



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

BY

**BERNHARD ESAU, MP
MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES**

**AT THE SIGNING OF
PLAN OF ACTION ON COOPERATION IN FISHERIES
BETWEEN NAMIBIA AND INDONESIA**

BALI - INDONESIA

30 October 2018

- Honourable Susi Pudjiastuti, Minister of Marine and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia;
- Her Excellency Ambassador Anne Nakamau Mutelo, Ambassador of the Republic of Namibia to Malaysia, Indonesia and Philippines;
- Officials of the Ministry of Marine and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia, and Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources of the Republic of Namibia Present;
- All protocols observed

Ladies and Gentlemen, You will recall that the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of Namibia and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Marine Affairs and Fisheries Cooperation in Bogor on 30th August 2018. It is on this basis that Honourable Susi Pudjiastuti and I are signing the Plan of Action on Cooperation in Fisheries today, for the Period 2019 - 2021. Even though we are located in different oceans with distinct fisheries, Namibia and Indonesia are Large Oceans Nations, and hence have a lot to learn from each other on fisheries matters.

In particular, Namibia is keen to learn best practices from Indonesia on fighting IUU fishing, and sustainable aquaculture production, among other aspects. I therefore urge officials from both countries to act with speed to conclude the necessary detailed protocols containing timelines and budgets for specific activities, so that we may give meaning to this Plan of Action, and hence the MOU.

As I stated earlier, we are true sister States on fisheries matters, including being members of the High Level Panel on Sustainable Oceans Economies. Let us act with speed to give meaning to the commitments made by our two Presidents during the State visit to Indonesia in August 2018.

In conclusion, I wish to assure my colleague Minister that Namibia will be committed to ensuring that the aspirations of this Plan of Action are fulfilled. **I Thank You.**