties in a multitude of fields such as social, economy, environmental affairs, and good governance.