



Delhi Policy Group

**Indonesian MFA Virtual Foreign Policy Circle's Talks –  
"Building an Equitable and Inclusive Global Order:  
A Perspective from the South"  
(July 20, 2023)**

**Opening Remarks by Amb. H.K. Singh, Director General**

**Director General Dr. Yayan Mulyana,  
Ambassador Ina Krisnamurthi,  
Professor Makmur Keliat,  
My Colleagues Amb. Nalin Surie and Amb. Biren Nanda, and  
Distinguished participants from the Ministries and Institutions of the  
Republic of Indonesia,**

Selamat Pagi, good morning.

- **I am Hemant Singh, Director General of the Delhi Policy Group, and it is my great honour to join this virtual discussion which I hope marks the beginning of an important knowledge sharing partnership between DPG and KEMLU.**
- **Our subject today – Building an Equitable and Inclusive Global Order – has been a shared aspiration of our two Republics since their foundation, when we broke free from imperial powers and led the emancipation of colonised nations. We are the originators of Asian identity and resurgence, and of internationalist purpose and cooperation. We have inspired by our democratic example, and have maintained our steadfast commitment to an equitable world order that respects the political independence of states to determine their own sovereign choices. Today, we are stronger, and have the agency and power to shape the future of Asia. But there must be greater urgency and synergy in our efforts, as an unreformed and ineffective multilateral system impacts under-represented Asia the most, even as it emerges as the world's economic engine and is central to global geopolitics.**
- **We cannot escape the reality that major powers, in any period of history, tend to put their self-interest first, and multilateral cooperation is not a natural condition of a world marked by strategic competition for dominance. The multilateral system cannot deliver without the sustained commitment of major**

**powers to global institutions and observance of rules based order. Multilateralism is not working because it is not being allowed to work, except where it serves great power interests.**

- **We are also meeting at a juncture when there is unprecedented disarray in global order, resulting from yet another major conflict in Europe, growing great power rivalry and tensions in the Indo-Pacific, and authoritarian expansionism in Asia. Furthermore, as decision making has become concentrated in the security and economic institutions of the developed West, the wider international community stands sidelined and marginalised, even as it suffers the consequences of stalled multilateral cooperation and widespread economic disruption.**
- **By civilisation and history, Asia is distinct, and is increasingly multipolar. It will contribute two-thirds of aggregate global growth this year. As Asia's largest democracies, our two nations must play their part in fostering stability, security and prosperity in Asia.**
- **Since this discussion is focussed on the catalytic role of India in shaping the vision of the Global South, let me mention three salient features of India's global outlook:**
  - **In terms of geopolitics, India remains committed to strategic independence, and to an equitable, inclusive and cooperative world order free from domination.**
  - **In the geo-economic arena, and as Chair of G20, India is working constructively towards a more inclusive and equitable distribution of global finance, resources and technology to the post-pandemic, debt-burdened, nations of the Global South. [PM Narendra Modi: "No Group can claim global leadership without listening to those most affected by its decisions."]**
  - **And in terms of regional architecture in the Indo-Pacific, India's initiatives are designed to develop inclusive partnerships among equal stakeholders, and contribute meaningfully to cooperative, rules-based order.**
- **Finally, let me say that the core principles that have defined our two nations since their independence must remain central to our joint endeavours to reshape the world order, including the UN and multilateral institutions, to better serve the collective interests of the international community more effectively, equitably and with greater legitimacy.**

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