



Please check against delivery

**Statement by
H.E. RACHMAT WITOELAR
Minister for Environment of the Republic of Indonesia**

At the High-level Event on REDD

New York, 23 September 2009

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

325 East 38th Street, New York, NY 10016 • Tel. (212) 972-8333 • Fax. (212) 972-9780

www.indonesiamission-ny.org

email: ptri@indonesiamission-ny.org

Excellencies Heads of State and Government,
Excellencies Ministers,
Distinguished Delegates,

Let me first thank Secretary-General for organizing this high-level event on REDD.

Science has firmly established the link between forest and climate. Deforestation and forest degradation account for some 18 percent of global carbon emissions.

That is why in Bali in 2007, the international community agreed to vigorously address deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries. We agreed to establish mechanisms to provide incentives for developing countries to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.

As a rainforest nation, Indonesia is encouraged that a new international legal framework on REDD is widely supported. REDD, however, will make a difference only if we mobilize sufficient resources to ensure its success.

This demands genuine partnership—one that is built on the commitment of developed countries to support the efforts of participating forest countries to reduce forest-based emissions. And a matching commitment of forest countries to implement a REDD strategy.

I am therefore heartened by the pledges of donor countries and by efforts to establish interim financing to stimulate early action. We shouldn't wait for the Copenhagen deal to be implemented in 2012. Many things can be done right now.

In mobilizing funds for REDD activities, we should strive for simplicity of procedure, transparency in resource allocation and fair distribution of the mobilized resources. We should also encourage bilateral efforts to support capacity building by developing countries.

At the national level, we in Indonesia have devised a national REDD Strategy and Readiness Plan based on consultations among the three pillars of governance – government, civil society and the corporate sector.

Indonesia's National Carbon Accounting System (INCAS) and its related national Forest Resource Information System (FRIS) are also being designed and developed.

On a bilateral basis, we agreed with our developed countries partners in 2008 to develop the *Roadmap for Access to International Carbon Markets*. At the same time, UN-REDD is helping Indonesia develop a REDD architecture.

Since then, we have progressed with deeper bilateral cooperation on practical REDD activities with active dialogue partners, particularly Australia, Germany, and Republic of Korea. In the near future, Indonesia will commit to a second REDD demonstration project with Australia. Indonesia is eager to share the details and successes of these activities as a contribution to the global REDD effort.

This mid-October we will host in Jakarta a ministerial meeting of F-11 Tropical Rainforest Countries, a group established two years ago here in New York. The meeting will produce a declaration and cooperation framework of Tropical Rainforest Countries, which will serve as umbrella agreement for our joint efforts at saving and enhancing our tropical forests.

And, finally, this December, the UNFCCC meeting in Copenhagen will be our golden opportunity to "seal the deal". That deal, if it is to be a good one, must have a large forest component.

I thank you.