



LAPORAN PELAKSANAAN

Parliamentary Forum at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)

“Message from the Pandemic: Bring Government Back”

Virtual
12 Juli 2021



**BADAN KERJA SAMA ANTAR PARLEMEN
DEWAN PERWAKILAN RAKYAT REPUBLIK INDONESIA**



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Sustainable Development (HLPF)***

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I. PENDAHULUAN

United Nation High-Level Political Forum (UN HLPF) adalah sidang tahunan di Majelis Umum Perserikatan Bangsa-Bangsa (PBB) yang bertujuan untuk mempresentasikan *Voluntary National Review (VNR)*. Laporan tersebut berisi mengenai pencapaian *Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)* oleh negara-negara anggota PBB. *Parliamentary Forum at HLPF* merupakan forum yang diselenggarakan sebagai bentuk komitmen parlemen di dalam pencapaian SDGs. Sidang tahun ini mengangkat tema *“Message from the Pandemic: Bring “Government” Back”*. Tema ini penting karena paradigma yang berkembang beberapa dekade ini adalah pengurangan peran negara dan privatisasi pelayanan publik dengan alasan hal tersebut akan mengoptimalkan keuntungan bagi masyarakat. Namun pengurangan peran Pemerintah telah memperlebar kesenjangan di dalam masyarakat dan diperburuk oleh pandemi saat ini. Diskusi dalam sidang HLPF ini banyak membahas tentang sejauh mana peran dan tanggung jawab Pemerintah dalam memastikan pelayanan kepada publik terpenuhi.

A. SUSUNAN DELEGASI

No	NAMA	FRAKSI	JABATAN
1.	Dr. Sihar Sitorus (A-139)	F-PDIP	Wakil Ketua BKSAP
2.	Dyah Roro Esti (A-322)	F-Golkar	Anggota BKSAP

B. VISI DAN MISI DELEGASI

- Memberikan pandangan/ide Indonesia tentang sejauh mana peran negara dalam mengendalikan efek pandemi, baik terkait kesehatan, maupun ekonomi.
- Melakukan diskusi, berbagi pengalaman, maupun praktik cerdas, yang tentu saja menarik, karena anggota parlemen yang hadir berasal dari berbagai negara dengan budaya dan sistem yang berbeda, serta afiliasi partai maupun ideologi yang beragam.

C. PERSIAPAN PELAKSANAAN TUGAS

Materi yang dijadikan referensi bagi delegasi yang hadir pada persidangan ini dipersiapkan dan diolah oleh Tenaga Ahli dan Sekretariat KSI BKSAP yang berupa Saran Butir Wicara.

II. ISI LAPORAN

A. AGENDA ACARA

20.00 WIB	PEMBUKAAN
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Duarte Pacheco, President of the IPU
20.10 WIB	DISKUSI MENGENAI TEMA UTAMA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Pedro Arroio-Agudo, UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, mantan anggota parlemen Spanyol• Ms. Isabel Ortiz, Director, Global Social Justice Program, Colombia University• Ms. Nancy de la Sierra, President, SDGs Commission, Senate of Mexico• Tanya Jawab
21.30 WIB	2021 SURVEY MENGENAI KETERLIBATAN PARLEMEN DI DALAM PENYUSUNAN VNR
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Martin Chungong, Secretary-General of the IPU• Mr. Alessandro Motter, Senior Advisor for Economic and Social Affairs, IPU

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Issa Mardo Djabir, MP, President of the SDGs Committee, National Assembly of Chad ● Tanya Jawab
21.55	PENUTUPAN

B. JALANNYA SIDANG

1. *Opening Remarks* oleh **Mr. Duarte Pacheco**, *President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)*

Mr. Pacheco menjelaskan bahwa tema yang diangkat kali ini menarik dan sekaligus mengingatkan kembali bahwa pemerintah, yang terdiri atas eksekutif dan legislatif merupakan aktor penting dalam menanggulangi dampak pandemi. Seperti yang kita ketahui, sejak abad ke-18, paradigma yang berkembang adalah apa yang kita kenal sebagai “*invisible hand*”. Paradigma ini berpandangan bahwa pemerintah harus terlibat sesedikit mungkin dalam kegiatan ekonomi, maupun pelayanan publik. Tetapi pandemi menunjukkan bahwa pemerintah dibutuhkan untuk berperan menanggulangi dampak yang ditimbulkan, baik terkait kesehatan, maupun sosial.



