

STATEMENT

HEAD OF INDONESIAN DELEGATION

TO THE FUKUSHIMA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR SAFETY

Koriyama, 15-17 November 2012

/ His Excellency Mr. Kouchiro Gemba, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan,

His Excellency Mr. Fadillah bin Hj. Yusof, Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation of Malaysia

His Excellency Mr. Yukiyo Amano, Director General of the IAEA

Distinguished delegates

1. At the outset, I would like to express our appreciation to the Government of Japan and the IAEA for holding this Ministerial Conference. Indonesia believes that this is an opportunity for all countries to discuss the progress of nuclear safety improvement worldwide based on lesson learned from Fukushima Daiichi NPS accident and to see and experience the actual situation and the life of the people in Fukushima Prefecture. Indeed the tragic events of Fukushima have brought to the fore the risks in the application of nuclear technology in a very public and international manner.
2. Through this conference, the people and government of Indonesia would again like to express the deepest sympathy to the people and government of Japan for the hardships caused by the unprecedented natural disaster of Great Eastern Japan earthquake and tsunami, and the following Fukushima Daiichi NPS accident in March 2011. I would like also once again to express our solidarity and support to the people and government of Japan for the hard work and the efforts for recovery and reconstruction to bring back the normal lives of people in affected area deserves to have
3. With regard to the action to restore the Fukushima Daiichi NPS, we are ready to learn from the report of the Government of Japan on the achievement of the present stable status of the nuclear power station and the decrease of radioactive release at the accident site since its time of accident. We also acknowledge the progress made on the off-site remediation and waste management.

4. We would like also to express our appreciation to the Director General of IAEA on the progress of the implementation of Nuclear Safety Action Plan. Taking into consideration that the Action Plan was approved unanimously by the Board of Governors and endorsed at the 55th regular session of the IAEA General Conference in September 2011, the Action Plan is utmost important to enhance the nuclear safety and to rebuild the confidence of people to the nuclear energy. In this regard, we stand ready to strengthen all efforts to implement the action plan by increasing the effective cooperation among the Member States.
5. It is our firm belief that the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and as a clean energy source can advance humankind prosperity immensely. The NPT recognizes clearly the inalienable right of every State Party to engage in research, production, and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination. In this regard, raising global awareness on nuclear safety is worth supporting. In such respect, we do believe that all international initiatives to draw lesson learned from the Fukushima Daiichi NPS accident is pertinent. In this conjunction, allow me to express Indonesia's readiness to cooperate with the international nuclear communities in promoting the enhancement of nuclear safety. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to invite us as part of an international fact finding mission to Fukushima last year. In such, we understand the pertinent role of the IAEA to coordinate and lead all international efforts, including in providing expertise, developing the IAEA Safety Standards and promoting safety culture. In this direction, we appreciate the MoU between IAEA and WANO (World Association of Nuclear Operators) to increasing their mutual cooperation to maximize nuclear safety efforts around the globe.
6. We acknowledge the importance of international cooperation on assessing the environmental and human impact of radioactive releases by a nuclear accident in order to take necessary measures for protecting people. In this regard, we welcome the work of WHO (World Health Organization) on the assessment of health risk from the Fukushima Daiichi NPS accident and the on-going work of UNSCEAR (United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation) on assessment of the levels of exposures and radiation risks attributable to accident.
7. Indonesia has been struggling for years to convince the public for the safety and viability of nuclear energy. Our national poll on the acceptance of the nuclear

energy in the public conducted at the end of 2010 revealed that 59.7% respondents agree on the use of nuclear power, and it declined to about 49.5% at the end of 2011, only months after the accident. However, along with the progress made in handling the impact of the accident and with providing the information in appropriate ways to the public, the confidence of the public could be regained, the national poll done last month showed about 52.9% of the respondents is favorable to the nuclear power. We realized the importance of public communication to deliver a balance, fair and transparent information. Therefore, we are strongly of the view that strengthening our collective capacity in public communication should be and integral part of our effort to strengthen the nuclear safety.

8. In our region, the ASEAN countries set high priority to nuclear safety and nuclear disaster risk preparedness. Following the tragedy in Japan, a special ASEAN-Japan ministerial meeting was convened in April 2011. The meeting resolved to strengthen cooperation, among others, through sharing of experiences and lessons learned; ensuring prompt and smooth communication in times of disaster; enhancing coordination mechanisms to facilitate flows of support in a timely manner; as well as conducting capacity building and training program for disaster preparedness, emergency response relief and reconstruction.
9. There is no doubt that the Fukushima Daiichi NPS accident should be used to build momentum to strengthening nuclear safety worldwide, and we should not miss that momentum. Indonesia believes the cooperation among international community is essential to achieve global nuclear safety.
10. In closing, I would like to reiterate that since apart from moral reasons, the Fukushima accidents could have trans-boundary consequences, therefore the international community should continue to cooperate and collaborate better the existing framework on nuclear safety and reinforce its support to the IAEA so that it can execute its responsibilities effectively.

I thank you