



**KEMENTERIAN SOSIAL REPUBLIK INDONESIA**

**Minister of Social Affairs  
Republic of Indonesia  
Opening Remarks in 590<sup>th</sup> Meeting of  
Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disability  
2022  
Geneva, 18 August 2022**

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Assalammu'alaikum warrahmatullah wabarrakatuh,  
Good afternoon,

First of all, on behalf of The Government of the Republic of Indonesia, allow me to convey my sincere gratitude to the UN Committee for the Rights of People with Disabilities (CRPD) for granting me the opportunity to share the current situation of people living with disability in Indonesia, and how the Government manages to take care of them as well as deal with the diverse society around them as mandated by UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

I would also like to thank all participants of this meeting, who, I strongly believe, are willing to put extraordinary commitment and effort to make sure that people living with disabilities are well supported and able to attain fulfilling lives.

**Excellencies Commissioners,  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

As the biggest archipelago in the world, Indonesia has 16,771 islands spread out in area as big as 1,904,569 square kilometers or 735,358 square miles. Home to 270 million population, it is indeed very challenging to handle all social issues in Indonesia.

According to the latest National Socio-economic Survey (SUSENAS 2020), it is estimated that there are 22.9 million persons living with disabilities whom we support to achieve fulfilling lives.

The Indonesian Constitution (Undang-Undang Dasar 1945) underlined the mandate for the Government to respect, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of the rights of people with disabilities. In Article 27 verse 1, the Constitution stated that *“All citizens are equal before the law and administration and obliged to uphold the law without exception”*.

Progress had been made in the implementation of the rights of persons with disabilities. And on behalf of the Government, the Delegate for today dialogue is keen to update key milestones to the Honorable High Commissioners and participants of this meeting.

To be inline with **Article 5, 12 and 13 of the Convention**, the Government had launched national action plan for Persons with Disabilities (RAN-PD) for the period of 2021-2024.

Law Number 8 / 2016 on Persons with Disabilities underlined the respect to equality before the law, non-discrimination and access to justice. Quoted from Chapter 3, Article 5: *“Persons with disabilities has the rights to justice and law protection.”* And in Chapter 5, Article 9: *“Rights to justice and law protection for persons with disabilities include equality before the law.”*

Currently the Ministry of Social Affairs together with the Attorney General’s Office, National Police, Ministry of Internal Affairs, and Ministry of Justice and Human Rights are working to provide assistance for victims and their families for crimes involving persons with disabilities in *Kampar, Tangerang Selatan, Salatiga, Sragen, Blora, Malang, Surabaya, Jember, Buleleng, Samarinda, Tabalong, Sanggau, Bulukumba, Bau-bau, and Mimika.* This year there are at least 540 cases involving persons with disabilities assisted by the team.

In addition to free legal processes assistance, the Government also working on the rehabilitation and recovery of their social economic capabilities through empowerment programs, designed individually based on assessment of their needs and aspirations. Program varies from skills enhancement, vocational trainings, equipment and other working capital, up to house relocation and or renovation depends on individual assessment.

Continuous counseling, physical therapy and psycho-social therapy were offered to victims and families to ensure smooth return to society once their legal processes

are done or finalized. Psychologists are assigned to assist the victims during their hard time and only released once the cases are concluded. Our physical therapist helps parents, siblings, spouse with simple exercises and a to-do list to be taken at home or after they are rehabilitated. Families were given trainings to actively taking part as support group for the victims.

TK (17) is a teenager from Sanggau, West Kalimantan. She lives with hearing and talking disabilities. When she was raped, in December 2021, she felt the world fallen apart. The Government took care of her while the rapist is facing justice. Our interventions at first were focused on medical assessment of her hearing organs. She turned out to be responded partly to sounds. Hearing aids then provided along with series of therapeutic intervention, enriched with counseling and therapy to her and her parents. August 2022, TK now lives cheerfully, full of confident and positive about her future.