Mr. Duarte Pacheco, President of the IPU membuka persidangan

Beberapa hal dapat diambil sebagai pelajaran bagi kita semua. Pertama, Pemerintah harus melakukan investasi di berbagai bidang. Investasi harus dilakukan pada jaminan sosial masyarakat, hingga riset di berbagai bidang. Hal lainnya yang harus kita cermati adalah banyaknya sektor yang terdampak oleh

pandemi, seperti usaha kecil yang harus menutup usaha, hilangnya banyak lapangan pekerjaan, kesenjangan sosial yang meluas, dan berbagai dampak lainnya. Apa yang dapat negara lakukan untuk mempercepat pemulihan? Apakah menyerahkan hal tersebut kepada pasar, atautkah intervensi negara yang lebih besar dibutuhkan.

Ia juga menyinggung mengenai pencapaian Agenda 2030 atau Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Di tengah melambatnya pencapaian target-target tersebut akibat pandemi, kita harus kembali mendiskusikan mengenai penguatan negara ini. Hal ini bukan berarti negara yang menguasai sepenuhnya, tetapi bagaimana negara melakukan investasi yang lebih besar bagi masyarakat dan mengurangi kesenjangan yang terjadi.

Para anggota parlemen didorong untuk turut mendiskusikan hal ini. Parlemen juga harus terus mendorong multilateralisme dan kolaborasi untuk mencapai tujuan besar ini. Parlemen juga harus mendukung upaya pemerintah dalam mempercepat pemulihan dampak akibat pandemi Covid-19. Diskusi kali ini diharapkan akan menjadi forum untuk bertukar pengalaman dan belajar untuk memperkaya pemahaman kita dalam mencapai dunia yang lebih baik.

SESI I: DISKUSI PANEL

1. Mr. Pedro Arroio-Agudo, UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, mantan anggota parlemen Spanyol

Mr. Agudo memberikan paparan terkait tantangan yang dihadapi oleh kemanusiaan untuk mendapatkan akses terhadap air bersih. Di berbagai belahan dunia, sejumlah populasi terpengaruh dengan permasalahan kelangkaan air ini, dan menunggu bantuan komunitas internasional. Hal ini menjadi semakin darurat, karena sebagian besar masalah tersebut menimpa kelompok yang paling rentan.

Hal ini diperburuk akibat cara kita dalam menangani permasalahan kelangkaan air ini dengan menjadikan air sebagai komoditas ekonomi. Air yang seharusnya merupakan barang milik publik dan digunakan untuk kepentingan bersama, sedikit-demi sedikit dikuasai segelintir pihak atas nama privatisasi. Penguasaan atas sumber daya air tidak bisa diberikan kepada satu negara ataupun kelompok tertentu. Kita harus mulai menaruh perhatian kepada sekelompok orang yang berupaya untuk menguasai sumber daya yang sangat penting ini, dan untuk itulah regulasi yang membatasi ini menjadi penting.

Ia melanjutkan dengan menyatakan bahwa selain permasalahan kelangkaan air, kita harus melakukan investasi yang lebih besar untuk meningkatkan produksi pangan. Investasi terhadap pangan ini penting karena potensi kelangkaan yang

akan muncul beberapa dekade yang akan datang akibat perubahan iklim. Kurangnya investasi terhadap sektor ini diperburuk akibat kebijakan pengetatan fiskal di beberapa negara.



Mr. Pedro Arroio-Agudo, *UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights to safe drinking water and sanitation* memberikan presentasi

Melakukan investasi di berbagai infrastruktur kesehatan publik juga penting. Tantangan yang muncul tidak hanya terkait ketersediaan pelayanan tersebut, apakah hal tersebut mampu untuk diakses publik.

Seluruh investasi terkait pelayan publik yang disebutkan tersebut hanya dimungkinkan jika terdapat keleluasaan fiskal. Salah satu solusinya adalah dengan reformasi perpajakan, termasuk reformasi perpajakan global yang diinisiasi di dalam pertemuan G20 beberapa waktu ini.

2. Ms. Isabel Ortiz, *Director, Global Social Justice Program, Colombia University*

Ms. Ortiz menyatakan kebijakan yang dijalankan selama ini dalam mengurangi peran negara dalam kegiatan ekonomi dan pelayanan publik terbukti telah meningkatkan kesenjangan. Kita harus memastikan pemerintah terus melakukan investasi publik, serta membalikkan dampak yang ditimbulkan oleh privatisasi.

