



**Statement by**

**Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia**

**at**

**United Nations**  
**Economic and Social Council**

**Humanitarian Affairs Segment**

**June 2020**

Mr. Chair,  
Distinguished delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Indonesia would like to express its highest appreciation to the Vice President of the ECOSOC and the Chair of the Humanitarian Affairs Segment, H.E. Omar Hilale, for his leadership in successfully adjusting and organizing this vital annual meeting, despite all the challenges posed by the current pandemic COVID-19.

Our appreciation also goes to the secretariat for an excellent arrangement in making this first fully virtual meeting of the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment come to materialize.

In light of the challenging time we are facing today, Indonesia would like to also convey its appreciation to all countries, who have constructively contributed in the deliberation of this year's Humanitarian Affairs Segment's topic, as well as its resolution. These solidarism of ours, indeed, is utmost important.

Mr. Chair,  
Distinguished delegates,

At this moment, while the need for global humanitarian response is increasing; new and emerging complex emergencies also continue to exacerbate the global humanitarian crisis we are facing. Among others is COVID-19 outbreak, that aggravates the humanitarian sufferings of the 145,7 million people who are already left in dire need of humanitarian assistance.

In this circumstance, collaboration, synergy, and coherence at the international, regional and national level have becoming more and more crucial in our endeavors to strive for collective solutions addressing the global humanitarian crisis.

Mr. Chair,  
Distinguished delegates,

This year's ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment's theme could not be more fitting with our current global challenges.

It has provided solid foundations for us in strengthening our collective humanitarian response, that put people at the centre of our efforts, push for more effective implementation of humanitarian assistance, and promote respect to humanitarian principles.

In line with our commitment to support such global efforts, Indonesia would like to contribute several points that are pertinent and important to this year's Humanitarian Affairs Segment, as follows:

**First, is the need to strengthen international cooperation and multilateralism.**

Indonesia welcomes the new initiatives at the multilateral level, responding to the current global humanitarian needs, that is aggravated by COVID-19 outbreak. Some of them are Secretary General's Call for Global Ceasefire; this year Chair's Call to Action to support humanitarian response in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic; and the proposed Global Humanitarian Response Plan on COVID-19.

Indonesia is of the view that the implementation of these initiatives would contribute significantly to our collective efforts. Therefore, international cooperation should be enhanced to enable the effective implementation of the initiatives.

Furthermore, such international cooperation should be conducted in a manner that is supportive to the crisis-affected countries; in accordance to the specific national and local contexts; as well as coherent with existing efforts at regional, national, and local levels.

With these understandings, Indonesia is planning to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Conference on Humanitarian Assistance and Humanitarian Expo in the coming year 2021. Initiated in 2019, the conference aims to build a solid regional platform that strengthens the network and partnership of humanitarian actors across South-East Asian countries.

**Second, it is imperative to uphold international humanitarian law and its principles in our collective efforts addressing global humanitarian crisis.**

This includes efforts to protect civilians, ensure access for humanitarian assistance, and protection of humanitarian personnel.

It is recorded that civilians and humanitarian personnel as well as facilities continues to face threats and attacks. In 2019, WHO noted that attacks to humanitarian personnel and facilities have gone above 1.000 incidents, causing 198 deaths and 627 injuries.

With regards to this, promotion on adherence to humanitarian principles, especially in humanitarian emergencies should be enhanced.

Our resolute efforts in addressing global humanitarian crisis should also give more attention to the vulnerable groups in the society particularly, women, children, and people with disabilities, who are often most affected by the crises.

In line with this, Indonesia would further emphasize the importance of by eliminating any form of violence, discrimination, racism, and stigmatization that hamper access for and the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

The pandemic has also put more pressure on the developing nations and communities who are currently hosting the majority of nearly 71 million refugees and internally displaced persons globally. In addressing this situation, the higher the demand for the international

community particularly parties to the 1951 Convention to implement their commitment, by contributing sufficient funding for the most affected countries and working together to address the root causes which precondition for safe, voluntary and dignified return of the refugees. Furthermore, the role of the international organizations is also crucial, particularly in providing support and resources to the hosting countries and communities in dealing with the refugees.

Mr. Chair,  
Distinguished delegates,

**Last**, in line with countries' position and solidarity upon multilateralism and international cooperation, **Indonesia strongly supports the efforts of putting humanitarian matters as the utmost priority, especially within this forum.**

We continue to believe on the importance of upholding humanitarian principles in the delivery of humanitarian assistance. In this regard, humanitarian efforts should refrain from any political debates, which put aside the people's best interest away from being the centre of any humanitarian efforts.

In this regard, Indonesia appraised the constructive contribution of countries during the negotiation process of this year's outcome document, under the auspicious leadership of the Chairman. It is especially reflected through the "*light negotiation*" process and the intention to maintain the agreed languages from our previous Humanitarian Affairs Segment's Resolution, while discussions are focused on more pressing challenges that we are facing today.

However, we took note that several elements in this year's resolution, including some reference to "Sexual and Gender-Based Violence", cannot be considered as a traditionally agreed language. Furthermore, it is yet to be easily consolidated in accordance to countries' different positions.

In this regard, Indonesia would like to express its position and view, where it considers the elements to be applicable in countries experiencing of affected by complex humanitarian emergencies, in accordance to the national and local laws and regulations.

I thank you.