



**Minister of Environment and Forestry Remarks
at the Signing Ceremony of Memorandum of Understanding
between Indonesia and Norway on their Partnership in Support of
Indonesia's Efforts to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
from Forestry and Other Land Use (FOLU)**

Jakarta, 12 September 2022, 14.30-15.30 WIB

- Excellency Minister Retno Marsudi,
- Excellency Minister Eide and Team,
- Dear Colleagues and Friends.

On this very important moment, first, I would like to convey my sincere appreciation and gratitude for the presence of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Retno Marsudi, to witnessing the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Partnership in Support of Indonesia's Efforts to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Forestry and Other Land Use, between the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway. Sincere thanks are also due to our colleagues in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' continuous guidance on environmental diplomacy, which we all know is not easy.

Thank you very much Minister Eide for making the trip to Indonesia and joining us on our field trip. I really enjoyed the opportunity we had to deepen our dialogue while visiting the mangrove rehabilitation site, where we got to do some mangrove planting together. We also witnessed in-person the point zero of *Ibu Kota Nusantara* (IKN), our new capital city, that is aimed to gradually restoring the tropical natural forests in Kalimantan from the ex-monoculture plantation forest. While on the field trip, I also had the chance to elaborate on the forest city concept whereby at least 70% of the new capital is targeted to consist of forest cover.

Minister Eide, this MoU is a great achievement for us. I am delighted and proud that we are here today with both of our signatures on the MoU.

I was especially impressed, Minister Eide, by the letter you sent me in early August, while we were still engaged in dialogue, in which you expressed your appreciation of Indonesia's climate leadership and proposed exploring a potential climate collaboration between us, as fellow leading countries in an equal partnership.

I was very pleased to learn about your sincere wish to build a new partnership between us which will prove to be strong, resilient, and substantial.

The favorable impression your letter left on me prompted me to reply a few days later by conveying my own eagerness to enter into a new climate collaboration.

Having replied to the letter, I duly reported to President Jokowi on the positive progress of our ongoing dialogue with Norway under the fairly new administration of Prime Minister Støre, so that we could move forward to commence the official process of establishing a new climate and forest partnership in support of Indonesia's Forestry and Other Land Use (FOLU) Net Sink 2030 operational plan.

This MoU represents more than just a partnership. It is in fact a new milestone marking the resumption of a solid bilateral relationship on climate and forest issues. We are aiming to build an even stronger friendship, while retaining the enthusiasm and mutual trust necessary to deliver concrete and effective climate actions on the ground.

The MoU is to emphasize the importance of deliverable, tangible, direct benefits for the community and for the progress of Indonesia and pursuant to the prevailing governance. Mindful of this, governance in various activities is indeed essential with the principles of being transparent, accountable, inclusive, as well as participatory. As it has been also reflected in Indonesia's continuous efforts to strengthen *adat* communities' participation within the country's forest management, among others through the stipulation of the Omnibus Law on Job Creation that provides principal legal basis.

In this spirit, I know we will both in good faith follow up today's MoU with the signing of a results-based contribution agreement which will take place in 3- 4 weeks. This will enable us to collectively deliver the concrete targets expected by this MoU.

This MoU, however, is not just about a results-based contribution agreement. It also encompasses a broader engagement on climate and forest issues in Indonesia. As such, it is essential that we work together very closely to ensure that the MoU is implemented in a comprehensive and effective manner, so that our joint climate actions and common climate goals are not merely confined to paper.

Furthermore, considering that Indonesia's FOLU Net Sink 2030 is projected to account for nearly 60% of the country's total emissions reduction target, this MoU will also contribute, to a certain extent, to achieving the FOLU Net Sink 2030 climate goal.

The prior experiences we shared in a climate partnership have unquestionably taught us numerous valuable lessons. We now have the chance to learn from those lessons and use them as a positive foundation on which to construct a robust and enduring partnership and friendship, reinforced by today's MoU.

Minister Eide, having signed this new MoU, I greatly look forward to working with you at the highest level to accomplish the climate goals of our respective countries, as we continue to tackle the climate crisis, including through the implementation of Indonesia's FOLU Net Sink 2030. Together, I am sure we will meet our shared expectations. **I thank you.**