Beberapa kebijakan terkait intervensi negara yang lebih besar tersebut dapat diterapkan di beberapa sektor, seperti transportasi publik, perlindungan sosial, dan pensiun. Masalahnya adalah peningkatan belanja di sektor-sektor tersebut berakibat pada tekanan pada anggaran negara, dan dipersulit akibat pandemi Covid-19. Pengetatan yang berimbas pada sektor-sektor di atas akan

mempengaruhi hajat hidup masyarakat, oleh karena itulah dibutuhkan dialog nasional yang inklusif terkait kebijakan ini.



***Ms. Isabel Ortiz, Director, Global Social Justice Program,
Colombia University memberikan presentasi***

Sebagai peneliti yang fokus kepada isu ini, ia menyatakan bahwa dalam kondisi tertentu pemerintah terpaksa memotong belanja mereka dan mengakibatkan pengurangan anggaran belanja perlindungan sosial. Tetapi dia menawarkan beberapa solusi yang dapat diambil untuk mengatasi hal ini, yaitu:

- a. Realokasi anggaran belanja publik;
- b. Meningkatkan penerimaan pajak;
- c. Memperluas cakupan belanja perlindungan sosial;
- d. Menghilangkan / mengendalikan aliran dana yang dicurigai illegal;
- e. Menggunakan cadangan mata uang asing;
- f. Mengelola utang luar negeri, seperti melakukan pinjaman, atau restrukturisasi hutang; dan
- g. Mengadopsi kebijakan makroekonomi yang lebih fleksibel.

3. Ms. Nancy de la Sierra, President, SDGs Commission, Senate of Mexico

Ms. Sierra menjelaskan bahwa Meksiko akan memberikan laporan *Voluntary National Report (VNR)* pada tahun ini terkait kemajuan dalam pencapaian *Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*. Peran pemerintah menjadi semakin penting, terutama di tengah Pandemi Covid-19 yang telah menjadi tantangan besar bagi kemanusiaan selama satu tahun terakhir. Pemerintah wajib memastikan bantuan yang diberikan dapat menjangkau seluruh lapisan masyarakat.

Pemerintah Meksiko juga telah mendaftarkan kebutuhan vaksin untuk memastikan akses bagi seluruh masyarakat. Ia juga berharap di level internasional, Perserikatan Bangsa-Bangsa (PBB) dapat mencapai konsensus mengenai penyediaan vaksin bagi seluruh negara di dunia, terutama yang masih mengalami kelangkaan. Pemerintah juga harus memastikan pencapaian tujuan pembangunan berkelanjutan, dan dalam mencapai hal ini parlemen memiliki peran kunci sebagai jembatan Pemerintah dan masyarakat.

