

2nd WWC - INDONESIA COUNTRY REPORT

First of all, on behalf of the Indonesian Women Association (Perhimpunan Perempuan Indonesia - PERPENI) we would like to thank you for the opportunity that we can participate in the 2nd WWC. In this great opportunity, we would like to provide a situation's report of the struggle of our country, Indonesia, especially on the issue of women's struggles.

Portrait of Life and Struggle of Women in Indonesia.

Patriarchal culture that lead to gender inequality still dominating in various lines of social life, economics, politics and culture of Indonesian society. Neoliberalism or capitalist economic system that is run during the reign of the ruler is having a big contribution to preserve the culture of patriarchy in society that impede democratization and have given birth to injustice and the limitations for women in Indonesia in various fields.

Situation of Indonesian women's struggles may looks like there is a great progress, but the fact that the development and achievements of the women's movement is still far from what we expected. However, the growth rate of women's organizations that are mushrooming in various sectors of society should be appreciated. On the one hand this is very positive because it will be ammunition or force continues to grow. But on the other hand it is a weakness for the women's movement became fragmented politics or the interests of the ruling party as well as certain groups.

As in general these are what described the portrait of life and the women's movement in Indonesia:

1. Women and Education.

The culture of Indonesian people, especially those who living in rural areas are generally put the first priority to children of men than women. Because men are seen as the successor name and family lineage as well as the breadwinner, so the average of the educated women is lower than men.

Another factor is a high cost of education lead to many children dropping out of school, especially girls. In fact, the solution of the cost limitations for many parents have made girls as "business project" for the salvation of the economy, such as making them as Housemaid (PRT) or married at an early age or polygamous wealthy man. So the patriarchal culture that is essentially feudal culture, as well as the high cost of education greatly contribute to make women less educated than men so that women are less able to compete in accessing economic resources and strategic positions in the job.

Many organizations working in the field of education is growing, but very rarely touch on issues of gender inequality or issues that are fundamental to changes in the education system better, for example, free or affordable education, or education that oriented to the interests of the people and the environment. The dominant issue in the actions of the teachers or educator workers only surfaced in the increasing of economic for themself.

2. Women and Health.

The rate of maternal and child mortality yet malnutrition are still high in Indonesia. Indonesian women's reproductive health is also very low. These are the impact of low knowledge about health and also the impact of the capitalist system that is run by the Indonesian authorities are not in favor of the interests of the people. While the organization of students and workers in the health sector such as the Indonesian Doctors Association (IDI) as one of the largest national organization of health workers yet well educated still dont have a movement that touch issues of improvement of the health care system the best and affordable by the poor; they work like Hospitals, Clinics, Community Health Centres (Pukesmas) and others more oriented towards business rather than social services.

Policies in favor of pharmaceutical corporations and large private hospitals that do the authorities in the health sector, causing people, especially women and children do not get adequate health insurance and quality.

The fact that we often get in the community with low income resulted in women / mothers get the lowest portion in terms of well-being in the family. As a result of further more, the health of the mothers who will give birth to the next generation lower its quality. Thus the circle that keeps going and have not been able to find a solution that is significant.

3. The Sector of Women's Workers.

In recent years the labor movement and women's organizations in the quantity continues to grow. At first glance we would think that this is the power to victory, but it is unfortunate because the corporate owner always try to tame leaders of the workers with wage increases in private plus nice position in the company, or by placing its agents in the labor organizations so that the movement and actions from labor can easily be controlled by owner and ruler and that makes the struggle is no longer in the best interests of the workers.

The condition is worst for women workers that should receive lower wages than male workers. Assuming that their plight is a destiny that must be accepted and the cultural influence of feudalism, that create more diffucult development of the labor movement for the quality and this resulting a frustration. This situation makes them choose to secure and focus solely limited to carrying out the role of domestic or family care.

4. Women and Agriculture.

The peasant movement is a bit brighter. In cases of land grabbing by corporate and state, women were seen tenacious resistance. Not infrequently they were at the forefront when the actions demand the return of their land. This is because a major threat to the peasants are losing the means of production or the loss of the right to work the land, which means death for the peasants. This threat makes them think "better to die fighting than to die of hunger". This idea became the basic and fighting spirit for them.

5. Women & Environmental Damage.

Exploitation by big corporations against mines and forests do not make the people around him to prosper. One might even say, the people worse off. Policy authorities in favor of the investor corporation produce ecological damage caused by land clearing and deforestation and uncontrolled mining, both legal and illegal. The loss of their livelihood illegally caused the loss of the land taken over by large corporations to cooperate with the authorities resulted in the migration of rural women to big cities or abroad. In some areas of mined land were damaged left alone with the destruction of water sources that cause damage to people's health. Women who are pregnant or unhealthy health impaired at birth have children who are stunted. While their husbands tried his luck with finding a job in the big cities, the women live minimally. Similarly, the development of oil palm and other crops covering millions of hectares by large corporations which is dominated by foreign corporations has resulted in deforestation and forest fires. Recently we have witnessed the impact of forest fires and thick smoke that cause to the health of children covering a wide area. Even claimed the lives of children early age children (under five years). Clearing a massive impact on the size of agricultural land owned by peasant food. Again adverse impact is felt directly by women who can no longer farm because of the loss of their land. At first they were able to plant rice, corn, cassava and others. Now almost all the necessities of life must be purchased at a high price. Because the number of people or poor women annually increasing in number.

