Reafirmation of archipelagic state principle through the establishment of archipelagic region law in Indonesia

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Abstract. Archipelagic regions characterized by vast ocean area and groups of small islands are dominant factor in affirming the identity of the Republic of Indonesia as an archipelagic state. However, it has not been sufficiently accommodated in Indonesian national legislation. The principle of an archipelagic state should be adopted \textit{mutatis-mutandis} to be formulated in the management of autonomous regions, not only in Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government which is \textit{lex generalis} in nature, but also in the specificity of the administration of regional governance in archipelagic regions which is \textit{lex specialis}. The "Principle of Archipelagic State" needs to be implemented into "Principle of Archipelagic Region" for regions with archipelagic characteristics. In this context, an Archipelagic Regional Law is very much needed to reinforce the identity of the Republic of Indonesia as an archipelagic country, and to overcome extraordinary development disparities between eastern Indonesia dominated by islands regions and western Indonesia dominated by large islands.

1. Introduction
Geographically, the Republic of Indonesia stretches from $6^\circ$ North Latitude to $11^\circ$ South Latitude and $92^\circ$ to $142^\circ$ East Longitude, and consists of approximately 17,504 of large and small islands. Three-quarter of Indonesia's territory is sea (5.9 million km$^2$) with a coastline length of 95,161 km, the second longest after Canada. Through the Djuanda Declaration, December 13, 1957, Indonesia unilaterally declared to the international community that the Indonesian seas (the seas around, between, and within the Indonesian archipelago) became one unitary territory of the Republic of Indonesia. The existence of Indonesia as an archipelagic country has been recognized internationally through the third UN convention on the law of the sea, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982 (UNCLOS 1982), then ratified by Indonesia with Law Number 17 of 1985. Based on UNCLOS 1982, Indonesia's total marine area is 5.9 million km$^2$, consisting of 3.2 million km$^2$ of territorial waters and 2.7 km$^2$ of Exclusive Economic Zone waters, this water area does not include the continental shelf. This makes Indonesia the largest archipelagic country in the world (the biggest archipelago in the world) \cite{1}.

The existence of the Republic of Indonesia as an archipelagic state is confirmed through Article 25A of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia which affirms that "The Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia is an archipelagic State characterized by an archipelago with territories whose boundaries and rights are determined by law.” As a unitary state with archipelagic characteristics, Indonesia adheres to the principle of decentralization, so that regions are given the opportunity and power to regulate and manage their own governance, which are called autonomous regions. In this case, central government has authority to decentralize some of its power to any regions
based on right of autonomy, but the highest power remains in the hands of the central government. So sovereignty, both inward and outward sovereignty, rests entirely with central government [2].

In a unitary state, parts of the state are commonly referred to as regions (gebiedsdeel) which means the environment which is incarnated by dividing an environmental unit called a region (gebied). In other words, the term area means part or element of a larger environment as a unit. This is in accordance with Article 18 paragraph (1) of the 1945 Constitution which states that; "The Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia is divided into provincial regions and the provincial regions are divided into regencies/cities, each of which has a regional government regulated by law." The use of the term “divided up” is intended to emphasize that the relationship between the central and local governments is hierarchical and vertical. This is different from a federal or confederation state [3].

From the main forms of dispersal of state administration and government, it will be found at least three forms of relationship between the central government and the regional governments according to the basis of (1) territorial deconcentration; (2) territorial autonomy; and (3) federal. For a unitary state with archipelagic characteristics, ideally the relationship between the central and the regionals governments is carried out according to territorial autonomy, because it can be done through: (1) the law explicitly stipulates various functions of government (state administration) as new affairs to autonomous regions/units; (2) the central government from time to time delegates new affairs to the autonomous units; (3) the central government recognizes certain governmental affairs that were "created" or which were later regulated by an autonomous units either because they were not regulated and managed by central government or on the basis of some kind of concurrent power; and (4) allowing an affair that has been traditionally or from the beginning recognized as a government function to be regulated by an autonomous units [3].

Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government defines decentralization as the handover of government affairs by central government to autonomous regions based on Regional Autonomy. The principle of decentralization is implemented in the form of regional autonomy which is defined as the right to manage one's own household. Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government, which replaces Law Number 32 of 2004 concerning Regional Government, affirms the notion of regional autonomy as the rights, powers, and obligations of autonomous regions to regulate and manage their own government affairs and the interests of local communities in the system. The Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.