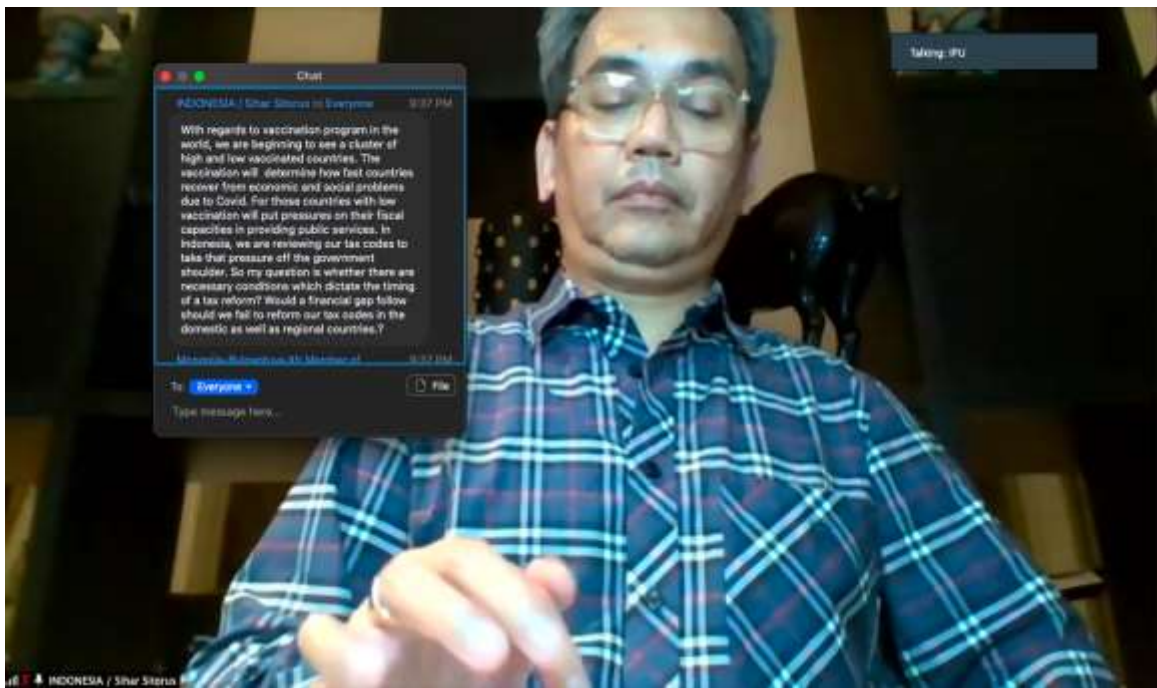


*Ms. Nancy de la Sierra, President, SDGs Commission, Senate of Mexico
memberikan presentasi*

Parlemen bertanggung jawab untuk menghasilkan regulasi yang relevan dengan kebutuhan masyarakat. Pemerintah, termasuk Parlemen harus bekerja keras memastikan pencapaian Agenda 2030, dan bekerja sama dengan seluruh pihak yang berkepentingan agar target tercapai sesuai dengan batas waktu yang telah diberikan. Pemerintah memiliki peran kunci dalam dalam upaya mencapai tujuan ini. Pemerintah Meksiko Menyusun VNR untuk menunjukkan apa saja yang telah dilakukan, dan memastikan bahwa Pandemi Covid-19 tidak akan mengganggu pencapaian target SDGs.

4. **Diskusi dan Tanya Jawab**

Dr. Sihar Sitorus, Wakil Ketua BKSAP menyampaikan pandangannya khusus terkait reformasi perpajakan, terutama rencana Pemerintah dalam merevisi aturan perpajakan nasional, dikaitkan dengan kebijakan vaksinasi yang beririsan dengan harapan pemulihan ekonomi nasional. Beliau mempertanyakan apakah ini saat yang tepat untuk melakukan hal tersebut.



Dr. Sihar Sitorus, Wakil Ketua BKSAP memberikan intervensi

Dyah Roro Esti, anggota BKSAP menyampaikan pandangannya bahwa krisis akibat Covid-19 yang terjadi seperti sekarang ini merupakan saat yang tepat untuk melakukan reformasi. Seperti yang kita ketahui bahwa reformasi demokratis pada tahun 1998 yang terjadi di Indonesia juga didorong oleh krisis. Pandemi Covid-19 juga menjadi momen bagi Indonesia untuk melakukan reformasi struktural.



Dyah Roro Esti, anggota BKSAP menyampaikan intervensi

Ms. Marilou McPhedran, Anggota Parlemen Kanada menyampaikan terkait upaya keras parlemen seluruh dunia untuk mencapai tujuan pembangunan berkelanjutan. Parlemen Kanada selalu menempatkan isu lingkungan sebagai isu yang penting dan mendapat perhatian. Parlemen Kanada terus melakukan upaya berkelanjutan untuk memastikan legislasi, anggaran, dan pengawasan sesuai dengan agenda pembangunan hijau.

Ms. Ravza Kavaksi Kan, Anggota Parlemen Turki menyampaikan bahwa pandemi yang telah terjadi selama satu tahun ini menunjukkan keterkaitan antar berbagai isu. Pandemi tidak hanya memiliki dampak pada kesehatan masyarakat, tetapi juga kepada ekonomi, maupun sosial. Turki selalu berupaya untuk memastikan kerja sama antar berbagai sektor, baik publik maupun privat, secara nasional, maupun internasional. Parlemen Turki terus mendorong Pemerintah untuk memastikan dampak pandemi terhadap kehidupan masyarakat terkendali, dan mendorong paket kebijakan terkait hal itu.

SESI II: LAPORAN SURVEY VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REPORT (VNR)

1. **Mr. Martin Chungong**, *Secretary-General of the IPU*

Mr. Chungong menjelaskan bahwa *Voluntary National Report (VNR)* merupakan komitmen negara-negara di dunia terhadap pencapaian *Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*. Perserikatan Bangsa Bangsa (PBB) telah menyusun panduan terkait penyusunan laporan ini, dan mendorong agar melibatkan berbagai pihak termasuk Parlemen. Parlemen diharapkan menjadi aktor yang terlibat paling awal di dalam penyusunan laporan ini.