**Excellencies Commissioners,  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

In complying with **Article 6, 7, 23, 28**, the Government had been providing Family Development System through Family Hope Program or *Program Keluarga Harapan* (PKH) to provide social cash transfer for families who had family members with disabilities. The social cash transfer is designated to education, health and access to health care facility, pregnancy, child care and protection, and when applicable, also to elderly in the family.

To emphasize the implementation of **Article 28**, cash transfer programs are also prioritized to persons with disabilities who live below poverty line. Two main social protection programs available for those beneficiaries are PKH (Family Hope Program) and BPNT (Non-cash Staple Support). We are working to reach 100% of registered persons with disabilities within our national welfare database (DTKS) which in this quarter of 2022 there are 1,030,204 beneficiaries registered in 935,978 families.

Aside of those cash transfer programs, the Government also provides Social Assistance Program for Persons with Disabilities (ASPD). This program aims to increasing the capability and adaptability of persons with disabilities to grow their potentials and make their marks in the society. In 2021, the number of recipients of this service was 22.500 people respectively.

By 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022, extra daily meals for persons with disabilities are going to be expanded to more beneficiaries such as orphans. The Government offers two kinds of support: cash and in kind. The cash is handed when there are relatives, extended family or to someone in the neighborhood who is deemed responsible and able to cook hence deliver to the beneficiaries three times a day.

Currently we are working to enhance the program to also cover other basic services such as subsidized electricity and health insurance. The program is designed to prioritize persons with disabilities and elderly from the bottom of the pyramid.

The expansion was driven by the fact that existing cash transfer programs are not sufficient to some beneficiaries who are registered in our national welfare database (DTKS). Personal touch, constant communications and physical attentive affirmation are all critical to create such a supportive environment for persons with disabilities.

Our new approach in the last 18 months had proven to be showing good impacts. The followings are the proof:

Approximately one month ago we reached out to MM an 8 years old girl who had to live a hard life taking care of her five family members. All paralyzed. They all have *flaccid paralysis*. Living in a remote area on a small island of Sitaro, far north from Manado, Northern Sulawesi, our outreach team had to travel by boat and spent 6-7 hours at the sea. To give a bit of context, it takes 3 hours and 30 minutes non-stop flight from Jakarta to Manado.

They live in a hill, steep and not easy to access. But with combined efforts, we managed to transport all five of them to the closest city with adequate health care facility, Manado. After a thorough medical assessment, all of them agreed to move to our facility and get the treatment properly. As we speak, significant improvement had been recorded. This family gained back their ability to move around and do basic stuffs like combing their hair, having their own meals, and brushing their teeth.

**Excellencies Commissioners,  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

For **Article 8**, the Government highlighted the achievement of young talented artists who are living with disabilities.

In an auction during the closing night of HDI 2021 exhibition, those artists were appreciated and all 88 paintings were sold out. A boost to their confidence that new horizon is opening wide for their career as painters.

In addition, the inauguration of commissioners of Indonesia National Commission on Disabilities (KND) was also taken place during that HDI Summit 2021. The establishment of KND was stipulated by Law Number 8 / 2016 and regulated in detail by Presidential Regulation Number 68 / 2020.

KND plays key role as independent institution which monitors, evaluates and advocates the realization of disability rights in Indonesia. Spearheaded by 7 Commissioners sworn on 1 December 2021 by Presidential Decree Number 53 / 2021, KND works hand in hand with Ministry of Social Affairs and literally nested in our office to ensure tight partnership with relevant stakeholders.

Prior to the HDI Summit, we launched *Indonesia Mendengar* (Indonesia Hears). The campaign was created to respond the many cases of crimes and domestic abuse to children with hearing disabilities. Without the ability to

defend themselves, victims were prone to repeated abuse even by the culprits around them who they know well. Most cases were happened in silence.

The assessment of those victims showed that most of them were medically can be treated. We had cases where with small interventions, they actually can hear and responded to threats. Trainings were given to them to scream for help, seek attention when in distress, or blow the whistle.

