

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

As an archipelagic country, Indonesia is located in a strategic ocean with vast potential resources covering an area of 28.5 million hectares of aquaculture zone¹. With such broad region, Indonesia has a wide variety of marine life, including fish. The marine fishery resources are estimated to be around 6.4 million tons of fishes annually, spreading throughout Indonesian Waters and Indonesian EEZ (Economic Exclusive Zone), which are divided into nine Indonesian Major Waters². This creates a huge potential for the fishery industry to become an important trading commodity domestically, and more importantly internationally as shown by the fact that one-third of global fish stocks are traded internationally³. This is further supported through the Indonesian Ministry of Trade's statement that the fishery industries have become 6 out of 10 potential export commodities in Indonesia⁴.

Based on those facts, fishery industries are precious resources for the national development of Indonesia, especially in the economic and political

¹ Miranti Rahajeng. "Ikan Tuna Indonesia" in *Warta Ekspor Edisi Juni 2012*, Jakarta : DJPEN Kementerian Perdagangan Indonesia pp. 4-5.

² *Profile Agency for Marine and Fisheries Research 2007*, Jakarta: Departemen Kelautan dan Perikanan RI, p.1.

³ Deasi Natalia & Nurozy. "Kinerja Daya Saing Produk Perikanan Indonesia di Pasar Global" in *Buletin Ilmiah Litbang Perdagangan Vol.6 No.1 Juli 2012*, Jakarta: Kementerian Perdagangan RI, p.72.

⁴ Ministry of Trade. "Negara Tujuan Ekspor 10 Komoditi Potensial.", <http://www.kemendag.go.id/id/economic-profile/10-main-and-potential-commodities/10-potential-commodities>. Accessed on August 31st, 2015.

sectors. As such, the Indonesian government should maintain the sustainability of the fishery industries through increasing its role in the production and exports of fishery commodities. Nevertheless, there are still many obstacles faced by the Indonesian government in the development of fisheries sector, such as the occurrence of overfishing activities, weak enforcement of MCS (monitoring, controlling, and surveillance), and practices of IUU (Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated) fishing. One of the initiatives that can be done is by overcoming the IUU fishing practices within Indonesian waters. Although Indonesia has already battled against IUU fishing in its territory over the years, such practices can still be found throughout Indonesian waters, especially near the border area as they are very prone to IUU fishing practices.

Based on data from the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries⁵, there are 14 (fourteen) fishing ground zones in the world, only two zones are still remarked as being potential, one of them being Indonesian waters. The fishing ground zones in Indonesia which are regarded as being prone to IUU fishing include Malacca Sea, Java Sea, Arafura Sea, Timor Sea, Banda Sea and the waters around Maluku and Papua. This large potential of fisheries within Indonesian waters attracts many illegal local and foreign ships to fish in the area. IUU fishing can be in the form of any fishing activities, regardless of location, targeted species, tools or damage intensity. IUU fishing actions can also happen to any type of fisheries, be it in a small or industrial scale, whether it is in the national or international jurisdiction

⁵ Tommy Sihotang, "Masalah Illegal, Unregulated, Unreported Fishing dan Penanggulangannya Melalui Pengadilan Perikanan" in *Jurnal Keadilan Vol.4 No.2 (2005/2006)*, Indonesia: Pusat Kajian Hukum dan Keadilan (Centre for Law and Justice Studies), p. 58.

such as in the high seas. Looking at this condition, IUU fishing may weaken the management of fishery resources in Indonesia waters.

From the data dated December 2014, Indonesia had lost approximately 300 trillion IDR (around 22 billion USD) annually from 5,400 illegal ships that were operating in Indonesian waters⁶. Aside from the national income loss, IUU fishing actions have given many disadvantages to the country in the form of threatening the stability of national security, which will directly impacts the stability of socio-economic and political conditions. Politically, IUU fishing practices could damage the relationship between countries because there will be a violation of state sovereignty issue. Socio-economically, IUU fishing practices reduce the standard of living of fishermen who are not able to compete and decrease the national income from export production, in short, a threat to food security. Environmentally, IUU fishing practices damage the sustainability of the marine resources within Indonesian waters. Therefore, by considering the number of disadvantages that are caused by IUU fishing, the writer realizes that this problem should be overcome immediately.

This problem should become an important consideration in policy making, especially for Indonesia, the largest maritime country in the world. In order to combat IUU fishing, Indonesian government needs to draft and implement domestic and foreign policy that regulates the eradication of IUU fishing issues and apply it to the involving parties strictly. Indonesian foreign policy can be

⁶ Tama Salim. "RI to sink 3 foreign ships for illegal fishing " in *The Jakarta Post*, Jakarta : December 5th 2014, available at: <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2014/12/05/ri-sink-3-foreign-ships-illegal-fishing.html>. Accessed on August 31st. 2015.

made in the form of unilateral, bilateral, or regional cooperation in order to create common policies and impose sanctions for IUU fishing.

