

Joint Statement
between Minister of the Environment of Japan
and the Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia

On 27 June 2019, the Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Luhut B. Panjaitan and the Minister of the Environment of Japan, Mr. Yoshiaki Harada met in Osaka, Japan, to discuss issues related to environment and maritime affairs.

The Ministers welcomed the outcome of G20 Ministerial Meeting on Energy Transitions and Global Environment for Sustainable Growth including the G20 Implementation Framework for Actions on Marine Plastic Litter, the progress of “ASEAN+3 Marine Plastic Debris Cooperative Action Initiative”, and establishment of the “Regional Knowledge Center for Marine Litter” in ERIA as concrete deliverables of the initiative. The Ministers exchanged views on the current policies and cooperation in the field of environment and maritime affairs in both countries. The discussion focused on several issues, namely:

1. Cooperation on Waste to Energy (hereinafter referred as the “W to E”)

The Ministers welcomed the progress of the W to E Public Private Partnership project in Legok Nangka, West Java, made through cooperation with Japan. The Ministers affirmed that the W to E cooperation can accelerate the processes to sustainably treat the waste as well as transforming the waste into energy. The Ministers also discussed and expressed expectation to explore the possibility to develop new projects on the W to E with cooperation between the two countries.

2. Cooperation on monitoring of marine litter

The Ministers welcomed the signing of the Implementing Arrangement between the Ministry of the Environment of Japan and the Coordinating Ministry for Maritime Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia on the Cooperation in the field of the Monitoring of Marine Litter.

The Ministers shared the views on the importance of strengthening cooperation on monitoring of marine litter.

In this regard, the Ministers further endeavor to develop, as follow:

A Joint Pilot Project to monitor marine litter across Indonesia and Japan as the first application of the monitoring guideline for microplastics proposed by Japan;

A Training Course in Japan for Indonesian participants to develop capacity on the monitoring methodologies both on field and laboratory for marine litter; and

A collaboration to exchange information and to develop a manual on the monitoring of marine litter on the basis of findings collected through the implementation of the Joint Pilot Project.

3. Cooperation within the ASEAN+3

The Ministers further decided to co-organize a workshop in order to share information on current situation and good practices in addressing marine litter issues. The Ministers committed to further co-lead the implementation of action program “Strengthening Capacity for Marine Debris Reduction in ASEAN region through formulation of National Action Plans for ASEAN Member States and Integrated Land-to-Sea Policy Approach” and encourage further initiatives to share knowledge and know-how on the issue of marine plastic litter with the ASEAN+3 region.

The Ministers shared the view on input and horizontal development of outcomes of the above two pillars of cooperation within ASEAN+3.

The Ministers expressed its fervent commitment to strengthen bilateral cooperation on sustainable development and further decided to follow-up these actions regularly at high level meetings.