Oral Statement at the 47th Session of the Human Rights Council

Item 3: ID with SR on Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children

Date: 29 June 2021

Delivered by: Sr. Genobeba da Costa Amaral

Madame President,

We express our deep concern on the trafficking in person in Indonesia. Poverty, unemployment, and search for better life are among the underlining causes. Young women and children are among the groups targeted by traffickers which often disguise as labor or child adoption agencies. It has strong characteristic as organized transboundary crimes. The victims are often exploited as domestic workers or sex workers. Some other are trapped into forced marriages and organs selling. There are also cases where they are forced to be involved in illegal art trafficking, while children were forced to be adopted by foreign parents to be exploited in child labor.

Trafficking in persons has a tremendously and long-lasting negative impact on victims. They experience traumatic disorders, material losses, health problems such as sexually transmitted infections, mental disorders and even death.

There has been a significant increase of number of victims of trafficking in Indonesia in the last decades. The IOM documented 9,353 persons who were victims of trafficking from 2005 to 2020 in Indonesia. While the Indonesian child Protection Commission (KPAI) documented 2,534 children were victims of trafficking between 2011 and 2020. The Indonesian Ministry of Social Affairs stated that from 2016 to mid-2019, the number of victims of trafficking in persons reached 4,906 cases.

Therefore, we urge the Indonesian government to:

1. Strengthen law enforcement by controlling the labor recruitment agencies.
2. Adopt concrete measures to address the root causes of trafficking in persons such as creation employment opportunities in the regions prone to trafficking.
3. Provide supports to victims of trafficking in particular women and children, including shelters, health services and legal assistance.

Thank you for your attention