HE MR RACHMAT WITOELAR
Executive Chair of the Indonesian National Council on Climate Change

HE Mr Rachmat Witoelar is the Executive Chair of the Indonesian National Council on Climate Change. Born in 1941, he served as the Minister of Environment in 2004–09. Prior to this he was the Indonesian Ambassador to Russia (1993–97). He had a long tenure as a member of the Indonesian Parliament (1971–1993).

Mr Witoelar has been engaged in international negotiations for decades. He was actively involved in the Asian International Parliamentary Organization (AIPO 1983–91) and a regular delegate to the International Parliamentary Union (IPU 1977–90). During his tenure as the Minister of Environment, he was elected as the President of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Governing Council (2005–07). In 2007 he was elected as the President of the 13th Conference of Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 13 UNFCCC) in Bali which produced The Bali Road Map. Mr Witoelar held the position of the President of the Ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP9) to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal in 2008–09.

Rachmat Witoelar graduated as an architect from Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB), Indonesia. Upon completing his study, his dedication as an architect led him to the establishment of the Indonesian Architecture Association in 1985, where he is currently a member. He received a Medal of Highest Honour from the Turkmenistan Government and the Satya Lencana Penegak from The Indonesian Government. Rachmat Witoelar was awarded an Honorary Professorship in Environmental Management from Griffith University, Australia in 2008.