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INDONESIA

STATEMENT BY
DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

DELIVERED BY:
H.E. MR. YUSRA KHAN
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

AT
THE 68TH SESSION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 65: Rights of Children

Mr. Chairman
Distinguished Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Indonesia aligns with the statement by ASEAN, and G77 and China.

The promotion and protection of children rights is our moral obligation. We borrow from our children the world we live today. Therefore, it is our responsibility to make this world a safe and healthy place for them to live. There has been tremendous good will, incessant activity and social consciousness to ensure that children rights are promoted and protected. Yet, there are still grave threats to children that put their lives at risk. Poverty poses the greatest threat to children’s safety and well being. It stems from structural inequality, which has been the underlying cause of social issues including: health problems, malnutrition, lack of access to education, and even exploitation and violence against children.

As the Secretary-General underscored in the report on the Status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), attention is needed to address gaps and inequities in legal and regulatory frameworks. Indonesia recognizes the importance of providing social protection for vulnerable groups to break the cycle of poverty.

In this connection, please allow me to share with you some of the efforts by the Government of Indonesia to address the multifaceted problems on children:

First, the Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection was established in 2009, to strengthen national policy formulation, monitoring, evaluation, and coordination in matters concerning child protection at the national level.

Long before that, Indonesia established the Indonesian Child Protection Commission in 2002 as an independent institution to disseminate all the provisions of legislation relating to child
protection, collecting data and information, receiving complaints, conducting, monitoring and evaluation of the CRC.

Second, in line with the efforts to promote the implementation of the CRC and to strengthen Indonesia's legal framework on child protection, a number of laws and policies have been introduced and enforced, among others, Law No. 23 of 2002 on Child Protection, the Plan of Action for the Elimination of Violence against Children in 2010, and Law No. 11 Year 2012 on the Children Criminal Justice System.


Third, to achieve universal and quality education for our children, early this year Indonesia established a "12 Years Education Compulsory Program" to replace the existing "9 Years Education Compulsory Program", and enacted national Law and policies, inter alia: Law No. 2 of 1989 and No. 20 of 2003 on the National Education System, and Law No. 12 of 2012 on Higher Education; and No. 32 of 2013 on the National Education Standard. Furthermore, the Government has been implementing the "School Operational Assistance Program", providing scholarships to prevent school drop outs.

Fourth, in line with Indonesia's commitment as a signatory of the "World Fit for Children Declaration" in the General Assembly Special Session on Children in May 2002, Indonesia has developed the "National Program for Indonesian Children 2015". The program aims to achieve "A Decent Indonesia for Children", and motivate our people to promote healthy Indonesian children, smart, active, cheerful, noble, and protected from discrimination, exploitation and violence.

Mr. Chairman
Distinguished Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Indonesia underscores its steadfast commitment to the protection of children as part of the most vulnerable segment of the society. As stated under agenda item 27 on Social Development, family is the heart and foundation for social inclusion and equitable development. In this connection, we would like to underline the importance of integrating and ensuring child protection through the strengthening of family's role in the post-2015 development agenda.

CRC as the main international legal framework for the protection of children against violence, has gained significant strength and recognition on the part of Member States. While states are recognized as the main actors, the participation by the full range of stakeholders, at all levels, are imperative to complement the work done by governments in the protection of the rights of children.

Indonesia underscores UN's leadership to ensure a child-sensitive approach in its system, in accordance with its mandate. Indonesia highly values the inter-governmental work under the UN house to address challenges faced in the protection of children. To this end, we will support further accommodation of the issue to various appropriate and relevant resolutions.

I thank you.