



PRESIDEN  
REPUBLIK INDONESIA

**STATEMENT  
BY  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA  
AT THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT**

**Johannesburg, 2 September 2002**



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**Your Excellency President Thabo Mbeki,  
Your Excellency Secretary General of the United  
Nations,  
Distinguished delegates,**

**At the outset, I should like to extend my heartfelt congratulation on your election as President of this important meeting. It is crucial, for what we are going to produce would have significant effect on the quality of life of our future generation and on the long-term survival of humankind.**

**We have passed the long road before we finally gather here in Johannesburg today. A few months ago, our ministers, during the preparatory meeting in Bali, met to pave the way for this Summit. They agreed on most of the substantive issues under consideration, the report of which I duly submit to this august gathering.**



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**I believe that some outstanding issues in Bali would be settled successfully in Johannesburg. This very Summit would become a reflection of our determination and ability to build upon global partnership in implementing sustainable development by committing ourselves to the agreements we have adopted in Rio, particularly the Rio Principles and Agenda 21.**

**The Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro has successfully reached paramount important agreements on sustainable development. Indeed we have scored some progress primarily in protecting environment since then. Yet, the threat of its deterioration does not decline. Much of productive lands are turning to desserts, while tropical forests diminish so fast. Various biodiversity and marine resources have been depleted or endangered to disappear. Some parts of the world are drowning in floods while in others, people are struggling for increased scarcity of**





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**clean water supply. The ozone layer continues to deplete as a result of increasing green house gases. As a consequence, global warming and ecological disaster become a distinct possibility.**

**Ten years have passed since Rio, yet we still witness people grappling to escape from the poverty in rural areas and overcrowding the cities for a better life. There are a large number of people striving for survival at the expense of the natural resources without due regard to the need of future generation. Meanwhile, in other parts of the hemisphere, production and consumption have been taking place in an unsustainable manner.**

**I believe that the main cause of the problems was, among others, lack of political will in the implementation of Agenda 21. Therefore, this Summit must be able to address these challenges and resolve them in an integrated and comprehensive manner. Should we fail to deliver a final conclusion on the key issues under**



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**consideration of the Summit, it would only fortify the assumption that the whole design about sustainable development has so far been merely words and concepts.**

**Mr. President,**

**Complementing the Principles of Rio and Agenda 21, we decided in Doha to provide further impetus for ensuring an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system. While in Monterrey, we agreed to create better framework for development financing in which the leaders of developed countries have reiterated their commitment to meet the target of 0.7 per cent for ODA from their annual GDP. Moreover, it was also recognized that good governance at the national and international level is key for achieving the objectives of sustainable development.**



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**In our effort to overcome those challenges, we need to take into consideration of the different level of capacity between developed and developing countries. In this regard, if we are determined to accelerate the implementation of Agenda 21, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as recognized in the Rio Declaration must be consistently upheld.**

**Furthermore, we need to observe carefully the enormous impact of globalization to most developing countries. Despite the opportunities it produces, globalization has created considerable challenges that have made them difficult to benefit from its rewards. Therefore, reaching agreement on the fundamental supportive frameworks is essential. This would include enhanced market access, sustained and adequate financial resources, as well as improved capacities to master and apply technology. With such**





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**agreement, I believe the implementation of sustainable development would be enhanced.**

**Finally, let me remind ourselves that we owe to billions of people yearning to lift themselves out of squalor and deprivation. They also have dreams about a better standard of living.**

**The torch has been handed over from Stockholm through Rio and now to Johannesburg. We must carry it forward with strong commitment that would correspond the enormous challenges confronting us ahead.**

**Thank you.**

**Johannesburg, 2 September 2002  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF INDONESIA**

**MEGAWATI SOEKARNOPUTRI**