

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Introductory Remarks

by

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at the Public Forum on Maritime Cooperation in East Asia:

Opportunities and Challenges

on the occasion of the 2nd Annual Meeting of the APRC
co-organized by The Secretariat of the Vice President, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs, Centre for Strategic and International Studies of

Indonesia and the APRC

Jakarta, 2 December 2014

Your Excellency Jusuf Kalla, Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia,
Your Excellency Hassan Wirajuda, former Advisor to the President and
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, Honourable Ministers and senior
governmental officials of the Republic of Indonesia, Distinguished Members of the
Asian Peace and Reconciliation Council,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Selamat pagi.

On behalf of the Asian Peace and Reconciliation Council (APRC), I would like to express my deepest appreciation to The Secretariat of the Vice President, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Centre for Strategic and International Studies of Indonesia for organizing this Public Forum on Maritime Cooperation in East Asia at such an opportune moment and in such a prestigious venue.

I am grateful to the Government and people of the Republic of Indonesia for hosting the 2nd Annual Meeting of the APRC. The APRC held very good discussions yesterday on a variety of issues related to peace and security in Asia. This Public Forum today can be regarded as a continuation of those discussions. But the Public Forum will in addition involve key stakeholders and experts who can bring their knowledge and thoughts to focus on one priority issue of immediate concern, namely, maritime cooperation in East Asia. I'm sure our moderator, Ibu Dewi Fortuna Anwar, as well as Bapak Dr. Hashim Djalal and the other panelists will have much to contribute.

But first please allow me to recognize the APRC Council Members who are here with us today:- in addition to H.E. Jusuf Kalla and H.E. Hassan Wirajuda, we have with us H.E. Jose Ramos-Horta, a Nobel Peace Laureate and former President of Timor-Leste, H.E. Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, former Prime Minister of Malaysia, H.E. Alfred Gusenbauer, former Chancellor of Austria, H.E. Tan Sri Dato' Seri Syed Hamid Albar, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of

Malaysia, H.E. Weerasak Kowsurat, former Minister of Tourism and Sports of Thailand, Dr. Sorajak Kasemsuvan, former Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, and Mr. Juha Christensen, Director of PACTA of Finland. All the Council Members are still very much active in their respective fields and all are keen friends of Indonesia.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The APRC is a non-profit international organization comprised of 24 former national leaders and government ministers as well as two international academics from many different regions of the world. Through quiet diplomacy, APRC seeks to help reduce tensions in this region, to foster dialogue, and to prevent potential conflict situations from getting out of control. Over the past two years, one issue we have paid particular attention to is the South China Sea. APRC Members have met policy makers of both Claimant and Non-Claimant States, including opinion leaders, civil societies and academia to seek solutions to reduce tensions in the South China Sea. A Roundtable was held in early July this year in Yangon, Myanmar focused on functional cooperation as a way to reduce tensions, prevent conflict and foster trust. Copies of the Roundtable proceedings booklet have been distributed to the participants of this Forum.

Although estimates vary of proven and potential reserves of oil and natural gas, it is obvious the energy resources in the South China Sea are enormous, as are the maritime fishing resources. USD5.3 trillion in trade passes through the South China Sea every year, with more than half of the world's shipping tonnage. By 2035, 90% of Middle East fossil fuel exports will be coming to Asia, and most of it will be transported through the South China Sea. Any armed conflict in the South China Sea will undermine the economic growth and development of East Asia, disrupt the ASEAN Economic Community, and destabilize the entire region.

It is therefore most appropriate that the new Administration of President Joko Widodo has enunciated a global maritime axis vision for Indonesia. The five pillars of the vision deals with many of the key issues, both foreign and domestic. In particular, pillar number four concerning the use of maritime diplomacy to eliminate sources of conflict at sea. "*Jalesveva Jayamahe*" (in the ocean we triumph), this naval motto cited by President Jokowi is certainly an exciting new slogan for Indonesia.

I have five thoughts to leave with this Public Forum:

Satu - Functional Cooperation: To avoid the very real threat of disruptive armed conflicts in the South China Sea that will threaten the maritime as well as economic and political security of all of us, the political will must now be summoned and invested in making functional cooperation in the South China Sea at last a reality. Dr. Hasjim Djalal has been working on this for over twenty years. It lacks only the political will on the part of the parties concerned. An honest broker, whether it be a country or an organization, may be required to help bring about the confidence-building measures such as joint oil and gas exploration, joint fisheries exploitation, and joint environmental protection that not only can ease tensions but bring about concrete, material benefits.

Dua - ASEAN centrality: The Naypyidaw Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision positions ASEAN as a rules-based and resilient grouping that is capable of maintaining its centrality in the evolving regional architecture. As the world's largest archipelagic country, the world's largest Moslem country, the world's third largest democracy, and the largest economy in ASEAN, the national resilience of Indonesia is the regional resilience of ASEAN. Maintaining the centrality of ASEAN in the evolving regional architecture means maintaining the ability of the peoples of this region to determine their own future without outside interference. It is to be hoped that the

global maritime axis vision of Indonesia will also place importance on maintaining ASEAN centrality.

Tiga - Connectivity, trade and investment: Maritime cooperation does not merely mean cooperation out on the seas. The third and fourth pillars of President Jokowi's maritime axis doctrine rightly talks about the upgrading of ports for inter-island trade and transport links. Such infrastructure building can be achieved through investment from both within and outside the region. A conducive investment atmosphere would be required. Maritime connectivity will complete the roadmap of ASEAN connectivity by linking with land connectivity progressively developed among Myanmar, Thailand, Lao PDR, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia and Singapore.

Empat - Non-physical connectivity: In the modern era, connectivity is not only those provided by air, land or sea physical links, but also business infrastructure through cyberspace. E-commerce laws enabling electronic transactions, infrastructure enabling secure network grids for communication and software application will also be essential in providing the framework for economic prosperity that is the basis for peace and security.

Lima - Oriental Wisdom: In dealing with new circumstances and modern challenges, let us not forget the wisdom of our ancestors and the methods they used to deal with very similar challenges. As the Indonesian saying goes -- *Ada asap ada api* -- every why has its wherefore, there is no effect without some cause. The Pancasila of Bandung can still serve us well. For East Asian problems there can be East Asian solutions. We must keep up the oriental custom of "warm hands", that is maintaining regular contacts; and of "hold-knee talks", that is of close proximity personal heart-to-heart discussions. The oriental tradition is not one of winner takes all, but rather of win-win accommodation, of the greater common good, and

of the longer term, not extremist but moderate, not irrational but reasonable, leading not to perpetual war but to peaceful co-existence.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again, I would like to thank the organizers of this Public Forum, and all those who have taken the time to participate in it here today. On behalf of the APRC, I wish all of you every success.

Terima-kasih dari hati.