In the socio-political aspect, the granting of autonomy and authority to the regions is a manifestation of the central recognition and trust in the regions. The central recognition of the existence of the region and trust by giving broad authority to the regions will create a harmonious relationship between central government and the regions [4].

The concept of regional autonomy, historically was introduced to the constitutional system of the Republic of Indonesia for the first time through Law Number 1 of 1945, this Law was later replaced by Law Number 22 of 1948 concerning Regional Government [5]. Subsequently, sequentially, regional autonomy was implemented through Law Number 1 of 1957 concerning the Principles of Regional Government, Law Number 18 of 1965 concerning Regional Government, Law Number 5 of 1974 concerning Principles of Regional Government, Law Number 22 of 1999 concerning Regional Government, Law Number 32 of 2004 concerning Regional Government, and Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government, as amended for the second time by Law Number 9 of 2015 concerning the Second Amendment to Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government. All of these laws have a scope and direction of regulation that are inadequate or not at all accommodating to autonomous regions with archipelagic characteristics. This, in fact, creates injustice in the context of implementing regional autonomy in Indonesia, given the differences in regional characteristics.
### Table 1. Indonesia's Human Development Index by Province 2010-2018.

| Province                  | Human Development Index |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
|                           | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
| Aceh                      | 67.09 | 67.45 | 67.81 | 68.3 | 68.81 | 69.45 | 70 | 70.6 | 71.19 |
| Sumatera Utara            | 67.09 | 67.34 | 67.74 | 68.36 | 68.87 | 69.51 | 70 | 70.57 | 71.18 |
| Sumatera Barat            | 67.25 | 67.81 | 68.36 | 68.91 | 69.36 | 69.98 | 70.73 | 71.24 | 71.73 |
| Riau                      | 68.65 | 68.9 | 69.15 | 69.91 | 70.33 | 70.84 | 71.2 | 71.79 | 72.44 |
| Jambi                     | 65.39 | 66.14 | 66.94 | 67.76 | 68.24 | 68.89 | 69.62 | 69.99 | 70.65 |
| Sumatera Selatan          | 64.44 | 65.12 | 65.79 | 66.16 | 66.75 | 67.46 | 68.24 | 68.86 | 69.39 |
| Bengkulu                  | 65.35 | 65.96 | 66.61 | 67.5 | 68.06 | 68.59 | 69.33 | 69.95 | 70.64 |
| Lampung                   | 63.71 | 64.2 | 64.87 | 65.73 | 66.42 | 66.95 | 67.65 | 68.25 | 69.02 |
| Kep. Bangka Belitung      | 66.02 | 66.59 | 67.21 | 67.92 | 68.27 | 69.05 | 69.55 | 69.99 | 70.67 |
| Kep. Riau                 | 71.13 | 71.61 | 72.36 | 73.02 | 73.4 | 73.75 | 73.99 | 74.45 | 74.84 |
| Dki Jakarta               | 76.31 | 76.98 | 77.53 | 78.08 | 78.39 | 78.99 | 79.6 | 80.06 | 80.47 |
| Jawa Barat               | 66.15 | 66.67 | 67.32 | 68.25 | 68.8 | 69.5 | 70.05 | 70.69 | 71.3 |
| Jawa Tengah              | 66.08 | 66.64 | 67.21 | 68.02 | 68.78 | 69.49 | 69.98 | 70.52 | 71.12 |
| Di Yogyakarta            | 75.37 | 75.93 | 76.15 | 76.44 | 76.81 | 77.59 | 78.38 | 78.89 | 79.53 |
| Jawa Timur               | 65.36 | 66.06 | 66.74 | 67.55 | 68.14 | 68.95 | 69.74 | 70.27 | 70.77 |
| Banten                   | 67.54 | 68.22 | 68.92 | 69.47 | 69.89 | 70.27 | 70.96 | 71.42 | 71.95 |
| Bali                     | 70.1 | 70.87 | 71.62 | 72.09 | 72.48 | 73.27 | 73.65 | 74.3 | 74.77 |
| Nusa Tenggara Barat      | 61.16 | 62.14 | 62.98 | 63.76 | 64.31 | 65.19 | 65.81 | 66.58 | 67.3 |
