STATEMENT

I acknowledge the presence and guidance of the Co-Chairs Hon. Dr. RM Marty M. Natalegawa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the republic of Indonesia and Hon. Kevin Rudd, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Australia. I thank the Government of the Republic of Indonesia for hosting the Senior Officials and the Ministerial Conference this year. I also thank the sponsors of both the senior officials and Ministerial conference.

This Fourth Bali Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and related Transnational Crime is very important and timely for Solomon Islands, especially with the on-going Immigration legislative reforms and Service Delivery. Solomon Islands has a draft legislation to be tabled in Parliament later this year 2011, which would criminalise people smuggling and trafficking and provides for a visa category for the temporary protection of foreign trafficking victims.

Solomon Islands further emphasize that, there must be effective cooperation by states to address trafficking in person, Law Enforcement Agencies in states must cooperate effectively on border Management and control and an inclusive but non-binding Regional Framework Approach for Addressing Irregular Migration must be adopted in the future.

Whilst transit and destination states continue to advance with Immigration legislative frame works and operational capabilities to combat people smuggling trafficking in persons and related Transnational Crime, states of origin must also do the same.

Thank you.

Hon. Elizah Doro Muala MP,

Minister for Commerce, Industries, Labour and Immigration,

Solomon Islands.

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