

General Statement
By
HE. Dr. Bayu Krisnamurthi
Vice Minister of Agriculture, Republic of Indonesia
At the OECD Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture
Paris, 25 – 26 February 2010

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

First of all, on behalf of Minister of Agriculture, I would like to express my appreciation to the OECD for inviting Indonesia to participate in this important forum.

Recently, global attention focuses on the threat of economic crisis. This situation influences the causes of the food crisis. In this sense, the leader's government around the world has raise unequivocal commitment to take comprehensive action to protect the poor and poorest. Therefore agriculture and food security have been central issues of discussion in varies international fora.

As we aware, in most of developing countries, agriculture sector as basis for food production capacity is facing high competition in natural resources utilization. Food productivity is mostly constrained by the non optimal and inappropriate utilization of agricultural technology. Furthermore, there are some socio-economy constrains for agricultural development in the developing world. Food production is dominated by small scale farmers who have limited access to financial sources. They are mostly also facing incompetent cost production and inadequate rural infrastructures problems.

Excellencies, and Distinguished Delegates,

We all now agree that food security is a global issue. FAO defined that food security is a condition where all people at all times have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food for their daily productive

activity and healthy life. Food insecurity exists when people do not have adequate physical, social or economic access to food as defined above.

In dynamic global changes, government should ensure sustainable development for benefit of present and future generation and to place the well-being, livelihood and welfare of the people. It puts in place balance between economic growth and social development in order to reduce and not to create negative impact of the economic growth.

For Indonesia, food security is not more than just increasing food supply. It involves better access to food availability and enhance livelihood in rural area. For that reason, we pursue the idea on developing a common stock of food for emergency situation and establish an early warning system to address the food insecurity. In ASEAN we adopted the ASEAN Integrated Food Security Framework (AIFS) and Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security (SPA-FS) at 2009 in Cha-Am Thailand.

Excellencies, and Distinguished Delegates,

We should not forget that issue on energy and environment, as well as liberalized trading have impact to agro-food sector. In this response, government endeavors to take action, as follows :

1. Support development of agriculture productivity through greater investment, improved research and development, enhanced agriculture innovation and knowledge management and strengthened farmer's organization.
2. Consider the development of bio-fuel through science and technology advancement without adverse impact to food security.
3. Share information, experiences, and transferring technology among countries relate to relevant issues that influence agro-food system.
4. Encourage close collaboration and create network among public and private sectors and also civil society in addressing international trading system.

5. Collaboration and cooperation action among countries and other relevant international organizations, such as OECD, will more benefit optimally and more confident to achieve the expected result.

In line with the government policies, OECD has been had a significant role and should enhance its contribution to sustainable development. With their expertise, member countries have facilitate to improve their policies in short, medium and long term, especially for facing the future challenging on climate change and resources scarcity, investment, risk management and innovation, and also food and agriculture as part of broader economy.

To realize to challenge and opportunity for better future, Indonesia has been taken into account the policies are needed such as :

1. Law enforcement on land and water management through sustainable food and agriculture land preservation, invent the varieties with low input.
2. Implementing best practices in production and processing, including balance organic and non-organic fertilizer application.
3. Developing down-stream industries and product development as well.
4. Ensuring fair global food chain with respect to strengthen food security and social safety net at local, regional and national level.
5. Supporting and empowering small scale farmer to improve productivity and efficiency through agriculture insurance and credit facilities.
6. Establishing emergency rice reserve.

Excellencies, and Distinguished Delegates,

Impact of global food-feed-fuel and financial crises, among others, are slowing down of economic activities, increasing uncertainties of food supply, and increasing instability of food price that may be last couple years. Cooperation and coordination among countries and other relevant international organization will bring a greater power for addressing the critical issues of economic development, food and energy security, especially for protecting the poor society. For this we must be able to synchronize policies and undertake concerted efforts for

ensuring continues flow of trade and investment with transparent, fair and predictable.

Finally, throughout this forum I encourage to have common responsibilities to endorse development sustainability for better future.