| Nusa Tenggara Timur      | 59.21 | 60.24 | 60.81 | 61.68 | 62.26 | 62.67 | 63.13 | 63.73 | 64.39 |
| Kalimantan Barat         | 61.97 | 62.35 | 63.41 | 64.3 | 64.89 | 65.59 | 65.88 | 66.26 | 66.98 |
| Kalimantan Tengah        | 65.96 | 66.38 | 66.66 | 67.41 | 67.77 | 68.53 | 69.13 | 69.79 | 70.42 |
| Kalimantan Selatan       | 65.2 | 65.89 | 66.68 | 67.17 | 67.63 | 68.38 | 69.05 | 69.65 | 70.17 |
| Kalimantan Timur         | 71.31 | 72.02 | 72.62 | 73.21 | 73.82 | 74.17 | 74.59 | 75.12 | 75.83 |
| Kalimantan Utara         | - | - | - | 67.99 | 68.64 | 68.76 | 69.2 | 69.84 | 70.56 |
| Sulawesi Utara           | 67.83 | 68.31 | 69.04 | 69.49 | 69.96 | 70.39 | 71.05 | 71.66 | 72.2 |
| Sulawesi Tengah          | 63.29 | 64.27 | 65 | 65.79 | 66.43 | 66.76 | 67.47 | 68.11 | 68.88 |
| Sulawesi Selatan         | 66 | 66.65 | 67.26 | 67.92 | 68.49 | 69.15 | 69.76 | 70.34 | 70.9 |
| Sulawesi Tenggara        | 65.99 | 66.52 | 67.07 | 67.55 | 68.07 | 68.75 | 69.31 | 69.86 | 70.61 |
| Gorontalo                | 62.65 | 63.48 | 64.16 | 64.7 | 65.17 | 65.86 | 66.29 | 67.01 | 67.71 |
| Sulawesi Barat           | 59.74 | 60.63 | 61.01 | 61.53 | 62.24 | 62.96 | 63.6 | 64.3 | 65.1 |
| Maluku                   | 64.27 | 64.75 | 65.43 | 66.09 | 66.74 | 67.05 | 67.6 | 68.19 | 68.87 |
| Maluku Utara             | 62.79 | 63.19 | 63.93 | 64.78 | 65.18 | 65.91 | 66.63 | 67.2 | 67.67 |
| Papua Barat              | 59.6 | 59.9 | 60.3 | 60.91 | 61.28 | 61.73 | 62.21 | 62.99 | 63.74 |
| Papua                    | 54.45 | 55.01 | 55.55 | 56.25 | 56.75 | 57.25 | 58.05 | 59.09 | 60.06 |
| Indonesia                | 66.53 | 67.09 | 67.7 | 68.31 | 68.9 | 69.55 | 70.18 | 70.81 | 71.39 |

As a result, there has been an extraordinary development disparity between regions with an archipelagic character mostly found in eastern Indonesia and land-dominated areas in western Indonesia. In terms of quality of life, disparities and disparities between mainland and archipelagic areas, the Human Development Index (HDI) data by province is clearly shown by data in Table 1, between the western regions of Indonesia (Java, Sumatra, Bali) which are generally characterized by land and the eastern regions of Indonesia Gorontalo, West Nusa Tenggara, East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia.
Maluku, North Maluku, Papua, and West Papua) that generally have archipelagic characteristics, are categorized as moderate (60 - <70) and low (<60), and below the Indonesian national average of 70.

As many as 122 underdeveloped regions in Indonesia are archipelagic regions located in eastern Indonesia. In fact, the 5 (five) provinces with the most underdeveloped areas are all located in the eastern region, namely Papua, West Papua, Central Sulawesi, West Kalimantan and East Nusa Tenggara. This explains that the Human Development Index (HDI) in Eastern Indonesia is indeed far behind compared to the Western Region of the Archipelago. Specifically, North Maluku Province even collected 6 underdeveloped regencies, namely West Hamahera Regency, Sula Islands Regency, South Halmahera Regency, East Halmahera Regency, Morotai Island Regency, and Taliabu Island Regency according to Presidential Regulation Number 131 of 2015 concerning the Determination of Underdeveloped Regions 2015-2019. Furthermore, in 2020, based on Presidential Regulation Number 63 of 2020 concerning the Determination of Underdeveloped Regions in 2020-2024, these underdeveloped areas consist of the Sula Islands Regency and Taliabu Island Regency.

