

## WELCOME REMARKS

H.E. DR. PRAMONO ANUNG WIBOWO

*Day One – Wednesday, 23 October 2013*

*Ballroom 2, Aryaduta Hotel, Medan*

*Honourable Chair of the South East Asian  
Parliamentarians against Corruption  
(SEAPAC), the Speaker of the Indonesian  
House of Representatives, Dr. Marzuki  
Alie;*

*Honourable Vice Minister of Law and  
Human Rights of the Republic of  
Indonesia, Prof Denny Indrayana;  
Honourable Governor of North Sumatra,  
Mr Gatot Pujo Nugroho;*

*Honourable Acting Major of Medan, Mr  
Dzulmi Eldin S;*

*Honourable Member of GOPAC Board  
Directors, Mr John Hyde, MP;*

*Honourable Speakers, Deputy Speakers  
and Members of parliaments of Southeast  
Asian Countries;*

*Distinguished Guests;*

*Ladies and Gentlemen;*

Good Morning and welcome to all of you,

First of all, on behalf of the House of Representatives and the people of Indonesia,

I am pleased to extend a very warm welcome to all of you to Medan, North Sumatera, Indonesia.

This is a very impressive gathering of the members of the South East Asian Parliamentarians against Corruption (SEAPAC), who take their lead against corruption.

It is also a momentous meeting, a decade ago in 2003, the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)—as the most well-known legally binding instrument on anti-corruption— has been adopted.

I would also like to thank you for making yourselves available to serve as members of SEAPAC and by that, we have joined the global coalition of parliamentarians against corruption through GOPAC.

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

We all share a vision of a strong anti-corruption and good governance regime.

A vision of a government that has integrity and morality in serving the public, providing the best for its citizens, enacting transparency and accountability in day-to-day basis of their administrations.

The Indonesian Parliament takes such vision deeply by bringing it to the foundation of the establishment of Indonesia GOPAC National Chapter.

We are aware that despite of our multi-political background, each of us is inspired by the global anti-corruption movement of GOPAC.

As a national chapter, we, in Indonesia, are aware that the key to success in promoting a strong anti-corruption regime is not just by taking this role all alone.

We need more inspiring stories, best practices, advisory support, moral boost; you name it, from those who have succeeded in implementing their national chapter's role in curbing corruption and knowledge from other relevant stakeholders.

It is why when GOPAC had its last meeting in Philippines on 31 January 2013, we were keen to have stronger inter-parliamentary cooperation with other national chapters,

and more, to be involved in promoting a zero-tolerance of corruption.

*Friends and colleagues,*

The pathway to zero-tolerance of corruption in our region is a bumpy road.

It is not a fast-track measure.

The rating of Corruption Perception Index (CPI) published annually by Transparency International depicts our position within the global situation of anti-corruption regime.

Challenges are ahead of us, including those of political reform and law strengthening;  
apparatus integrity building;  
and governance improvement.

Not to mention that corruption is not just a domestic issue.

Corruptors may flee to another country when they found themselves guilty or at least allegedly involved.

Finding these cowardly fugitives requires assistance from other countries, international law agency services and inter-jurisdictional support.

For some cases.., if we do not want to use the word most.., corruption is a crime which then followed by the activity of Money Laundering, a cross-border activity.

All of these require effective and functional state-to-state and international cooperation frameworks as well as independent agent-to-agent linkage which are essential for the successful work against corruption.

After all, the UNCAC and UN Convention on Transnational Crime have made it clear that corruption: is a trans-national crime.

*Distinguished Guests,*

SEAPAC is an organization where parliamentarians should focus solely to combat corruption.

Where they find that morality, integrity, ethics, anti-corruption law, anti-money laundering law, and good governance dialectics may benefit for their future knowledge.

With our role, as parliamentarians, the caretaker of people's aspiration, we have a significant impact in promoting efforts towards anti-corruption.

We have our backup, a significant amount of constituents who support us in making the government aware that they are being watched.

We move and coordinate the people by playing the role of public and/or political figure in the basis of our constituency.

Just as the Brasilia Declaration which adopted in the 15<sup>th</sup> International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC), of which I have personally attended the forum, stated that:

“Citizens, acting in coordination, can more effectively challenge governments, corporations, financial institutions, sports bodies or international organisations that neglect their duty towards them.”

Of course there are many judgment pinned to the parliamentarians that they are at the centre of corruption scandals.



But I am sure that all of you here would prefer to opt as part of solution.

*Distinguished members of SEAPAC,*

When SEAPAC proposed a discussion to have a General Assembly in Indonesia, we were more than delighted to have it here.

It was all under our aforementioned passion to pursue stronger inter-parliamentary cooperation.

As for Indonesia, this meeting will be of useful as we take corruption as a serious and extraordinary crime plaguing all levels of society, including that of *trias-politica* branches of power.

We do not want to cause more agony due to the cause of the loss of public resources.

We do not want to make *trias-politica* to become *trias-corruptica*.

We have a two full days ahead of us to discuss every aspects of this sexy issue of corruption.

There will be a number of panellists from respective speakers from parliamentarians, NGOs and international and/or regional organization representatives.

Therefore, as I mentioned earlier, let us share more inspiring stories, best practices, advisory support, moral boost; you name it, so that we can take stock of knowledge in boosting stronger anti-corruption regime within our respective countries and forge stronger regional alliances in fighting against corruption.

I have every confidence that in the end of our meeting, the notion of a strong anti-corruption and good governance regime will be translated into what is best for the people.

*Thank You.*