6. Women and Protection Law.

Indeed, Indonesia has had a legal basic to ensure equality between women and men. In addition, Indonesia also has some law that aimed to protecting women from Domestic Violence, Child Protection, Trafficking, and the Political Parties Act and the Elections which stipulates a minimum quota for women's participation as candidates, and others. However, the crime rate and the number of sexual violence are still very high in Indonesia as well as other democratic rights that still discriminatory. There are many women in their role as housewives often suffer domestic violence. The number of cases of violence against women in 2015 increased 10% compared to the previous period. In 2013 cases of violence against women, a number of 279,688 cases. In 2014 rose to 293,220 cases (data obtained from the evidence *Komisi Nasional Perempuan* – National Commission for Women). And the government are still not sensitive to the issue of gender inequality or in resolving cases of violence against women. The case of domestic violence and sexual abuse is still regarded as a domestic or private so that the victims did not get justice, as a result, the lives of women getting worse. This is reinforced by various other discriminatory policies against women scattered over 500 regions, provinces and districts / cities in Indonesia in the form of District Regulations made by the regional authorities.

As to the Migrant Workers and Domestic Workers (PRT), it is obviously a very weak legal protection for them. The majority of migrant workers and domestic servants (PRT) were women. Many cases of torture of migrant workers and domestic workers both abroad and within the country without being sure of country coverage. Trafficking of migrant workers, both legal and illegal, in order to increase state revenues are still ongoing with no guarantee that sufficient legal protection for migrant workers, so many migrant workers died in the State of employment. The organization of migrant workers has made various efforts in the defense and policy changes, but the result is still far from

satisfactory, because government will active if only there is a case. Authorities have not been able to make a strong law to protect its citizens. For example, several cases of migrant workers who were sentenced to death in some countries of the Middle East and Malaysia.

7. Representation of Women's Political Power.

After the era of reform, whether consciously or not there has been a "reduction" movement of women into two realms, namely: Women's Rights struggle and the struggle for electoral politics. The struggle of women's rights such as equality or the elimination of discrimination, education, health and other fledgling even been institutionalized in a state institution is the *Komisi Nasional Perempuan* (National Commission for Women), which should act as a watchdog and guard for upholding democratic rights of women. The birth of a number of laws that protect the democratic rights of women and the latter is new in 2015 admitted 8 March as International Women's Day is the result of a long struggle by women's progressive even in its implementation still handcuffed and do not function properly.

While the struggle for electoral politics continues to grow, especially after the promulgation of the Law on General Elections in 2003, which regulates the nomination quota of women to legislative bodies at all levels of at least 30% as affirmative action. Although in practice it is not able to meet the quota of 30% but at least theoretically representation of women has been "taken into account".

The quantity of women who occupy positions of strategic importance in the executive ranks is also experiencing growth, such as increasing the number of female ministers in the current government even for the first Foreign Ministers held by women. Women have also been appointed by the Governor, Regent, Head and Chief of Police or Resort in the province and some districts / cities. Although the involvement of women as leaders in government, but because they are generally derived from an elite political party or political parties supported by the authorities to ensure that they are not sensitive to the issues of gender inequality and democratic rights of women, but most are not thinking people illegal or taboo about women as leaders, has begun to erode.

From the description above, can be concluded that so far the authorities in Indonesia are fully capitalist big corporations to cooperate with the global monopoly capitalist that fully carry the greedy capitalist system and perpetuate the patriarchal system, suck and oppress the people of Indonesia, plunder the riches of natural resources so miserable people, particularly women.

This is a portrait of the life and development of the women's movement in Indonesia until now. Nevertheless, our spirit will not subside, together with various other women's organizations, we will continue to step up and fight for justice and democratization while strip the depravity of the economic and political system today and hypocrisy policies are indeed in favor of the ruling capitalists and large corporations. Subordination, discrimination, marginalization or impoverishment of women become a common issue and should continue to be a policy championed by the country's pro-democratic government.

Our move today is to continue to organize various strength to fight any injustice, deception and discrimination against women. And in any event, we will continue to campaign for the rights of

citizens demands that must be met by the state of well-being for all citizens, social justice and a dignified life.

Indonesian women's struggle is a part of the democratic struggle of women in worldwide.

We realize this is the era of monopoly capitalists have grown global. Our country is also a target of monopoly capitalist exploitation of the world to cooperate with authorities and major corporations in the country. They deplete the natural resources of our land and oppress and suck the working people of our country are consequently strongly felt by women misery in Indonesia's population is now around 50% of the 250 million people of Indonesia. Therefore the struggle of Indonesian women is part of the democratic struggle of women in worldwide.

Finally, we hope that in the 2nd WWC, we can unite with friends in the great struggle to unite the militant world women's movement against all forms of oppression, exploitation and injustice.

United Women Can not Be Defeated !

Long Live International Women's Struggle !

Liberation Greetings!

PERHIMPUNAN PEREMPUAN INDONESIA (PERPENI)
(Indonesian Women Association)

The Indonesian delegation at the 2nd WWC