



H.E. MRS. MEUTIA HATTA SWASONO
STATE MINISTER FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

BEFORE

THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Madam Chairperson,
Members of the Committee

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It is my pleasure to introduce the combined Fourth and Fifth report of the Republic of
the progress made in the implementation of the Convention on the

Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. I do so against the
background of the 25th anniversary of the Convention and wish to congratulate the

Ministry of Religious Affairs; Mr. Lalu Sudarmadi from the National Coordinating Agency for Family Planning; Ms. Sri Handyaningsih from the Ministry of Manpower and

Termination; Ms. Harjanti from the Ministry of Agriculture; Ms. Sri Hermawati from the

Ministry of Health; Dr. Soedjarwo from the Ministry of Education; and Mr. Agung

Mulyono from the Ministry of Internal Affairs. From the NGO community we have Ms

Rita Korbano, Ms. Anna Husin, Ms. Siti Azinurnami, Ms. Tessa Dwiawuni Saraswati and

To ensure equality of treatment for women, the Health Act is being amended to ensure inclusion of women's reproductive health and rights. Last year the Citizenship Act was amended to prevent discrimination against Indonesian women with foreign spouses

certificates to poor families and their new-born babies in order to safeguard them from

Still in the area of law, the 2007 Law on Natural Disaster Management incorporates provisions concerning the basic needs of women during the emergency phase of natural

now mothers can breastfeed and where contraceptive and counseling services can be

upgrading of women's quality of life in keeping with the human development index (HDI); protection of women from violence in the home and the wider society; and, removal of barriers to women's deeper involvement in public life.

MoU between the State Minister for Women Empowerment, Minister for National Education and the Minister for Home Affairs on accelerating the eradication of illiteracy among women aged 15-44 years on the provision of a school operational assistance programme for the poor.

In the area of health the First Lady launched the revitalization of the Mother Friendly

Madam Chairperson,

With all of these legislative measures, policies and programmes in place, it is only logical
that positive impacts will result for Indonesian women on the ground. Although not

perfectly implemented, they all provide Indonesian women with appropriate mechanisms, tools and channels to empower themselves, to gain protection from all forms of violence and discrimination and to explore opportunities to maximize their potential to the fullest extent possible.

Madam Chairperson,

At this point let me share with you all the current challenges being encountered by

Interaction with the international community will, however, involve two-way exchanges.

its progress in promoting and protecting women's rights. With that objective in mind, Indonesia is proud of the fact that the 2004 ASEAN Ministerial Meeting which it hosted in

