

Statement
by the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Republic of Indonesia to France, Monaco and Andorra/
Permanent Delegate of the Republic to UNESCO
At the 205 Session of the UNESCO Executive Board
9 October 2018

Chairman of the Executive Board,
Director-General of UNESCO,
Distinguished Members of Executive Board,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

I would like to begin by thanking the Director General for her comprehensive report on the highlight of UNESCO priorities and reform proposal.

We note with satisfaction the efforts of the Director-General in managing and improving the financial situation of UNESCO. In this respect, Indonesia supports the strategic transformation of this organization. We believe that this ongoing reform process will further strengthen UNESCO's comparative advantages to keep this organization relevant and impactful for its Member States.

In line with this strategic transformation process, it is also necessary to keep our commitments to implement recommendations of the working group on Governance, Procedures and Working Methods of the Governing Bodies of UNESCO, with reference to General Conference Resolution 39 C/87.

In relation to the budget constraint, we are of the view that UNESCO should seek more proactive ways to encourage Member States to pay their membership dues on time. Moreover, the overarching goal of the resource mobilization strategy and structured financing dialogues should be based on the principles of transparency, predictability and donor diversification. In this regard, Indonesia welcomes the convening of the Partners' Forum which was held last month to further engage UNESCO's existing partners as well as the potential partners.

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Indonesia has actively involved in various UNESCO Science Programs, related to MAB, IHP, and IOC.

In relation to the MAB Programme, the Government of Indonesia has convened the 30th International Coordinating Council (ICC) MAB Meeting in Palembang, South Sumatera, Indonesia, on 23-28 July 2018. In this regard, I would like to extend appreciation for all MAB Member States supports for Prof. Dr. Enny Sudarmonowati of Indonesia as Chair of ICC MAB for the period of 2018-2020. I believe that outcomes of the MAB Meeting, including Palembang Declaration will further strengthen our commitment for the conservation of Biosphere Reserves.

Under the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), Indonesia reaffirms its commitment to continue its work as the host country of the Asia Pacific Centre for Ecohydrology (APCE), a UNESCO Category II Center. APCE is part of Indonesia's contribution to the global ecohydrology issues. On this note, Indonesia

is pleased to invite all Member States, in particular the Asian and Pacific Island Countries, to collaborate and optimize the resources and expertise of APCE, including through research, training and knowledge exchange, information system and public awareness activities.

On IOC Program, Indonesia involves in both issues on ocean science and tsunami early warning system. Indonesia contributes and plays active role in improving capacity development marine science in Western Pacific region, including by hosting Regional Training and Research Centre for Tropical Marine Biodiversity.

With regard to the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Donggala and Palu, Central Sulawesi, the Indonesia government has established the Working Group on Tsunami and other Coastal Hazard and Mitigation System. We would like to further collaborate with IOC UNESCO in forming the International Tsunami Survey Team in conducting the scientific survey.

The achievements of the Science programmes in Indonesia could not be achieved without the excellent longstanding partnership with the Regional Science Bureau for Asia and the Pacific of UNESCO Office Jakarta. Therefore, we support the Director-General's decision to improve the working relationship and modalities between the field network and Headquarters in order to render the network accountable, in line with the C/5 document.

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Indonesia has been striving hard to achieve the educational goals enshrined in the SDG-4, by providing opportunity of quality education for sustainable development both through formal and non-formal education approaches. Many strategies have been carried out in improving education system in Indonesia, among others by:

First, empowering actors in the education system— teachers, school leaders, and parents;

Second, continuing to improve quality of and access to education—from the Early Childhood Education to Secondary levels—by establishing more Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Centers and Vocational Schools at rural and remote areas;

Third, expanding more funding to ECCE as an investment to improve future and human capital with good characters, high-quality skills, and intelligence, through among others, improving the learning materials and teacher qualifications;

Fourth, promoting the efficiency and effectiveness of bureaucratic procedures in the central government and working closely with the local authorities.

It is a great honour for us to be awarded the UNESCO-Hamdan bin Rashad Al-Maktoum Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of Teachers 2018. We are also fully aware of the responsibilities as one of the recipients to enhance our commitments in ECCE.

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen,

[Before I conclude, the Government of Indonesia would like to extend our sincere appreciation to UNESCO and member states for fulfilling our request for Emergency Assistance following the earthquake in Lombok. With this assistance, it would greatly contribute to the recovery process in education sector particularly for around 140.000 students who are affected by this earthquake].

To conclude, we hope that through our joint efforts, we may succeed in harnessing the constructive potentials of this Organization.

I thank you.