INTERVENTION BY THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION ON CLUSTERED INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE RIGHT TO FOOD AND THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON ADEQUATE HOUSING GENEVA, 6 MARCH 2012

Madam President,

Allow me to thank the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food and the Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, for their reports.

On the issue of the right to food, I would like to share the views with the Special Rapporteur on the need to address together different dimensions of malnutrition, namely undernutrition, micronutrient deficiency and overnutrition and on the failure of the existing food system to address hunger.

In this respect, the Government of Indonesia is committed to ensure the availability of food to meet the basic nutritional needs, both at central and regional levels, especially to reduce disparities between regions. This commitment is shown by the issuance of Government Regulation No. 68 of 2002 on Food Security, which requires the Government to ensure that basic food necessities in regular households is met and affordable, as reflected in the availability of sufficient food in terms of both quantity and quality. Efforts are made through programs to improve agricultural productivity, distribution, access and system for handling food problems, as well as specific assistance to the poor for provinces and districts with high prevalence of malnutrition.

Madam President,

In the National Medium Term Development Plan of 2010-2014, the Government has set the development target to reduce the prevalence of child malnutrition to be less than 15%.

In addition, Presidential Instruction No. 3 of 2010 requires a National Action Plan for Food and Nutrition as well as a provincial Action Plan, which involves the districts/municipalities. Based on the Presidential Instruction, the Food and Nutrition Action Plan 2011 - 2016 was developed containing action-oriented programs that are structured and integrated in the five pillars of the action plan which includes efforts to improve the community's nutrition level; increase food accessibility; improve quality control and food security; improve clean and healthy lifestyle; and strengthen food and nutrition institutions.

Moreover, in disseminating knowledge about food, the Government has made efforts to empower communities to strengthen related programs at the grassroot level.

Nevertheless, with regard to the right of food, the issue of food security continues to be the Government's priority. Since 2005 the Government has developed the Government Rice Reserve (Cadangan Beras Pemerintah/CBP), which aimed to fulfill food needs in the event of emergency such as disaster, and to maintain the stability of the price of rice in order to be available to all layers of society. At the regional level, the Government has also joined and contributed in ASEAN Emergency Rice Reserve in its efforts to guarantee the national food supply in case of crisis.

Madam President,

On the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, particularly on the women's right to adequate housing as focused by the Special Rapporteur; the recognition that every person, without discrimination, has the right to adequate housing is stipulated in the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia.

In marital relationship, Indonesia in principle holds that women and men are equal. This is stipulated in Law No. 39 of 1999 on Human Rights particularly Article 51, which states that wife and husband in marital relationship have equal rights and obligation regarding all matters relating to their marriage life, including marital property, such as housing.

There has been tremendous progress in Indonesia with regard to women's rights which led to a de facto equality between women and men in various aspects of life including in family. This brought about conducive atmosphere for the protection of women's rights as well as public discourses to advance women's interest in the national development agenda. This includes the discourse to revise Law on Marriage to better reflect the current situation of the advanced protection of women's rights in Indonesia, including on marital property.

Finally, we share the view with the Special Rapporteur on the need to develop awareness-raising and develop public education to bridge the gap in implementation, and we would also like to thank the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing for responding positively to our invitation to visit Indonesia.

Thank you Madam President.