



Permanent Mission
of the Republic of Indonesia to the UN, WTO,
and Other International Organizations
in Geneva

**Statement
by the Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia
at the Annual Half-day Panel Discussion
on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
48th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council
28 September 2021**

President,

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed weaknesses and exacerbated disparities in public health and social security systems, that often disproportionately impact indigenous peoples.

As part of the international community, Indonesia continues to support the UNDRIP. Nevertheless, the concept of indigenous peoples is not applicable to Indonesia.

Indeed, Indonesia is home to around 70 million people belonging to customary law communities, or what we call “Masyarakat Hukum Adat”.

The Government of Indonesia has and will continue to support the right of these masyarakat adat, including during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On a positive note, throughout the pandemic, customary law communities in Indonesia have shown tremendous resilience in adapting to the pandemic, namely by adopting tighter self-isolation and self-reliance measures.

Nevertheless, these measures are not enough. COVID-19 **vaccines** and therapeutics **must find their way to all communities**, including to indigenous peoples and local communities. No one is safe until everyone is safe.

In this connection, promoting greater solidarity and political commitment towards guaranteeing the right to health for all, including by ensuring equitable access to vaccines, should continue to be our **collective focus**.

Distinguished Panelists,

In your view, what are some examples of good practices in balancing between promoting self-imposed isolation by indigenous and local communities to counter the spread of COVID-19, and the need to safeguard their participation in decision-making?

I thank you.