Mr. Martin Chungong, *Secretary-General of the IPU* memberikan paparan

Parlemen harus memastikan penyusunan VNR ini sesuai dengan target Agenda 2030, terutama jika dikaitkan dengan fungsi yang dimiliki, yaitu legislasi, anggaran, dan pengawasan. Walaupun praktek di berbagai negara berbeda satu sama lain, setidaknya parlemen selalu diberikan informasi terbaru terkait kemajuan penyusunan laporan tersebut.

Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) telah melaksanakan survey mengenai sejauh mana Parlemen dilibatkan dalam penyusunan VNR ini. IPU mendorong parlemen-parlemen anggota IPU untuk terlibat dalam survey ini, karena hingga sekarang data yang telah dikumpulkan masih kurang untuk memberikan gambaran yang lebih luas dan menyeluruh.

2. **Mr. Alessandro Motter**, *Senior Advisor for Economic and Social Affairs, IPU*

Sekretariat IPU telah mengirimkan survey mengenai sejauh mana keterlibatan Parlemen di dalam penyusunan VNR, dan IPU sangat mendorong seluruh parlemen untuk terlibat di dalam survey ini. Survey ini telah dirancang sesederhana mungkin untuk memastikan data yang terkumpul valid dan tepat sasaran.



Mr. Alessandro Motter, *Senior Advisor for Economic and Social Affairs, IPU*

Data sementara yang telah terkumpul, walaupun masih jauh dari jumlah sampel yang ideal menunjukkan bahwa parlemen terlibat. Dari 15 negara yang terlibat dalam survey, baru 9 sembilan negara yang mendapatkan informasi mengenai rencana penyusunan VNR oleh Pemerintah. 5 negara menunjukkan bahwa mereka dilibatkan dari awal penyusunan. Pelibatan dari awal ini sangat penting karena ini adalah masa paling penting dalam penyusunan VNR.

Data dari 13 negara menunjukkan bahwa Parlemen bias memberikan masukan di dalam penyusunan VNR. Tetapi hal tersebut tidak dibarengi oleh kualitas keterlibatan, karena hanya 5 negara yang menyatakan bahwa penyusunan VNR tersebut telah melalui debat di dalam parlemen. Debat ini sangat penting, karena disinilah peran parlemen akan sangat menentukan.

Kesimpulan untuk sementara adalah, peran parlemen dalam penyusunan VNR secara global masih terbatas. Penyusunan laporan tersebut masih didominasi oleh Pemerintah, dan peran parlemen terbatas. Partisipasi parlemen di dalam survey ini sendiri masih sangat terbatas, dan diharapkan dengan semakin banyaknya partisipasi parlemen dalam survey akan menghasilkan kesimpulan yang lebih baik lagi di masa depan.

III. PENUTUP

A. KETERANGAN LAMPIRAN

Laporan ini dilengkapi oleh lampiran sebagai berikut:

- *Paparan narasumber*
- *Dokumentasi*
- *Liputan media elektronik*

B. KATA PENUTUP

Demikianlah pokok-pokok Laporan Kegiatan dalam rangka mengikuti sidang virtual *Parliamentary Forum at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) "Message from the Pandemic: Bring "Government" Back"*, pada tanggal 12 Juli 2021. Dokumen mengenai sidang akan dijadikan lampiran. Semoga bermanfaat bagi kita semua.

Jakarta, Juli 2021

a.n. Ketua Delegasi,



Dr. Sihar Sitorus

A-139

LAMPIRAN



Parliamentary Forum at the United Nations High-level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF) Message from the pandemic:

“Bring ‘government’ back”

Monday, 12 July 2021 9:00 – 11:00 EST (New York)

Suggested Intervention prepared for

Dr. Fadli Zon, Chair of Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation

Dr. Sihar Sitorus, Vice Chair of Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation

Programme: (as of 10 July 2021)

1. 09:00 EST Opening

Mr. Duarte Pacheco, President of the IPU

Catatan:

- Mr. Duarte Pacheco has been a Member of Parliament in Portugal since 1991. He has held different functions in Parliament, including as a Member of the Budget and Finance Committee and the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Portuguese Communities.
- At the IPU, Mr. Pacheco has been a Member of the Portuguese delegation since 2002 and its head since 2016. He was the Chair of the IPU’s Twelve Plus Geopolitical Group from 2017-2020. He was also the Vice-President of the IPU’s Standing Committee on Peace and International Security from 2014-2016 and Internal Auditor for the IPU in 2007, 2011, 2013 and 2015.
- He was elected as President of IPU on 1 November 2020 for time period 2020-2023.

