Statement by
the Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia
on agenda item 63
Report of the Human Rights Council

New York, 17 November 2014

Mr. President,

Allow me to begin by thanking the President of the Human Rights Council for providing us with the Council’s report on its 22nd special session as well as its 27th session. My delegation is very appreciative of the role of the President of the Council and attaches high importance to the significant work that he and the Council have been carrying out.

Mr. President,

Indonesia deeply values the work of the Council as a key intergovernmental body in strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe. For almost three years now, Indonesia has been serving as one of the members of the Council and working constructively together with other countries in addressing human rights violations and producing its recommendations.

Let us be reminded that this august meeting decided to establish the Human Rights Council as part of its efforts to tackle the political manipulation and double standards that were often exercised in the name of promoting and protecting human rights. We firmly believe that the Council should execute the noble task of boosting the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction, and in a fair and equitable manner in accordance with the mandates set out in General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006.
Mr. President,

In light of this background, Indonesia would like to highlight the following crucial points.

First, as of 1 October 2014, the Council has seen a record number of 53 special procedures with thematic and country mandates. While this trend may be considered by some to be necessary, my delegation would like to underline the need for the Council to avoid duplication and politicization and to prioritize the equitable representation of each regional group in establishing special procedures.

My delegation also wishes to reiterate the critical importance for the special procedures to receive necessary political and financial support and to be able to discharge their given mandates in a coherent, effective, objective, independent and non-politicized manner.

Second, in addressing specific human rights situations, it is important for the Council to engage with the countries concerned in the spirit of genuine partnership and constructive dialogue. There is no country that is truly immune from human rights violations. Each situation requires a careful observation in order to produce a long-term and sustainable solution.

We also would like to underline the critical role of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) as a peer review among countries on an equal footing, and an important mechanism for strengthening efforts to foster the values of democracy and human rights. We stress the importance of the UPR process in creating realistic and implementable recommendations in addressing specific human rights situations. As a developing country, we would also like to highlight the need to provide more technical assistance in the preparation of the report and for the implementation of the UPR recommendations.

Our third point is the need for the Council to be respectful of, and sensitive to different values, norms, and traditions, and to exercise restraint from promoting certain values, behaviors and practices that do not enjoy international consensus or acceptance. Since we all believe that the Council is the main UN mechanism for addressing global human rights concerns, Indonesia would like to encourage the Human Rights Council to not engage in an unclear or controversial subjects that tend to be divisive.
and lack recognition of the different values, norms, cultures and traditions of others.

Mr. President,

For its part, Indonesia is always ready to strengthen its engagement with human rights mechanisms, especially in the Human Rights Council. Just a few weeks ago, Indonesia was re-elected into the Council. We are truly grateful for every support that has been given to us. Allow me to reiterate, once again, Indonesia’s commitment to continue to work with others to make the Council more effective, and to ensure that the work of the Council is beneficial to all UN member states.

To end, Indonesia would once again like to thank the President of the Human Rights Council for his updates and reports. It is our fervent hope that the Council’s deliberations will continue to be beneficial in supporting our efforts in the field of human rights and in achieving tangible impact on the ground.

I thank you.

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