Explanation of Vote

By the Indonesian Delegation
on the Draft Declaration on Indigenous Peoples

Mr. President,

We have been closely following the eleven years of prolonged process of negotiations on this draft. And we have learned that the last session of the Working Group was not able to reach consensus on the text.

a solid consensus on the text on we had hoped.

My delegation is of the view that Human Rights Council as a new elevated human rights body is tasked to address important human rights issues such as this draft Declaration. In fact, the international community is waiting for the adoption of such a draft Declaration.

Therefore, Indonesia supports the adoption for the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to reflect our commitment to advance the cause for the promotion of the rights of the indigenous peoples worldwide,

Indonesia is a multicultural nation that does not discriminate its peoples based on any background. There are about 1, 072 ethnic and sub-ethnic group that spread all over the provinces in Indonesia. It should also be underlined that all of them have been given equal treatment before the law.

Having said this, Indonesia would like to make clear that the principle of "the right of self determination" as contained in Article 3 of the draft Declaration should not be construed as authorizing or encouraging any action which would dismember or pair, or totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent states.

Thank you.