Based on these data and facts, it is clear that efforts to accelerate the development of the archipelagic region are needed to balance development, fulfillment of welfare and optimal improvement of public services between the western and eastern regions of Indonesia. The acceleration of the development of the archipelagic region is a process, effort and action, alignment and empowerment carried out in a planned, coordinated and integrated manner to improve the quality of life of the people in the archipelagic region. Therefore, it takes a high political will from the political infrastructure and the state political superstructure, especially the Central Government, the People's Representative Council, and the Regional Representatives Council to commit to building and prospering archipelagic province.

Based on this background, it is necessary to study further regarding: 1) How is the regulation regarding the area characterized by islands in Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government? and 2) How is relevance of the formation of the Archipelagic Regional Law to elaboration of the principles of an archipelagic state?

2. Result and discussion

2.1. Regulation of Provincial Authorities on Sea Management and Provinces with Archipelagic Characteristics according to Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government

Government's attention to development or management or administration of sea area or archipelagic territory has never appeared in any regulation regarding regional government starting from Law Number 1 of 1945 concerning the Position of Regional National Committees to Law no 22 of 1999 concerning Regional Government. This shows that the governance of sea or archipelagic territory has never been the focus of national government's development from 1945 to 1999 [7].

The government only focuses on the management of land areas and has never been aware of the existence of "specificity" in marine areas and archipelagic areas which also need to be managed specifically as stipulated in Article 18A paragraph (1) of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia (1945 Constitution) which stipulates that "the relationship of authority between central government and provincial, district and city governments or between provinces and districts and cities, is regulated by law with due regard to the "specificity” and diversity of the regions". Or the government also does not pay attention to the "special nature" of the marine area or archipelagic territory as regulated in 18B Paragraph (1) of the 1945 Constitution. Likewise, the government does not realize that Article 25A of the 1945 Constitution recognizes the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia that says, “an archipelagic State characterized by an archipelago with territories and boundaries and rights are determined by law”. In short, there is no single law that specifically regulates marine areas and archipelagic territories.

With the enactment of Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government, the concept of "Archipelagic Provinces" emerged as a milestone in the country's history of the emergence of state awareness of the existence of "archipelagic" areas in the law governing the administration of regional
The transition from “The Concept of Management of Marine Areas” to “The Concept of Management of Marine Natural Resources” can be seen in the regulation of Article 27 of Law 23 of 2014 that says, “Provincial areas are given the authority to manage marine natural resources within their territory”. Provincial authorities to manage marine natural resources include:

a. Exploration, exploitation, conservation, and management of marine wealth other than oil and gas,

b. Administrative arrangements,

c. Spatial planning,

d. Participation in maintaining security at sea, and

e. Participation in defending the country's sovereignty [7].

The authority of the province to manage marine natural resources is a maximum of 12 (twelve) nautical miles measured from the coastline towards the high seas and/or towards the archipelagic waters. If the sea area between two provinces is less than 24 (twenty four) miles, the authority to manage marine natural resources is divided equally by distance or measured in accordance with the principle of the center line of the area between the two provinces, but the provision does not apply to fishing by local small-scale fisherman.

Likewise in Article 28 which regulates that provinces with archipelagic characteristics are only given the authority to manage natural resources at sea as referred to in Article 27. In addition to having the said authority, Provinces with archipelagic characteristics are assigned by central government to carry out authority of central government in the marine sector based on the co-administration principle. The assignment can be carried out after an archipelagic provincial government meets norms, standards, procedures, and criteria set by central government.

In order to support the administration of governance in archipelagic provincial governments, central government must pay attention in formulating their development plans and development funds (DAU and DAK). The determination of the DAU policy is carried out by calculating the area of the ocean which is authority of the Province with Archipelagic Characteristics in managing marine natural resources. In determining the DAK policy, central government must consider development of an archipelagic province as an activity in context of achieving national priorities based on territory.