2. 09:10 EST Discussion of the main theme

- Mr. Pedro Arroio-Agudo, UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, former Member of Parliament (Spain)
- Ms. Isabel Ortiz, Director, Global Social Justice Program, Columbia University
- Ms. Nancy de la Sierra, President, SDGS Commission, Senate of Mexico

The presentations will be followed by a moderated discussion between participating parliamentarians and the panellists. Participants can pose questions live or via event chat.

The main segment of this year's Parliamentary Forum will therefore revolve around the following questions:

- How can parliaments help redefine the relationship between the government-led public sector and the market-led private sector? Is rebalancing needed?
- Should parliaments support more expansive fiscal policies to respond to growing demands for education, health care and other public goods?
- What steps can parliaments take to curb financialization and reduce the dominance of large monopolies in all sectors of the economy?
- What institutional reforms should parliaments promote to make government more resilient and better able to respond to the needs of the people?

Suggested Points of Intervention:

- Governments, in term of a wider modern meaning of executive, legislature, and judiciary, exist to commonly manage the people, protecting them from conflicts through providing law and order. In more recent years, government responsibilities have extended to the economy and public service. An early principle of liberalization dictates that markets should be free from government control. But when economies spun out of control during the 1930s, and countries sank into great depressions, governments acted. Now, these patterns repeat itself due the COVID-19 outbreak that sparks multiple crises. It may conclude that governments/state administration is most critical to resolve people matters.
- Therefore, Indonesia constitution explicitly stipulated that government of the Republic of Indonesia shall protect all the people of Indonesia, and to improve

public welfare, to educate the life of the people and to participate toward the establishment of a world order based on freedom, perpetual peace and social justice based on a belief in the One and Only God, just and civilised humanity, the unity of Indonesia, and democratic life led by wisdom of thoughts in deliberation amongst representatives of the people, and achieving social justice for all the people of Indonesia. The constitution clearly demonstrates our balanced connection among the governments (executive, legislature, and judiciary) and the people.

- *'Bring government back'* as our today's theme of discussion is relatively making sense. However, more governments control should not compromise people fundamental rights. We do believe that political institutional reforms are often seen as a main goal for modern democracies that have positive relation with diverse dimensions of human lives such as wealth, health or education. We further see that equality, diversity, justice, freedom, participation, transparency and monitoring by the people can help make governments, including parliaments, more effective, foster stability within societies, and unlock economic potential. We need stronger democratic governments and parliaments.
- Relate to the pandemic, the Indonesian constitution stipulated the right to health is specifically regulated in Article 28 H (1), which stated: "Every person is entitled to acquire a good and healthy living environment as well as be entitled to obtain health care". It means that the right to health is considered as one of the constitutional rights that need an active role of government to implement the right to health. The continuing spread of the pandemic in Indonesia forces the government to issue a series of policies in handling infectious diseases under tight supervision of the parliament. In principle, the government is responsible for the implementation of health services as part of the implementation of good governance and the mandate of the constitution to ensure a decent life in a healthy environment and obtain health services as a consequence of achieving progress and social welfare.
- The Indonesian society, especially the government, work together to manage, allocate, and utilize existing natural resources to advance the life of the nation and the state, to create social welfare nationally. In the effort of the government and the community to be able to realize these noble ideals, the 1945 Constitution precisely in article 33 stated that the economy was arranged as a

joint effort based on the principle of kinship; Production branches which are important for the State and which control the livelihoods of the public are controlled by the State; The earth, water and natural resources contained therein shall be controlled by the State and used for the greatest prosperity of the people. These reflect that the economy is a joint effort achieved for the welfare of the community and the government should intervene in controlling natural resources for fulfilling the needs, welfare, and prosperity of the whole people.

Suggested Inquiries:

Thank you very much for the insightful presentations from the all panelists. Allow me to get further explanations on the theme that being discussed by us:

- Based on both lessons learned and epistemological perspectives, can you deliver further elaboration on what extent do sets of democracy contribute to effectively addressing the pandemic that come with economic, political, social and cultural benefits for people?
- It is very important things to explore success stories, if any, on how are measures taken were able to contain the pandemic without compromising economic, political, and social dimensions at the same time?
- It is a common sense that no country will be safe from COVID-19 until every country is safe. Therefore, COVID-19 vaccines must be distributed rapidly, fairly and equitably as well as universally. For such purpose, in my opinion, the world should fully support for the TRIPS waiver, a measure that would expand access to lifesaving vaccines and other health products. However, many countries reluctantly seem to stand with that pace. What should the world effectively take to enable more solid and close global cooperation and collaboration?

