



Remarks by
His Excellency Ambassador Peter Ilau
Ambassador of Papua New Guinea to Indonesia
On Behalf of
The CTI-CFF Chair of Council of Ministers
At Gala Dinner of
The 11th CTI-CFF Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM-11)
1 December 2015
Manado, Indonesia

Honorable Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia, Her Excellency Susi Pudjiastuti

Honorable, Minister of State, Coordinator of Economic Affairs and Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries of Timor-Leste, His Excellency Estanislau da Silva

Honorable Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources of Papua New Guinea, His Excellency Mao Zemming

Distinguished Executive Director of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, His Excellency Dr. Widi Agoes Pratikto

Honourable Ministers,
Distinguished Senior Officials,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of Chair of Council of Ministers as the Chair of CTI-CFF, I would like to welcome Her Excellency Susi Pudjiastuti, Honorable Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia in this wonderful night for Gala Dinner and opening of the 11th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM-11) of Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF). I would also like to welcome Honorable Estanislau da Silva, Minister of State, Coordinator of Economic Affairs

and Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries for Timor-Leste, His Excellency Dr. Widi Agoes Pratikto, the Executive Director of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat and His Excellency Commodore Peter H. ILau, Ambassador of Papua New Guinea to Indonesia.

It is my honor to express utmost appreciation from the Government of Papua New Guinea to our host, the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, and the Government and People of the Republic of Indonesia, for the very warm and gracious hospitality extended to us here in Manado.

I would also like to express my appreciation to distinguished Senior Officials and their colleagues, representatives from CTI-CFF Partners and Observers for all their efforts towards the arrangement of this Meeting, including the pre-SOM meetings, IUU Fishing Workshop, Marine and Fisheries Exhibition. Last but not least, my gratitude for the inauguration Ceremony of CTI-CFF Centre Building. It is our hope that this building will accommodate the work of CTI-CFF and will represent as a center of excellence for the sustainability of coral reefs, fisheries and marine affairs.

**Honourable Ministers,
Distinguished Senior Officials,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

As you may know that the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) is a multilateral partnership of six countries formed in 2007. The Leaders declaration of CTI-CFF was held on 15 May 2009 among the six countries that developed 10-years Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) with a view for sustaining the region's coral reefs, fish, mangroves, threatened species, marine and coastal living resources. Through this framework and the vigorous collaborative works among government of six countries, CTI-CFF partners, relevant institutions and communities, it is our responsibility to streamline our objectives for achieving the RPOA goals in a timely manner.

I would also like to express my high appreciation for the completion of the process of Host Country Agreement (HCA), which will be signed by the Regional Secretariat and the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia during this

Gala Dinner. This is a momentum for the CTI-CFF to strengthen its institutionalization and empower the resources needed among Member States for the achievement of the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA). It is our hope that the Regional Secretariat office would be functioned as integrated central facilitation and coordination activities for CTI-CFF regional cooperation as well as central of intelligence for sharing and implementing sustainable marine affairs and fisheries policies and programmes.

As for instance, the CTI-CFF is on the discussion with the GIZ Philippines on GIZ Regional Planning Workshop in 30 November 2015 in parallel with Pre-SOM Meetings. As the follow up of GIZ Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion Project, the three Sulu Sulawesi countries, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines confirmed CTI-CFF as the new regional umbrella for the GIZ-SSME Project to facilitate regional and national operationalization of the project activities under the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA). CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat will work closely with GIZ to ensure targets achieved and benefits well-spread throughout the CT6 Countries.

**Honourable Ministers,
Distinguished Senior Officials,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Papua New Guinea as the chair of the CTI-CFF Council of Ministers is willing to host the next Ministerial Meeting of the CTI-CFF in Port Moresby in 2016. On that note, we would like to also inform that the documents on the ratification process is before the National Executive Council for deliberation and will be an agenda for the next Parliament session.

On behalf of the CTI-CFF Chair of Council of Ministers, once again, I would like to cordially welcome you all to the 11th Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM-11). In view of the foregoing and taking into account the outcomes of the SOM-11, there is a need for the strategic objectives, contribution and commitment of the state of our cooperation within CTI-CFF Member States.

In order to do so, I hope that the SOM-11 would provide policies and programmes that integrate the elements of mutual collaborations into comprehensive approaches for CTI-CFF programmes and activities.

To conclude, I wish you have a fruitful discussion, sharing and networking event for the next two days and have a joyful stay in Manado.

Thank you.