Based on the allocation of DAU and DAK, archipelagic provinces will formulate a strategy for accelerating regional development based on the provisions of laws and regulations. The strategy for accelerating regional development in question includes the priority of development and management of marine natural resources, acceleration of economic development, socio-cultural development, development of human resources, development of customary law related to marine management, and community participation. Furthermore, in order to support acceleration of development in archipelagic provinces, central government may allocate acceleration funds outside of the DAU and DAK.

The above arrangement confirms that the existing scope of regulation of Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government is not sufficient to regulate the administration of archipelagic regionals. Thus, there is no legal certainty for management of marine areas/territories and regional good governances in archipelagic regions. At the end, the principle of legal certainty adopted by Law Number 23 of 2014 is not fulfilled for the management of marine areas and the administration of archipelagic regionals [7].

Based on previous explanation, it can be concluded that there is no concept of an archipelagic provinces, no integrated and effective concept of marine areas management and utilization. In other words, there is no effective concept of utilization, management, and governance of regional
archipelagic regions within the Archipelagic State of the Republic of Indonesia. So that Indonesia must establish a law that regulates archipelagic regions that distinguish governances among all-terrestrial regions, mixed terrestrial and marine regions, and archipelagic regions. There is also a need for a law that regulates the utilization and management of archipelagic areas, the management of marine areas in general and the management of the seas in the archipelagic territory and a law that regulates archipelagic areas [7].

2.2. The Establishment of the Principle of the Archipelagic State into the Principle of the Archipelagic Region

Archipelagic regions (provinces and districts/cities) as areas whose characteristics consist of vast oceans with group(s) of small islands are dominant factor in affirming the identity of the Republic of Indonesia as an archipelagic state. However, it has not yet received a proportional arrangement in national legislation. Based on this idea, it is necessary to have juridical recognition of the archipelagic region through the necessary regulations, one of which is the Archipelago Law, to accelerate the regional development process, for the realization of people's welfare.

The related juridical recognition is not intended to achieve special autonomy (asymmetric decentralization) but rather to provide special recognition and treatment for regions with archipelagic characteristics. This is due to the fact that in the area of the province which is characterized by aquatic terrestrial (the sea is wider than the land) and islands separated by the sea, there are impressions and facts of injustice or inequality in development. Hundreds of inhabited islands such as Maluku & North Maluku Province (92.6 percent of sea area), Riau Islands Province (96 percent of sea area), East Nusa Tenggara Province (80.8 percent of sea area), Bangka Belitung Province (79 percent of sea area), and North Sulawesi Province (95.8 percent of sea area), there are difficulties in fulfilling people's welfare and quality public services.

The principle of an archipelagic state should be adopted mutatis-mutandis to be formulated in the management of autonomous regions, at least at the provincial level, not only in Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government which is lex generalist in nature, but also specifically on the administration of regional government in the archipelagic region. which is lex specialis. "Principles of the Archipelagic State" need to be implemented into "Principles of Archipelagic Regions" for areas with archipelagic characteristics, where the sea area is larger than the land area.

The principle of an archipelagic state being adopted and translated into the principle of an archipelagic region has received attention from provincial areas with archipelagic characteristics. On August 10, 2005, seven Governors and Chairs of the Regional House of Representatives (DPRD) from the Archipelago Province met in Ambon, and produced the “Ambon Declaration”, with the premise that:

1. Affirmation of the unity of land and sea (as homeland) is the philosophy and vision of Indonesian people regarding the sea as a link that gave birth to principle of Archipelagic State
2. The conception of the Archipelagic State in the 1982 Law of the Sea Convention, championed by government and the people of Indonesia, has made the territory of archipelago province a benchmark for recognition of principle of archipelagic state.
3. Recognition of principle of archipelagic state should be implemented effectively in archipelagic regional governances.
4. Marine natural resources of archipelagic regions are utilized to make a very large contribution to national development, but do not get a proportional reward for regional development that making such contributions [3].

