Address of Ms. Lawan Oungkiros

Chairperson of ASEAN Ports Association

At the Opening Ceremony of the 39th APA Meeting

Bali, Indonesia

November 13, 2013

The Vice Minister of Transportation – Mr. Bambang Susantono

Vice Governor of Bali – Mr. Ketut Sudikerte

President Director of Indonesia Port Corporation I – Mr. Bambang Eka Cahyana

President Director of Indonesia Port Corporation III – Mr. Djarwo Surjanto

Director of Personel and General Affairs of Indonesia Port Corporation III – Mr. A. Edy Hidayat N.

Director of Personel and General Affairs of Indonesia Port Corporation IV – Mr. Pasoroan Herman Harianja

Head of delegations and fellow delegates of APA member countries,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my great honor and pleasure to be here and to have all of you here to participate and share the 39th APA Meeting in the exotic city of Bali, Indonesia. On behalf of APA, I wish to thank the Indonesian Government, Indonesia Port Corporation, our host for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to us and, in particular, their dynamic effort in making this meeting most fruitful and enjoyable. On top of all, i wish to extend my sincere appreciation to the Vice Minister of Transportation – Mr. Bambang Susantono for, in spite of his heavy commitment, kindly presides over this ceremony and gives us the keynote address.

I am also happy to have Mrs. Franca Sprong from GIZ with us to share her knowledge and views on the most interesting and challenging issues confronting our ASEAN port and shipping industries – “Sustainable Port Development in the ASEAN Region”. And that brings me to the other purpose of this Main Meeting. Apart from keeping abreast of what APA and our respective port members have done during the year, this meeting will present a chance to socialize with those who share the interest and expertise, a chance to pick up new ideas or share the latest thinking on some critical aspect of our business as well as a chance to find out what are in store for us in the years to come. I believe that within these couple days we will obtain certain nuggets of information that will transform our approach to a challenge.

Ladies and gentlemen,

There is no denying that ASEAN is now the most promising region. In spite of economic downturn around the globe in previous years, ASEAN economy still achieved steady growth, particularly in seaborne trade. Moreover, the realization of the ASEAN Economic Community or AEC in the year 2015 will bring more economic activities to the region, including development of transport infrastructure and trade facilitation in order to make ASEAN most attractive and prosperous. Therefore, APA ports, as parts of the ASEAN logistic-supply chain should be well prepared for the future robust trade with the best port services, transport connections and business networks.

However, while thinking of the bright economic return on one hand, we do need to think of the beautiful future on the other. There have been louder calls for environtmmental and social responsibility, as percentage of greenhouse gas emission from seaborne transport activities signifivantly impacts global warming, which to some extent ultimately causes disasters in difefrent forms and regions. I am pleased to say that we, APA ports, are well aware that sustainable development is crucial and Green Port Initiative is an important effort to balance the environment protection and the commercial viability of port development and operation. We have recently initiated various measures and projects to promote Green Port. Still, we have a lot of work to do and learn from the more advanced. This meeting will also be a good opportunity to promote technical cooperation and capacity building in Green Ports among member ports, in accordance with the global concern on sustainable development.

In closing, thank you again Indonesia and all participating members. I wish we all have a wonderful meeting and stay in Bali – the Island of Gods. Thank you. Terima Kasih