

**Intervention on Environmental Issues
The Standing Committee on Economic and Sustainable
Development Affairs of
the Asian Parliamentary Assembly
by Honorable Asst. Prof. Worawit Baru
on 20th – 21st September, 2011
in Moscow, Russian Federation**

Mr. Chairman,

Thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to share my view on environmental issues and I appreciate Mr. Mohammad Nejad-Hosseinian for his report.

Allow me to legitimate the concept from the APA Resolution on Environmental Issues, Global Warming, Climate Change and Planting Billions of Trees throughout Asia in 2009 which aiming to balance the development and the environmental development. APA has exerted its effort to protect the environment through various measures such as the establishment of the Commission for Sustainable Development and Environment Protection in accordance with international norms, in particular, the Convention on Climate Change and Kyoto Protocol 1992. But one of the most important natural resources that we cannot neglect is the ocean or marine resources. The marine resources and their ecosystem are becoming increasingly deteriorated by overfishing and coral reef destruction. Moreover, the pollution from the land-based sources and the seaborne sources are destroying the marine ecosystem and adversely effect the biodiversity in the oceans. The complex web of inter-related, interdependent, conflicting and competing demands and interests with too many stakeholders are the challenges of the ocean governance nowadays. The cooperation to improve the efficiency of all mechanisms for security purpose and for preservation of the oceans need to be enhanced. How do the countries in this region can have more cooperation on systematic and continuous monitoring, extensive survey, and advanced research in order to maintain the ecosystem of

the marine resources? We, as the parliamentarians, should be well aware of the importance of the oceans, the causes and effect from humans' activities to the health of the oceans and ecosystem. And we should focus on participation of all concerned, in particular, the local community to take part in any programs to preserve the ecosystem and promote the eco-tourism. Besides, we should enact laws in supporting the international law and convention and play the role in ratifying certain convention which aims to promote sustainable use of ocean resources. The Thai Government has coped with the marine biodiversity and coral reef problems in long term. We have the construction of artificial coral reef program aiming to maintain the well marine ecosystem covered 2,000 squarekilometres in the Gulf of Thailand.

The cooperation among the APA member countries under the concept of constructive common stand, and technologies on environmental issues related to marine resources have to be promoted. Nonetheless, we should support and monitor any environmental-friendly policies of the governments in preserving marine resources for the better result in the ocean pollution control and availability of its resources.

Mr. Chairman,

I appreciate all presentations and comments from all participants. I support every comment related to the protection in all kinds of natural resources as well as the environment. The capacity building on ocean governance shall be modified so that the APA and our stakeholders including non-governmental organization can work hand-in-hand with the governments. I sincerely hope that at the end of this meeting, we can have the common stand to ensure availability of marine ecosystem. In order to combat the deterioration of marine resources, I believe that we must understand the problems and become part of the solution.

Thank you very much
