



## Opening Speech

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**International Conference on Migration and Security  
Geneva Council on International Affairs and Development  
(GCIAD)**

*Honorable Madame GCIAD President, Dr. Nurhayati Ali Assegaf,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,*

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

*Peace be upon us all,*

Thank you for the opportunity that has been given to me to deliver my speech in this precious forum. It is a great honour and privilege for me to attend this meeting. I am of the view that the issue of migration and security is a global issue that is interconnected and affects one another. Therefore, cooperation is needed, considering that no country in the world is capable of facing this problem on its own.

The growing number of migrant workers from Asia, including from Indonesia, become increasingly important over the past decade. According to the International Migration Report 2017, there are approximately 4.2 millions Indonesian abroad. The majority of them are migrant workers that are vulnerable to human rights violations and criminal trafficking. On the other hand, irregular migrations caused by armed and violent conflicts are still prevalent and become a challenge that has to be faced by many countries in the world.

Indonesia is well aware that realizing security, providing protection and ensuring human rights to all migrants is a responsibility arising from our international obligations as parties to various human rights instruments. Therefore, as a non-traditional security issue, migration is one of Indonesia's national interest agenda.

*Ladies and Gentlement,*



For Indonesia, the placement and protection of migrant workers are very essential. It is because that, currently, Indonesia is not only a country that send migrant workers, but also a recipient country. According to data, there are about 74 thousands foreign workers currently working in Indonesia.

The policy taken by the Indonesian government on the regular migration is prioritizing the “Triple Win” approach. This approach prioritizes the interest of the sending countries, recipient countries and, of course, the interest of migrant workers. In terms of national legislation, the Indonesian House of Representatives has passed Law on Migrant Workers Protection, which has adopted the International Convention on Migrant Workers. The Law provides a stronger legal basis for the government institutions and other relevant stakeholders.

Furthermore, the Law on Migrant Workers Protection reflects Indonesia’s commitment to implementing the mandate stated in the International Convention on Migrant Workers, in particular regarding ensuring security, providing protection and empowering the migrants’ families that are left behind.

*Distiguated Guests,*

In terms of handling of irregular migration caused by armed and violent conflicts, Indonesia has showed its commitment in the humanitarian crisis in Myanmar. The violence against Rohingyas in Myanmar, in all its forms and manifestations is a serious threat to global security and peace. To address that problem, Indonesia has come forward as a pioneer in taking the necessary diplomacy steps to open access for humanitarian assistance and transparency as well as openness in handling refugees.

Indonesian aid agencies are also building health, education, and temporary shelters facilities for Rohingya refugees. These are concrete actions taken after the visit of the President of Indonesia in early 2018 and the Leaders of the Indonesian House of Representatives at the end of 2017 to the Cox’s Bazaar refugee camp.

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Creating security, providing protection and ensuring human rights to all migrants requires intensive communication and good cooperation between the sending and recipient countries. They should also be supported by formulating national policies that are comprehensive, in



accordance with the needs in the field, and considering the interest of all parties.

In this precious opportunity, I would also like to extend my support to GCM (*Global Compact for Migration*) and GCR (*Global Compact for Refugees*), that are currently entering the second round of negotiation in the UN. I am also very pleased with the completion of GCM's initial draft.

In conclusion, I believe that Geneva Council on International Affairs and Development (GCIAD) has adequate capacity as an international organization, in promoting awareness of the importance of realizing intensive communication, and good cooperation among interested parties.

*Thank you.*

*Wassalamu'alaikum Wr. Wb.*