

## PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS NEW YORK

No. 424/SOC-301/VIII/12

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations in New York presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and with reference to Article 21 of the Convention on the elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as the honour to request to release as an official United Nations document the comments by the Republic of Indonesia to the Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW/C/IDN/CO/6-7), as well as to place them on the website of OHCHR and circulate them to each members of the Committee.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the OHCHR the assurances of its highest consideration.

**ENCLOSURE: 2 pages** 

**OHCHR REGISTRY** 

/ 6 AUG 2012
Recipients: CEPACV.



Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
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## Comments from the Republic of Indonesia concerning the Concluding Observations of CEDAW (CEDAW/C/IDN/CO/6-7) after Consideration of the State Party's Combined 6th and 7th Periodic Report Submitted under Article 18th of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

- 1. With reference to <u>Para 3</u>, during the constructive dialogue, Indonesian delegation had not heard any complaint from members of the Committee regarding "unclear answers" from the Indonesian delegation. If members of the Committee were not satisfied with the answers, they could have posed follow up questions or requested clarification during the dialogue.
- 2. In Indonesia's view, it is important to take account of the reference to the Palermo Protocol 2009 against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, to <u>Para 6 (c)</u>.
- 3. With reference to <u>Para 15</u>, regarding the implemented by-laws and policies in some provinces/districts, the term "severely discriminate against women" is not accurate, as such laws and policies are only in a limited number and have impact in the enjoyment of certain women's rights, while at the same time, in the same provinces or districts, there are more laws and policies which are aimed to empower women and protect women's rights.
- 4. Regarding the number of discriminatory laws at the national level in <u>Para 17</u>, in that case the word "large number" is an exaggerated statement.
- 5. The statement that the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection lacks a national gender policy in <u>Para 19</u> is not entirely correct. It has been explained during the constructive dialogue that the Government of Indonesia has adopted a Mid-Term National Development Plan for gender policy and action plans. Furthermore, on the Ministry's lack of sufficient influence, we have also explained that, through the influence of the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection, a Ministry of Finance Decree on the need for sectoral governments to conduct gender planning and budgeting was issued and is now being implemented by 28 of 34 ministries.
- 6. With reference to Para 22 (b), during the constructive dialogue, the Government of Indonesia has repeatedly expressed its commitment to address the problem by conducting dialogues on this issue with all related stakeholders, including with religious groups and leaders, as well as by preparing a roadmap to abolish the practice of female circumcision in Indonesia. Furthermore, Para 22 (b) and (c) fall under the same idea, which is the awareness raising of the religious groups and leaders and the general population, including by sensitization and collaboration between the Government and such groups.
- 7. With reference to <u>Para 25 (d)</u>, in accordance with the Law No. 23/2004 on domestic violence, particularly in the Article 5, criminalized sexual violence may include marital rape.
- 8. With regard to the reference of conflicts in East Java Province in <u>Para 27</u>, we do not have any reference on this, unless the Committee could specify the occurrences it refers to. While the data about the remaining internally displaced women and children is not factually correct and irrelevant, and there is no such "renewed violence" in Maluku Province and East Java.

- 9. The data on trafficking is available and is updated periodically by the National Task Force on the Prevention and the Handling of Trafficking in Persons. Therefore, Indonesia strongly believes that the statement of the lack of data on trafficking in <a href="Para 29">Para 29</a> is not correct.
- 10. The decision of the Constitutional Court of 23 December 2008 is superseded with the enactment of the Law No. 8/2012 on General Election which sets the quota for women in political parties. Thus, the reference in <u>Para 31</u> to such decision in the past is not relevant.
- 11. The number of childbirths which have not been registered is approximately 14,57 percent. In this case, the term "large number" in <a href="Para 33">Para 33</a> is an exaggerated statement.
- 12. Women domestic workers should not be exclusively mentioned in <u>Para 41 (c)</u>, as education on sexual and reproductive health and rights are provided to all women and men regardless of their professions.
- 13. With reference to <u>Para 41 (f)</u>, in accordance with the criminalization of abortion, according to Law No. 36/2009 on Health, exclude those performed in the case of rape and when pregnancy is harmful to the mother's life and/or health for various reasons.
- 14. Gender is not relevant in the cases in <u>Para 45 (a) and (b)</u>, and <u>Para 46 (b)</u>. Furthermore, cases of discrimination, violence and sexual intimidation to Buddhist and Baha'i women have never been reported. Meanwhile, the term "indigenous women" does not apply to Indonesia as they are not present in the country.
- 15. With reference to Para 47 (g), the number of the practice of early marriage is 1,59 percent out of the total population of Indonesia which is 237 million (half of which is women). Thus, this number is not meaningful and continuously decreasing.
- 16. With reference to <u>Para 48 (d)</u>, the practice of early marriage is very limited to certain communities in the country.