



**STATEMENT  
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**AT  
HIGH-LEVEL ROUND TABLE  
ON MAJOR FOREST-RELATED DEVELOPMENTS**

**THE 16<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS FORUM ON FOREST**

**NEW YORK, 26 APRIL 2021**

Thank you, Madame Chair,

The impact of climate change stands directly before us. COVID-19 and the global recession further complicate these challenges.

Indonesia has undertaken a balance approach in addressing the impact of pandemic. We continue to steadfast in achieving our environmental and climate action commitment, while addressing the health crisis and economic recovery.

Against this background allow me to share some of our progress so far.

First, on the advancement in forest sector.

Indonesia have successfully stopped the conversion of natural forest and peatland amounting to 66 million hectares, larger than the size of the UK and Norway combined.

Last year we have achieved lowest deforestation rate in decades, as low as 0,1 million hectares, while slashing 82% of our forest fires. All of these are attained while the world witnessing the rising of deforestation as well as ravaging forest fires in various countries

We are rehabilitating 620.000 hectares of mangroves and to be completed by 2024, the largest in the world with four times carbon absorption compared to tropical forest.

Second, on pandemic recovery policies.

In order to cope with this pandemic situation, the Government of Indonesia has been issuing various policies to help stimulate the economy through several interventions including supporting MSMEs, acceleration of the development of community forest, and various support to timber-based industries that is twinned with government's supports towards compliance on market requirements such as timber legality assurance.

In closing, we will continue our balance approach during our G20 presidency in 2022 that will put the enhancement of cooperation in climate change and sustainable development as one of the priorities.

I thank you

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