During the kick off of *Indonesia Mendengar* campaign, we conducted voluntary assessment. Some of them could listen with hearing aid. As an alternative, hundreds of mobile phone and gadget to convert voice to text were distributed in 28 locations together with training for trainers of sign language. The Government is committed to prolong the campaign this year and hopefully beyond.

*Indonesia Melihat* (Indonesia Sees) had similar background. Sight disabilities cases were found in all ages including children. Therefore, massive cataracts surgeries were initiated all around the country. At one go, at least 300 kids are being examined, treated, and when permitted had the cataracts cleared.

Within the campaign, the Government distributed thousands adaptive blind stick which is currently under international patent process.

There are key features I need to highlight on the adaptive blind stick such as:

- 1) It comes with heat detector that can trigger the build in alarm to alert the user in case of fire,
- 2) It can detect flood or running water,
- 3) It is equipped with GPS for easy navigation and to help family and friends locate the user when he gets lost,
- 4) It also comes with detector for hazardous chemical.

*Indonesia Melangkah* (Indonesia Walks) was driven by cases of successful therapy in Social Centers where adults with years of physical condition can walk. Darmanto (30), Edi Suprpto (21), Endang (26), Ricky (23), Slamet Kabul (18) are all benefited from the therapy they had in our center in Solo and had showed progresses.

To support personal mobility, we designed three types of mass customization: regular wheelchair, motorized electric wheelchair and adaptive electric wheelchair for cerebral palsy.

The adaptive electric wheelchair for cerebral palsy was designed not only to support daily activities but also to support their confidence hence psychologically support their rights to live independently and being included in the community.

This series of campaign, *Indonesia Mendengar* echoed with *Indonesia Melihat* and *Indonesia Melangkah*, is expected to promote public awareness of the protection and fulfillment of the rights of persons with disabilities. In total within the campaign, the Government had distributed 6,518 (in 2021) and 3,738 (up to June 2022) various devices such as electronic wheel-chair, adaptive blind

stick, modified electric three wheelers, and water sensor for blind.

**Excellencies Commissioners,  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

In regards to **Article 11**, whereby Indonesia as a country that spread over a region of “ring of fire” and megathrust, constant challenges in managing disaster recovery are real and right in context.

Safe and sound shelters for persons with disabilities during disaster are mandated by Government Regulation Number 42 / 2020 on Accessibility to Settlements, Public Services, and Protection from Disasters for Persons with Disabilities. Chapter 4, Article 23 of this Government Regulation specify the obligation for all administrations and local government “... *to provide accessible and decent accommodation for persons with disabilities in disaster recovery and disaster management.*”

It is further regulated by Minister of Social Affairs Regulation Number 7 / 2021 concerning Social Rehabilitation Assistance in particular Article 3 paragraph 30, Article 7 and 10 as well as by Minister of Women Empowerment and Child Protection Regulation Number 13 / 2020 on Protection of Women and Children from Gender-biased Violence in Disasters.

The implementation of Disaster Resilient Villages is also based and designed to be friendly for people with disabilities. As we speak, there are 1.446 villages that had been accredited as ***Desa Tangguh Bencana*** within this

scheme. There are also ***Kampung Siaga Bencana*** or Disaster Ready Kampung which are spread out over 880 locations in 34 provinces with technical guidelines in their application including the involvement of persons with disabilities and gender representation in activities development and training of disaster management volunteers.

I recall clearly one of the trainings we had in Southern Coast of Java, in Pacitan, whereby we simulated Tsunami warnings and evacuation processes. We trained children, adult, women and men, as well as persons with disabilities to work together and mitigate the risks by calculation.

Our innovative smart blind sticks mentioned previously, were also tested during the disaster simulation. It was proven that in time of chaotic event, the stick had the ability as intended which is to save lives.

The preparation of facing disaster was also enriched with Family Tracing and Reunification as a feature in post-disaster recovery. On this context, I would love to also mentioned newly launched refugees' tent that is designed to be family and child friendly. We dispatched this type of tent in *Majene*, *Lumajang*, and *Padang* to name a few.

