

STRENGTHENING OCEAN SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY PRINCIPLES IN THE 2025-2045 NATIONAL LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT PLAN

JAKARTA – The Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas along with the Indonesia Ocean Justice Initiative (IOJI), and the Coordinating Ministry for Maritime Affairs and Investment held a seminar on Tuesday (8/8) titled “Strengthening the Sustainable and Just Marine Governance in the National Development Plan” as part of efforts to ensure the creation of a sustainable maritime sector development plan.

The Minister of National Development Planning/Head of Bappenas Suharso Monoarfa said the seminar aimed to draw attention to the blue economy’s importance and ensure that sustainable principles are prominently emphasized in each draft of Indonesia’s future development plans. “Our state of mind must be different. Instead of seeing it as islands separated by oceans, we must see it as the opposite: a wide ocean with islands inside. Optimizing the blue economy is a key aspect of economic transformation, which includes finding new sources of economic growth,” said Minister Suharso in his remarks.

The maritime sector is crucial for Indonesia to achieve its Indonesia 2045 Vision, namely becoming a Sovereign, Advanced, and Sustainable Archipelagic Nation. In the 2025-2045 National Long-Term Development Plan (NLTDP), the Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas hopes that the development of the maritime sector will not only emphasize strengthening maritime security, but also emphasize implementing a sustainable marine economy. Apart from focusing on the utilization of the maritime sector to increase monetary contributions, the 2025-2045 NLTDP also needs to pay attention to the sustainability of marine resources. “Maritime development is a development priority in the future. Currently, Indonesia is still working towards developing its maritime economy, becoming a solid maritime power, and creating a strong maritime civilization,” explained Minister Suharso.

The implementation of marine economic development requires collaboration from all stakeholders. “To promote sustainable development in a blue economy, it is imperative to strengthen countries’ capacities in the sustainable management, utilization and innovation of sea-based resources through science, technology and digital transformation. The Blue Innovation Task Force primarily involves capacity building, promoting innovation and ensuring gender inclusivity in ocean-based industries, with a focus on livelihoods, employment, education and fair participation for all stakeholders to sustain the requirements of blue economy development,” said Act. Deputy for Maritime Resources Coordination at the Coordinating Ministry for Maritime Affairs and Investment Mochammad Firman Hidayat.

In addition to the sustainability aspect, maritime economic development must also pay attention to the legal fairness, or ‘justice’, aspect, so that it can address the interests of societies, especially those who depend on marine resources for survival. There are ten injustices that can occur if the blue economy does not pay attention to ocean justice,

which are then grouped into three main categories. *First* are the injustices attributed to tenure, environmental rights and marine resource access. *Second*, is the injustices in regarding access to distribution of benefits, especially for marginalized groups, including women and indigenous people. The *Third* category concerns access to genuine community participation, frequently manifested in the lack of community involvement throughout the strategic decision-making process and governance.

Thus, it is very important to incorporate sustainable and equitable maritime concepts into various development policies and plans, especially those related to the management of marine resources. "The 2025-2045 NLTDP and the 2025-2029 National Medium-Term Development Plan (NMTDP) needs to provide a definition of the blue economy concept that adopts the concept of sustainability by prioritizing blue justice. The targets in the NMTDP also need to reflect the three main principles of a sustainable ocean economy, namely effective protection, sustainable production, and equitable prosperity," IOJI CEO Mas Achmad Santosa concluded.

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