

SPEECH BY AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
H.E. Adiyatwidi Adiwoso Asmady
AT THE RECEPTION OF INDEPENDENCE DAY, 20th September 2018

HONORABLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, STATE SECRETARIES

MY FELLOW AMBASSADORS

DISTINGUISHED

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Let me at the outset to extend warm welcomes and our deep appreciation to all of you for being presence in celebrating the 73rd anniversary of Indonesian Independence Day, which actually falls on August 17. This event is not only to commemorate of our Independence Day but also for the 25th years of our diplomatic relation with the Slovakia Republic. In this junction, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the government and the people of Slovakia who had just celebrated its 25th anniversary as an independence country and the 100 years as a nation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1993, the bilateral relations between Indonesia and Slovakia have been increasingly strong and steady. Both countries have succeeded in giving their contributions in the political, economic and social at the bilateral, regional and international levels. Indonesia and Slovakia have demonstrated shared commitment and mutual support in dealing with and resolving various international issues in order to maintain peace and stability in the region and worldwide.

Both countries have closely cooperated namely in nine areas of priorities that have common benefits for cooperation focused on, particularly in economy, education and culture as well as by enhancing the people to people contacts. Whilst for implementation of the said cooperation's, has been carried out through three mechanisms namely Bilateral Consultation Forum; Joint Commission Meeting and, Business Roundtable Forum.

As my President Joko Widodo has expected, it is in my sincere hope that those cooperation's could be translated into a more concrete relationship which can be directly enjoyed by both nations. It is expected that the cooperation of both countries will increasingly develop and advance in each level.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In cultural education sectors, we have been involved in a fairly intensive cooperation through exchange of the students and Lecturers. Indonesia will emphasize a great importance in strengthening cooperation in education and research with Slovak universities and institutions. Since it is in line with the priorities of our national priority in human development.

Each year, the government of Indonesian has provided two kinds of scholarships namely *Darmasiswa* and Indonesian Arts and Culture Scholarship (IACS). By having these scholarships, it contributes significantly for promoting people to people contact and strengthening bilateral relations and they have also given in depth knowledge about Indonesia in many aspects.

On the occasion for commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Indonesia-Slovak diplomatic relations, today we would present it to you, a cultural evening from Indonesia to share a glimpse of Indonesia dances and music. Moreover, there would be a photo exhibition by Mr. Pavol Demeš (who visited Indonesia in last April 2018) on the pluralistic life of Indonesia in October 2018.

I once again express my gratitude to you all for your presence.

Thank you.