

Agenda 17: General exchange of views on dark and quiet skies for science and society.

Ms. Antonia Rahayu Rosaria Wibowo

Mr. Chair, distinguished delegates,

In accordance with International Astronomical Union (IAU) 2009 Resolution B5 as attached in document A/AC.105/2017/CRP.24, Indonesia believes that dark skies must be preserved and protected as one of the world's cultural and natural heritage. Indonesia views the preserving and protecting dark skies in certain places or areas can guarantee humans' right to observe stars. Moreover, the preservation of dark sky areas is useful to the dissemination of astronomy science as the basic content in education.

Indonesia has and continues to develop the concept of Astro tourism involving local governments and communities, through socialization, education, and spatial planning of the dark sky park conservation area and radio silence. Socialization develops faster with the existence of some communities established by society which help preserve the dark sky and educate people through astronomy. In the education field, Timau National Observatory has been used for dissemination in school children.

Mr. Chair,

My delegation would also like to echo others in supporting Chilean proposal on the establishment of Expert Group with a 3-year mandate and the inclusion of Dark and Quiet Skies as item agenda of our STSC.

Thank you, Chair, distinguished delegates.