

**STATEMENT BY
H.E. DIAN TRIANSYAH DJANI
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AT THE
PLENARY OF THE LAUNCH EVENT
INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR ACTION
“WATER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT” 2018-2028
22 MARCH 2018, NEW YORK**

H.E. Mr. Emomali Rahmon, President of the Republic of Tajikistan,

**H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, President of the United Nations General
Assembly**

**H.E. Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations
Excellencies,**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, I would like to convey my heartfelt appreciation to President Rahmon and his excellent team for Tajikistan’s leadership and direction on the Action on Water for Sustainable Development. I also would like to extend appreciation to the President of the UNGA and UN Secretary-General for their leaderships within the UN system and relentless efforts to advocate for the cause of the Action on Water.

The launch of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development” marks an important milestone for all of us. I want to congratulate all States in the UN and relevant stakeholders for their continuous efforts and this accomplishment.

In the next ten years, this initiative should provide greater awareness on the importance of water, and more importantly, mobilizing actions to ensure the attainment of the SDGs 2030, in particular Goal 6.

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Indonesia as archipelagic countries with many lakes and rivers has always considered the issue of water as pertinent to its livelihood. 2/3 of our territory consists of water. Water is literally the essence of our life and many others.

At the individual level, people need safe, clean and readily available water to ensure a decent life. Clean water and sanitation are crucial to improve health and human dignity. Out of more than 250 million population, access to water in Indonesia have increased from 67.8% in 2013 to 72% in 2017 and we are continuously striving to expand access to water.

At the broader level, water could also be a source of misery, tensions and even conflicts. Climate change has exacerbated water-related disasters and even endangers livelihood and existence of many people living in small islands.

In moving forward, the International Decade for Action provides us with an excellent framework. Let me share my view for our next steps:

First, we must enhance participation of all stakeholders including national and regional Governments, UN system, private sectors, financial institutions and civil society, to strengthen necessary water infrastructure in all levels.

Governments alone could not achieve Goal 6. We must muster all resources and stakeholders in an open, transparent and inclusive manner. We must mobilize commitment, cooperation and coordination all relevant stakeholders to ensure the implementation of SDG 6.

Second, ensure provision of adequate and affordable innovation and technology. It is important for us to explore the maximum use of the know-how, innovation and technology that can overcome most of today's water-related challenges.

We have to connect the missing links to ensure access to safe, clean and readily available water to all. We must be able to transfer or allocate appropriate innovation and technology to those areas in need. We must be true to our principle of "leaving no one behinds".

And lastly, we need to mitigate and to enhance resilience towards water-related challenges, such as floods, droughts and rising sea-level.

Many small islands nations is at peril because of a rising sea level.

For many of us, we tend to observe these challenges through a screen or maybe know someone affected by these challenges. However, for those

living in disaster areas, these challenges are real and could easily setback many developmental achievements in the past.

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Water Decade will provide us with the tools to move forward and achieve our intended objectives. I believe that achieving our targets related to water issues would bring multiplying effects including enhance human dignity and health, food and energy security, sustainable urbanization, and climate resilience community.

Let us continue our work for a better tomorrow and future generation to come. Every drop of water is a source of life.

I thank you.

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H.E. /NA H. Krishnamurthi
Per DPR