**Excellencies Commissioners,  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

The same laws are also applicable to address **Article 9, 18, 19 and 20 of The Convention.**

Government Regulation Number 16 / 2021 on Implementing Regulations of Law Number 28 / 2002 on Building and Government Regulation Number 39 / 2020 on Adequate Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities in the Judicial Process are all designated to ensure accessibility, mobility and independence of persons with disabilities.

The universal design was implemented in our facilities in Jakarta and Bekasi, whereby the Government build 5-storey apartments. Aside of these two towers, the Government plan to build at least 14 more towers in 8 locations all across Indonesia in 2021-2024.

The ground floor of these two apartments or RUSUNAWA are prioritized for persons with disabilities. Each unit of these two apartments is designed for a family of three to four members. Comes with one bedroom, one family room, kitchen and bathroom, the unit can be rented with as low as IDR10,000 per month or just around USD0.7 per month.

In line to **Article 24 and 27 of the Convention**, in 2022, the Ministry of Manpower noted that the number of workers with disabilities in State Owned Enterprises and the private sector continued to increase, reaching 5,825 workers. Education in social centres had been switched from thematic to multi-functional services to be able to meet the

diverse needs of persons with disabilities, including skills enhancement, education and job creation.

Data from Ministry of Education showed that currently there are approximately 38,013 education units that provide education for Students with Disabilities (PDPD). Total PDPD who have registered in formal or non-formal education are 269,210 students consists of 142,669 exclusive (SLB) students, 120,232 regular school students that operates under inclusive school scheme, and 7,309 students of community learning centres, home schooling and the like (SKB/PKBM) students.

We also provided skills and entrepreneurship trainings to encourage persons with disabilities to prosperous life, independently. The Government introduced Care Shelter Workshop (SWP), an economic empowerment and vocational training for children with intellectual disabilities. Piloted in making splashed batik initiated by Sentra Kartini Temanggung, it is now successfully being replicated in 30 SWPs in 23 cities all across Indonesia. Participants recently even launched modified splashed batik with simple geometric patterns.

Results of the trainings are shown in our various locations such as in:

- 1) Café More Bandung, operated by blinds, sight disabilities or low visions,
- 2) ARTNE Coffee in Tabanan Bali, also operated by blinds, sight disabilities or low visions,
- 3) Various Product Galleries in SKA (ATENSI Creative Gallery), showcasing creative products

such as potteries, paintings, handicrafts produced by persons with disabilities.

The trainings also resulted accessibility tools both for business and personal mobility tools. Manufactured in our centers and produced by Persons with Disabilities as working team, the workers were the first beneficiaries of the first batch of those accessibility and mobility tools when they are finished and ready to be used.

The production of accessibility tools for business were located in 8 social centers of Ministry of Social Affairs and had produced 354 units of modified electric three wheelers in 2021 and 60 units so far in 2022.

Production of personal mobility tools to support accessibility were built in 15 centers. Last year the centers were able to produce 757 units of adaptive electric wheelchair for cerebral palsy. The number reached 315 units in 2022.

All designed and produced by our own internal resources in 16 centers all across Indonesia, last year the centers were able to produced 5,470 units of adaptive blind sticks. In 2022 so far 839 units of adaptive blind sticks were produced

The modified electric three wheelers are probably one of the favorites outputs for commercial food vendors.

I will share with you a story of spirited young teenager named Gading (19) from Pekalongan, Central Java. He was 18 when he got his first bike and decided to monetized

it for food vendor activity. The bike and his condition, hinder him to outspread his endeavor. When one day his bike was upgraded to a modified electric three wheelers, his dream of strengthening his business started to grow. Earned double, now Gading can start saving some of his daily income and buy a motor cycle for his parent.

Wakirin (62), Fandy (29), and Saparman (50) were no difference. They all got the three wheelers and started expanding their business as mobile groceries shop.

It was proven that they just need a little push. A supporting working capital and infrastructure to catch their dream. We provided them with first push, and they moved. A typical support designed to cover not only the three wheelers but also the merchandise or assortment of goods for a start, ranging from IDR1,000,000 – IDR3,000,000.

