



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

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**Statement
By H.E. Dr. Makarim Wibisono
Indonesian Ambassador/Permanent Representative
on Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of
Migrants**

4TH SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Geneva, 20th March 2007

**Statement by H.E. Dr Makarim Wibisono
Indonesian Ambassador/Permanent Representative**

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants

Fourth session of the Human Rights Council

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Mr President,

First of all, allow me to begin by congratulating the Special Rapporteur, Mr Jorge A. Bustamante on his reports relating to the human rights of migrants pursuant to his mandate. In particular, we appreciate his country visit report to the Republic of Indonesia which was conducted in the latter half of last year.

Mr Bustamante travelled around certain parts of Indonesia where he held meetings with high-ranking officials in the capital as well as in the provinces including NGOs and other related stakeholders. We are thankful for this recent visit, which took place from 12 - 21 December 2006, and generally, we consider it to have been beneficial to Indonesia.

His report demonstrates an appreciation for many of the difficult issues concerning migration *in situ* especially from the perspective of a sending country. Indeed, we applaud his efforts to produce a well researched report which sufficiently reflects the concerns of both the migrant communities and the Government of Indonesia, as well as those of the local NGOs. The report contains a number of suggestions concerning areas where improvements can be effected, all of which the government will take into serious consideration.

Indonesia, from the national perspective, already has in place national measures such as Law No. 39/2004 on the Placement and Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers Overseas, as well as several other measures that protect both regularised and undocumented workers. The most recent of these include the Presidential Decree No. 81 of 2006 and Presidential Decree No.2/2006 regarding Policy on the System Reform of the Placement and Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers Overseas.

Furthermore, the Presidential Instruction No.6/2006 concerning Policy on the System Reform of the Placement and Protection of migrant workers was created to provide them with better protection, to eradicate brokers or recruiters, as well as to conduct strict verification of the migrant service providers. As a result of this Presidential Instruction, the Coordinating Minister for Economic affairs established three Task Forces on Placement, Protection and Finance, respectively.

At the international level, Indonesia has ratified various international conventions, some dating as far back as 1945, many including ILO Conventions (the

Migration for Employment Convention of 1949, the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention of 1975. etc). The Indonesian government was also a major actor in the signing of the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrants, which had the firm support of many ASEAN governments when it was established in January 2006 in Cebu, the Philippines.

Indonesia is also of the view that cooperation with the United Nations mechanisms are critical to our efforts to promote and protect the rights of migrants. Thus, as some of you may already be aware, and as stated by the Minister of Law and Human Rights during the High-Level Segment last week, my government is well under way to ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of the Human Rights of All Migrant Workers (ICMRW), a process we hope will be completed in the near future.

With respect to our decision to ratify the ICMRW, we would welcome the expertise of the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants on this issue and the possibility that he come to Indonesia on a short visit, possibly to participate in a seminar, at some later date in the near future in order to provide some inputs in this regard.

In conclusion, Mr President, the most important aspect garnered from the Special Rapporteur's report is that the recommendations therein are both feasible and constructive. Furthermore, we believe that all our efforts towards their implementation will not only be beneficial to Indonesia but also to furthering the cause of the promotion and protection of the human rights of migrants in general.

Thank you.