

Pointers

Keynote Speech

H.E Vice President of the Republic of the Indonesia

in *Public Forum* on

“Maritime Cooperation in East Asia: Opportunities and Challenges”

in the 2nd Annual Meeting of APRC

2 December 2014 at the Auditorium of the Secretariat of Vice President Office

- Indonesia is the biggest archipelagic state with 2/3 of which is waters. These immense waters comprise of lucrative potentials. A report said that the Maximum Sustainable Yield/MSY of wild fish capture is approximately 6.4 million tons per year. On the other hand, comprising of 1/8 of global coral reefs (85.000 km), Indonesian waters is claimed to be the richest biodiversity on earth. The Indonesian Government, therefore, put forward Archipelagic State concept of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) of 1982 in the efforts of protecting the potentials as well the national sovereignty.
- Furthermore, Indonesia plays a key role in safeguarding peace and security in the region’s waters. Its active role as the champion of promoting cooperation and initiating measures of managing potential conflicts as well as maintaining a peaceful means to settle the conflict in ASEAN and beyond has gained global recognition. Moreover, Indonesia’s unrelenting efforts in holding the annual Workshop on Managing Potential Conflicts in the South China Sea has been widely commended among the claimant parties and global society alike.
- An Indonesian Folksong tells a story about our ancestor who was a brave seafarer having traveled the vast oceans. The very folksong indicates that the essence of our maritime values has been embedded from early stage.

- However, for years, Indonesia has yet to optimize its maritime potentials to become a global maritime power. Having been lost for IDR 225 trillion (USD 200 million) annually due to IUU Fishing, it is, indeed, mandatory to make every efforts in addressing the challenge. Thus, the Government took steps to weigh on maritime policies with a view to implementing the concept of the Global Maritime Fulcrum.
- Indonesia believes that its maritime policy will reinforce with other countries' views on the importance of the ocean for our future.
- With the growing interests of the states in the region on the maritime facets, a joint effort of the regional countries should be promoted. Creative measures should be taken with a view to promoting communication and cooperation among stakeholders by which peace and stability in the region can be maintained.