A cooperative in Surabaya showed similar pattern. Started five years ago, the cooperative was managed by blind person named Karjono who was also the founder of the initiative. Operated in a subsidized apartment, he managed to grow the assets from twenty million to hundreds million now.

### **Excellencies Commissioners, Ladies and gentlemen,**

On **Article 25, 26**, during the pandemic, the Government also put extra attention to vaccination for persons with disabilities. All across Indonesia, centre for vaccination were built. The first batch in 2021 was focused in 6 provinces which are Banten, West Java, Central Java,

East Java, Yogyakarta and Bali. To intensify the efforts, communities and disabilities organizations were involved to outreach and mobilized the targeted receptors.

To support the identification of beneficiaries, the Government launched a Command Center that can be reach by dialing a short code 171 from any spots in Indonesia. The Command Centre which operates 24x7, Sunday Holiday Included, is playing a pivotal role not only to identify the needy but also to monitor and track the response. The 171 also trigger our fast response unit (TRC) which now consists of 71,523 Ministry of Social Affairs assistants and 31 social centers.

Capturing media scanning, both mass media and social media, as well as public reports in a mobile-based application called “Usul dan Sanggah” (Promote and Demote), the Command Center operated in the heart of our quick response unit, and able touch and help the needy persons with disabilities in any circumstances, ordinary or extra-ordinary condition / disaster.

Take MR (19) of Ogan Komering Ulu in Palembang, South Sumatra as an example. His case went viral in social media and pop up in our radar. Living with mental illness made his father frustrated and put MR in shackles. As a motorized rickshaw driver, his father struggled to rent a 3x5 meter house and motorized rickshaw or “becak motor”.

The response unit then stepped in after this case went viral on social media. Media scanning trigger an alert in our Command Center who then dispatch our Quick Response

Units to reach him out and help. After the assessment, the team freed him from chains and relocated them to our facility. In our facility, MR was given medical treatment while his father had his new “becak motor” in production queue.

The Government open up the door for public participations. Through digital platforms and crowd funding from non-profit organization and or social foundations, cases were able to be solved. A platform called *benihbaik.com* is now supporting the Government for MR case.

Similar situation started with media scanning and ended up with crow funding or public participation also happened in many hydrocephalus cases. Crowd funding platform *kitabisa.com* is now helping us taking care of medical treatment for hydrocephalus in Central Hospital in Jakarta plus providing daily allowances for accompanying relatives. In many other cases, the raised public fund was enough to support unpredicted mid to long term post surgeries treatment.

Niko (21) was another case of end-to-end intervention. On top of providing prosthetic leg for him, the Government is now renovating his house to ensure a better life ahead.

**Excellencies Commissioners,  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

In regards to **Article 30, 31, 32, and 33** it is important to highlight that Indonesia just recently hosted the **11th**

**ASEAN Paragames 2022** in Surakarta from 30 July to 6 August 2022 with the tagline "striving for equality".

Indonesia submitted itself as the host after the competition was cancelled twice due to Pandemic. Hosting this is seen as a form of readiness and commitment to hold a sport competition that provides opportunities for persons with disabilities to participate in international level.

Indonesia sat at the top of the table with a total of 425 medals, consisting of 175 gold medals, 144 silver medals, and 106 bronze medals.

In addition, the Government also plan to be hosting UNESCAP High-Level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Final Review of the Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, which will be held on 18 - 20 October 2022 in Jakarta.

**Excellencies Commissioners,  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

Despite all those milestones, the quest has not come to an end. Finding best solution to provide better world for us and for those who live with disabilities has indeed remained on-going process. And it is not easy or simple task to deal with. We might expect to hit few if not many roadblocks on our way to get to the ultimate goals.

However, I am very convinced that by sharing the same vision and knowledge on these issues and working together, hand in hand, we might overcome those challenges and make this world better place for people

living with disabilities. Thank you and please stay healthy ladies and gentlemen.

**Minister of Social Affairs  
Republic of Indonesia**

**TRI RISMAHARINI**