Mr. President,

It gives me a great privilege to share Indonesia's view in this august occasion, as part of the observance of the Twentieth Anniversary of the International Year of the Family.

The family is the core element of human development as well as for the social cohesion of society. Within the course of development, the family unit releases people to act as players and participants in different areas.

That is an indispensable role that cannot be replaced. For that reason, the family as the fundamental institution of society and development must continuously be promoted.

We must also provide an opportunity to share good practices in family policy-making as well as to further discuss the growing challenges faced by families worldwide, in particular in their efforts to eradicate poverty and to achieve sustainable development.

Mr. President,

Allow me to share our views on the issue at hand.

First of all, Indonesia attaches great importance on the role of the family as the natural and fundamental group unit of society. As Confucius said, the strength of a nation derives from the integrity of the home. Therefore, we believe that a stable and healthy family is the backbone of a strong society that is needed to ensure the nation's wellbeing.
Secondly, despite the growing acknowledgement of the important role of the family in the development, oftentimes the family is excluded in the development process. This exclusion leads to the increasing inequality in the forms of economic as well as social exclusion, which are major barriers in the common endeavor of eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable development. To tackle these challenges, Indonesia wishes to emphasize the importance of empowerment of family in supporting development, to contribute to enhancing social integration, economic inclusion as well as supporting efforts to ensure full and productive employment and decent work for all.

Third, Indonesia is of the view that the value of the family in development deserves due consideration in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda. As the United Nations Secretary-General noted in his recent report, adding the role of the family to the Post-2015 Development Agenda would be a step forward in the direction of empowerment and reduction of inequality and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development goals. Having said that, the turn of event towards the next development goal is indeed a timely juncture to mainstream family as the fundamental unit of community in development processes.

Mr. President,

Indonesia has been an avid promoter of the perspective of family in development and social policies. The Government of Indonesia has enacted various national laws and established national bodies to address issues related to marital and family institutions. Together with the civil society and other relevant stakeholders, the government has produced policies at municipal level as well to complement those national laws and bodies.

Indonesia has also developed the national initiative of Family Day. More than just a ceremonial celebration on every 29th of June, the initiative also aims to raise awareness on the importance of Family as the core unit of the society, and to promote national family-related multi-sectoral services, including on Family Planning and family counseling.

Over the years, our Government has been engaging families in urban as well rural communities as instrumental partners in rendering social safety nets, as well in empowering and enabling women and all personnel of family to unleash their own maximum potentials, and fulfill their role in development.

Mr. President,

On a final note, my delegation believes that the series of events in commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family will further echo the global
recognition of the central role of the family in ensuring social and economic development and the importance of building a comprehensive people-centered approach with regard to development.

To achieve this, we encourage all countries to continue their efforts in fulfilling the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes, both by developing strategies and programs aimed at strengthening national capacities on family issues and by strengthening international cooperation at all levels. This cooperation is imperative in advancing the role of the family in the important areas, including poverty eradication.

I thank you.