On the basis of the above thought, the Ambon Declaration firmly urges the Government of Indonesia to realize juridical recognition of archipelagic province through various regulations needed to accelerate the regional development process, for the realization of people's welfare. Legal efforts made in the context of the juridical recognition of the Archipelago Region (Province) are not intended to demand special autonomy but rather to provide special recognition and treatment (affirmative action) for the regions (provinces with characteristic) islands. In this case, there are things that central
government must treat differently to areas whose sea area is wider than the mainland, such as regencies/cities and archipelagic provinces [3].

The approach of regional government regulation related to regional authority in the sea area based on the characteristics of the archipelago characterized by "Nusantara" (islands in the vast ocean) will substantially realize the welfare of the community. This is important considering the characteristics and problems faced by the archipelagic regional government, such as: (1) the sea area is larger than the land area; (2) relatively small population and uneven distribution; (3) communities that are segregated in settlements according to the territory of an island; (4) diversity of natural resources; (5) the level of geographical isolation tends to be high with unique habitat (endemic) and biotic diversity (biodiversity); (6) activities, types, and degrees of economic dynamics are generally limited and small-scale, and have not been adequately supported by distribution and marketing networks; (7) environmental resources are small, vulnerable to change, and natural disasters; (8) there is potential for biodiversity on land and around (small) islands; and almost all of the Archipelago Provinces are in the territory/region of the State Border, which has a small outermost island [3].

Legal arrangements for archipelagic areas should be carried out in the context of, First, Article 18 paragraph (1) which affirms "The Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia is divided into provincial areas and the province is divided into districts and cities, each of which is province, district and city. It has a regional government which is regulated by law. Second, Article 18A paragraph (1), "The relationship of authority between central government and provincial, district and city governments, or between provinces and districts and cities, is regulated by law with due observance of regional specificity and diversity". Third, Article 18B paragraph (1) of the Amendment 1945 Constitution, "The state recognizes and respects special or special regional government units that are regulated by law", and Article 18B paragraph (2) "The state recognizes and respects the customary law community units and their traditional rights as long as they are still alive and in accordance with the development of society and the principles of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia, which are regulated by law [3].

The legal arrangements for archipelagic regions, as described previously, have not been adequately regulated in the content and scope of the regulation of Law Number 23 of 2014, thus showing disharmony between this Law and the 1945 Constitution. 2014 with the 1945 Constitution not getting sufficient regulation in regulatory policies, then this has the potential to cause violations of Human Rights (HAM) which have been adequately regulated in the 1945 Constitution.

The articles in the 1945 Constitution that regulate human rights related to the regulation of archipelago law are Article 28C paragraph (1) (right to develop oneself in the field of education), Article 28C paragraph (2) (right to fight for collective interests), Article 28H paragraph (1) (the right to a prosperous life born of the heart), Article 28H paragraph (2) (the right to special facilities and treatment), Article 28I paragraph (2) (the right to be free from discriminatory treatment), and Article 28I paragraph (3) (the right to cultural identity and the right of a traditional society).

3. Conclusion

Archipelagic regions (provinces and regencies/cities) as areas consist of vast oceans with groups of small islands are dominant factor in affirming the identity of the Republic of Indonesia as an archipelagic state. However, it has not yet received a proportional arrangement in national legislation. On the basis of this thought, it is necessary to legally recognize archipelagic region governance needs through necessary regulations, one of which is the Archipelagic Regional Law, to accelerate the regional development process for people's welfare. The related juridical recognition is not intended to achieve special autonomy (asymmetric decentralization) but rather to provide special recognition and treatment for archipelagic regions. The scope and material of the existing Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government is inadequate in regulating administration of archipelagic regional government, thus showing disharmony with 1945 Constitution. If there is disharmony between Law Number 23 of 2014 with the 1945 Constitution and it is not corrected, there will be potentials for violations of human rights which have been adequately regulated in the 1945 Constitution. Thus, it is
recommended that there should be an action to reaffirm the identity of the Republic of Indonesia as an archipelagic country and to reduce extraordinary development disparities in archipelagic regions located mostly in eastern Indonesia, including North Maluku Province. Efforts to restore justice and accelerate the development of archipelagic regions need to be realized through national commitment to establish an "Archipelagic Regional Law", they are the commitment of Central Government, the House of Representatives, and the Regional Representative Council of the Republic of Indonesia.

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