3. 10:30 EST 2021 survey of parliamentary engagement in the VNRs

- Mr. Martin Chungong, IPU Secretary General
- Mr. Alessandro Motter, Senior Advisor for economic and social affairs, IPU
- Mr. Issa Mardo Djabir, MP, President of the SDGs Committee, National Assembly of Chad

Suggested points of intervention:

- Indonesia recognized the encompassing nature of the SDGs, which are oftentimes wrongly seen as separate from and parallel to the national development agenda. Therefore, two years after SDGs adopted, Indonesia has integrated them into national and local government planning document as appeared in National Mid-Term Development Plan (RPJMN). Moreover, Indonesia is one of the few countries that presented twice its Voluntary National Review (VNR), a self-paced, country-driven monitoring of the SDGs.
- While the government has a big role in the implementation of the SDGs, Parliament's role is not less crucial. Parliamentarians can ensure that the entire implementation of SDGs is in line with national development targets and priorities.
- The important role of parliament here is to establish legislation and consider budget which facilitate and support the attainment of the SDGs, and also to ensure accountability in the implementation of the SDGs.
- Historically, the lack of inclusiveness has become one of the reasons why the MDGs have generally failed to realize their targets. Besides of internal capacity problem and lack of integrated approach to development, the absence of a strong and robust mechanism to monitor implementation of the goals' programs and projects which should have involved parliament and civil society who hold this oversight function became one of the obstacles in the successful implementation of the MDGs. This has become one of our reasons to establish the MDGs task force in 2010.
- In order to provide a full range of comprehensive perspectives to the parliament in terms of implementation of SDGs, the Indonesian House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia have held the World Parliamentary Forum on SDGs (WPFSD) since 2017 that aimed at developing the global SDGs accountability, examining the SDGs progress at the national and international levels, strengthening and assessing the role that each parliament play.
- Indonesia parliament also has established a parliamentary working group on SDGs. The members are from multi-commissions which enable them to exercise better parliamentary functions in their respective commissions in

term of SDGs. The group is uniquely tailored to act in twofold: as the parliamentary focal point on SDGs in international arena and as catalyst of SDGs in all aspects of parliamentary works. In doing so, the group is actively involved in the whole range of multilateral agenda of SDGs including in the Level of High Level Thematic Debate at the UN.

- The group also promotes inclusive participation by engaging with all stakeholders including civil society organizations, government, academia. It also works to strengthen oversight and monitoring mechanism through assessment on SDGs related programs and policies. The group gathers best practices on sustainable development policies from every corner of the world as well as local practices as inspirational and innovation pool, which can be useful to promote the SDGs policies at the national context.
- I am of the view that it is about our political will to achieve SDGs. In addition, the global cooperation is also most important on this matter and we are willing to have a parliamentary partnership with all countries which have the same concerns. In this regard, I would like to invite you all to joint to First Global Parliamentary Meeting on Achieving the SDGs hosted by Indonesia parliament that will be held at the end of September 2021.

4. 10:55 EST Closing



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

Parliamentary Forum at the United Nations High-level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF)

Message from the pandemic: Bring “government” back

Monday, 12 July 2021
9:00 – 11:00 EST (New York)
English, French and Spanish interpretation

Is an implicit message of the COVID-19 pandemic that government – the *public authority* consisting of the executive, parliament, the judiciary and the public administration – must play a more pro-active role in the economy and in society?

Over the last few decades, governments have progressively abandoned their traditional “interventionist” posture out of concerns that excessive control of the economy might interfere with market forces which, left to their own devices, were supposed to always lead to a more optimal allocation of benefits and rewards throughout society. The competitive ethos of the private sector was said to be the key driver of innovation, investments, and technological developments. The solution to problems such as poverty and environmental degradation was more likely to come from the internal dynamics of the marketplace than from state laws and regulations.