The cooperation among countries in terms of bilateral and regional cooperation is also the key to address the global problem of IUU fishing since IUU fishing is not only happening in Indonesia, but also in other countries, especially its Southeast Asian peers. Despite the limitations imposed by the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), marine resources are “common goods”; thus, the fishes are rivalries in consumption, but non-excludable, implying that they are owned by everybody. As such, IUU fishing is also becoming a “common” problem. This triggers the ripple effect -- one state’s action determines its relationship with other neighboring states.

In 2014, Indonesia experienced the transition of government from Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono’s leadership, which lasted for a decade, to the newly-elected president Joko Widodo’s leadership. This will undoubtedly lead to different leadership with different perspectives. Each of the presidents has different styles to choose their leadership approach, the people who will help them, and also the policies that will be created. The different backgrounds of the presidents also result in their varying style of policy drafting and implementation: Joko Widodo had little experience internationally, while Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono had a decade of experience in military and foreign affairs. As a result, different leadership style will result in different actions that will be taken by the state leaders.

Due to this background, the writer had chosen **“INDONESIA’S STRATEGY IN COMBATING ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING WITHIN INDONESIAN WATERS”** as the title of this research as the writer feels the need to examine Indonesia’s strategy in overcoming IUU fishing problem, to clarify the negative image surrounding Indonesia who seems unable to manage its marine resources well, while also reducing the tensions between countries through the reconstruction of the related bilateral and regional agreements. Indonesia also needs to maintain the continuity of its leadership in the ASEAN as the regional institution of Southeast Asia region, where it should raise IUU fishing as an important issue. In order to fulfill all those objectives, Indonesia has to implement the most suitable policy regarding IUU fishing issue. This research will help to figure out the most suitable policy for addressing IUU fishing issue.

1.2 Research Problem

Based on the aforementioned background, the following are the main problems that will be the focus of this research:

- 1) What are the strategies of the Indonesian government under Joko Widodo’s presidency in combating IUU fishing within Indonesian waters?
- 2) What are the challenges that Indonesia faces in overcoming IUU fishing considering the deepening of regional integration?

1.3 Objectives

Based on the research problems formulated above, here are the main objectives of this research:

- 1) To describe and explain the strategies of the Indonesian government under Joko Widodo's presidency in combating IUU fishing within Indonesian waters;
- 2) To describe and explain the challenges that Indonesia faces to overcome IUU fishing considering the deepening of regional integration.

1.4 Research Contribution

The contributions of this research are:

- 1) To fulfill the academic requirement of the International Relations Department, Pelita Harapan University;
- 2) To extend the practical research regarding IUU fishing issue in an educational institution, especially Pelita Harapan University;
- 3) To extend the practical research regarding IUU fishing regulation in governmental institution, especially Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 4) To expand the readers' knowledge of IUU fishing issues and regulations in general, where it can help to raise social awareness about IUU fishing issue.

1.5 Systematic of Writing

This research would be written as a full report, which consists of five chapters, namely: introduction, analytical framework, research methodology, data and analysis, and closure. The systematic way will be described as follows:

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

In the first chapter, the writer will formulate an introduction starting from background explanation concerning the research topic selection, including relevant information and facts. Continuing with the formulation of the research problems, the objectives and the research contributions along with the systematic of writing.

CHAPTER II ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

Chapter two consists of all the explanation regarding the theories and concepts that are relevant and utilized to support the objectivity of the analysis, which also applicable to the current topic as literature reviews. These theories and concepts are expected to assist in analyzing the topic. The main theories and concepts that will be covered in this research are: Neo-Liberalism theory along with Foreign Policy, International Regime, Non-Traditional Security, Regional Cooperation, and Transnational Crime concepts.

CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Chapter three explains the research method that is used in this thesis. The chapter begins with a description of the scope of research, and then the methodology approached to acquire the data, continued with the explanation of the types and source data, data collecting techniques, and the explanation of data analysis techniques.

CHAPTER IV DATA AND ANALYSIS

Chapter four provides the important result gained from the research process in the form of an analysis. The result will be considered as the collection of data that will be reanalyzed by using the chosen analysis method. This chapter will answer all the research problems that have been formulated in the first chapter.

CHAPTER V CLOSURE

The last chapter summarizes all the ideas that have been discussed in preceding chapters. It will cover all the important points given by the writer, along with analytical facts and argument as the conclusion of this research. At last, it will also provide some recommendations concerning the issues from the writer's perspective.