

**GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA  
STATEMENT**

**Delivered by  
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**“New Urban Agenda Pre-Meeting” for the Asia Pacific  
Forum for Regional Development 2022  
21 March 2022**

***Greetings to the honourable,***

- 1. UN-Habitat Executive Director Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif*
- 2. Executive Secretary UN-ESCAP , Ibu Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana*
- 3. Representatives of member states and local governments*
- 4. Ladies and gentlemen.*

I am very honoured to be invited on this occasion to support UN-Habitat Regional Office of Asia-Pacific and ESCAP in bringing together the voice of the region towards acceleration of the New Urban Agenda.

**Excellences, ladies and gentlemen,**

ESCAP Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report in 2021 has showcased that the region has fallen behind on the progress to achieve SDGs, including on SDG 11. The region is likely to miss all targets by 2030 if it stays on its current

trajectory. In this regard, we need accelerated action for the implementation of New Urban Agenda.

Since the adoption of the New Urban Agenda in 2016, the Asia Pacific region has increasingly urbanized and it will bring profound implications for the region's economy, society and environment. But in recent years, our lives are disrupted in many ways due to pandemic. In April 2020, the lockdown measures impacted hundreds of millions informal workers in the Asia-Pacific region and potentially brought quite a significant increase of poverty. Indonesia has also suffered from similar impact: poverty to increase by nearly 1% during 2019 to 2020. Such a rate has pushed Indonesia 3 years backwards to the poverty level prior to 2017. Nonetheless, slum households have decreased by nearly 2% during 2018 to 2020. Social protection programs have been instrumental in alleviating such impact, pre-Work program, electricity discount, internet package to students and teachers, and the Cash for Work program are some examples.

Today, in the transition of the COVID-19 pandemic to become endemic, the full implementation of the New Urban Agenda, shall contribute to a more just, green and healthy urban future in the region. The call for immediate action, for example through proposed inter-countries collaboration framework are potential to mobilize resources, attention and action towards improving livelihood, using the approach of cross cutting messages.

**Excellences, ladies and gentlemen,**

The New Urban Agenda sits alongside other key global commitments such as the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and supports the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 11. Yet the New Urban Agenda has not received sufficient attention. For the future, reporting on these commitments shall be made complimentary to one another.

We understood that there are many obstacles faced in the reporting of New Urban Agenda and SDGs likewise. In many cases, the data fails to capture additional information about the people that the SDGs and New Urban Agenda should serve. Unavailability and insufficiency of data, difficulty in interpretation of indicators become the overarching issues in addressing data gaps.

In this connection, out of 169 countries only less than 30 that have submitted the implementation of New Urban Agenda reports, with Indonesia, Lao, Turkey, and Malaysia to represent the Asia-Pacific region. There should be serious measures taken to address the problem of data. Let us discuss during this meeting. Inter country collaboration framework should also begin with conversation about data collection, lesson learned from each other and how to further reporting on progress of New Urban Agenda in each country.

In light of the above, and also reflecting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Partners Forum, on 28-29 October 2021, Indonesia believes that member states can implement

concrete actions to support acceleration of New Urban Agenda in the region.

**Excellencies, and distinguished guests,**

I would like to conclude my remarks by thanking you for your commitment towards the successful implementation of New Urban Agenda. Thank you very much.