Driven by this belief, almost everywhere in the world, governments worked to liberalize the economy and deregulate the marketplace. Public infrastructure and services were sold or subcontracted to private sector actors through public-private partnerships. Trickle-down economics promoting low taxes and budget austerity replaced pro-active income and fiscal policies. Government rules to protect workers and the environment were loosened. National industrial policies were dismantled on the assumption that government should not pick “winners” but leave it to companies to decide what and where to produce. Capital controls were lifted to enable foreign investments and global supply chains to take advantage of more profitable production conditions anywhere in the world. The doctrine of *free* trade based on nations’ comparative advantages prevailed over *fair* trade practices to protect the environment, workers and consumers.

The emergence of COVID-19 in December 2019 and the ensuing global pandemic have disrupted this common narrative. Caught unprepared to deal with such a crisis, almost overnight, many governments rediscovered their own authority and took immediate action to stem the threat to human life and forestall economic collapse.

In response to the pandemic, unprecedented government borrowing to rescue private companies, provide emergency health care, and strengthen welfare entitlements took place in many countries despite “market fundamentals” normally averse to rising levels of public debt. Some countries have begun to reconsider

their global value chains to repatriate the production of essential goods, services and staples out of national security concerns and in response to public demands. Long-standing proposals for a new global tax regime that demands more of corporations and of the financial sector, including the closure of tax havens, are gaining ground. Healthcare budgets have been replenished with the promise of more public investments to protect the health and wellbeing of people. In countries around the world, green economy solutions feature a decidedly more activist government role to steer investments and regulate the private sector. Government-led industrial strategies are gaining new currency in both developed and developing countries. The market-rigging power of growing monopolies in technology, the service and financial sectors is increasingly being challenged. Wherever possible, public administrations are being retooled with new skills and new mandates to better implement laws and regulations. A growing number of governments are demanding a waiver of patent rights on COVID-19 vaccines on public health grounds.

In sum, the strong government response to the pandemic has shown that far from being an obstacle to development, government is key to creating the conditions for human progress. The pandemic has highlighted that the ceding of government authority to market imperatives in years past was more the result of a *political choice* than of government's inherent inability to regulate the economy and generally play a more pro-active role to satisfy human needs and protect the environment.

All this being said, the question today is whether this apparent repositioning of government vis-à-vis the marketplace is a long-term global trend or a temporary break from the status quo. Certainly, not all policy-makers have heard this particular message of the pandemic in the same way, and many remain skeptical about the message nevertheless. Globally, the picture is uneven with governments in developed countries – much better endowed with resources to play this more pro-active role – than in developing countries. In many public policy areas, market forces and private sector players continue to have the upper hand in setting the economic agenda. Far from being affected by the pandemic, the financialization of the global economy has continued unabated with new speculative bubbles and risky bets.

Yet, more pro-active public policies supported by laws and budgets will be needed to recover the lost ground in the implementation of the SDGs by 2030. A key step toward “building back better” in response to the pandemic calls for a hard look at how parliament and indeed government as a whole need to be engaged more pro-actively in the management of the economy and of society going forward.

The **main segment** of this year's Parliamentary Forum will therefore revolve around the following questions:

- How can parliaments help redefine the relationship between the government-led public sector and the market-led private sector? Is rebalancing needed?
- Should parliaments support more expansive fiscal policies to respond to growing demands for education, health care and other public goods?
- What steps can parliaments take to curb financialization and reduce the dominance of large monopolies in all sectors of the economy?
- What institutional reforms should parliaments promote to make government more resilient and better able to respond to the needs of the people?

A **second segment** of the Forum will feature a presentation of the preliminary results of this year's IPU survey questionnaire addressed to parliaments of the 44 countries presenting Voluntary National Reviews.

Provisional programme

09:00 EST **Opening**

- Mr. Duarte Pacheco, President of the IPU

09:10 EST **Discussion of the main theme**

- Mr. Pedro Arroio-Agudo, UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, former Member of Parliament (Spain)
- Ms. Isabel Ortiz, Director, Global Social Justice Program, Columbia University
- Ms. Nancy de la Sierra, President, SDGS Commission, Senate of Mexico

The presentations will be followed by a moderated discussion between participating parliamentarians and the panellists. Participants can pose questions live or via event chat.

10:30 EST **2021 survey of parliamentary engagement in the VNRs**

- Mr. Martin Chungong, IPU Secretary General
- Mr. Alessandro Motter, Senior Advisor for economic and social affairs, IPU
- Mr. Issa Mardo Djibir, MP, President of the SDGs Committee, National Assembly of Chad

Interactive discussion with participants.

10:55 EST **Closing**

For more information, please write to ny-office@ipu.org