

Indonesia Ready to Host the 2018 Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank Group: Voyage to Indonesia

Nusa Dua, Bali, August 25, 2017 – Indonesia is ready to host the 2018 Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank Group (AM 2018). This is the conclusion of the High Level Meeting with the Meeting Team Secretariat (MTS) of the International Monetary Fund – World Bank Group (IMF-WBG) that was held on 21 – 25 August in Nusa Dua, Bali. To ensure the successful execution of AM 2018, the National Committee (PanNas) holds regular meetings to ensure all preparations are according to plan and complies with all good governance principles.

At today's High Level Meeting, National Committee Chairman and Indonesian Coordinating Minister of Maritime Affairs Luhut Binsar Panjaitan discussed the readiness of infrastructure and preparations for supporting facilities with the various participating sectors. All related Ministries/Government Bodies attended the meeting to coordinate and support the implementation of AM 2018 in accordance with their respective duties and functions, as stated by President Joko Widodo in Presidential Decree of the Republic of Indonesia No. 11/2017.

"Today the National Committee is launching the official AM 2018 website at www.am2018bali.go.id that provides updated information related to the program. The results of the meetings with MTS in regards to the official AM 2018 website has come to the conclusion that the AM 2018 website has reached the standards of the IMF-WBG Annual Meetings and is ready to be accessed by the public," said Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs Luhut Binsar Panjaitan.

"From this point onwards until the middle of 2018, the website will provide related news of the activities towards the opening of AM 2018. Additional information is also available on social media accounts such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube, for both local and international audiences," he continued.

The government has also created Voyage to Indonesia (VTI) as a promotional program prior to AM 2018. A number of activities such as seminars, public discussions and art exhibitions under the VTI

d/a: Kementerian Keuangan Republik Indonesia, Gedung Juanda 1 Lt. 6, Jalan Dr. Wahidin Raya No 1, Jakarta Pusat 10710
Telp: (021) 3502331 | Fax: (021) 3846441 | Email: am_2018@kemenkeu.go.id | www.am2018bali.go.id









banner are scheduled to maximize the benefits of the AM 2018 event. "These activities are necessary so we can optimize the benefits for our country as well as show Indonesia's readiness to host the upcoming AM 2018," concluded Maritime Affairs Coordinating Minister Luhut Binsar Panjaitan in his opening remarks.

AM 2018 will gather 189 country members that include finance ministers and central bank governors. In addition to the official delegations, the event will be attended by representatives of global and regional economic cooperation institutions, civil groups, private sectors and academicians as well as the media. Around 15,000 people are expected to attend the event.

"Today, the National Committee held a coordination meeting with MTS to support the success of AM 2018. The selection of Indonesia proves the world's recognition of our stable economic, political, and security efforts. In addition, it is an acknowledgment of Indonesia's growth and development to becoming a middle-income country that strives to grow its economy," said Indonesian Finance Minister Sri Mulyani as Vice Chairman of the National Committee.

At the global level, Indonesia is an example how a country can reach and manage success. Indonesia is the fourth ASEAN member country to host the global meeting, after the Philippines (1976), Thailand (1991), and Singapore (2006).

Bank Indonesia Governor Agus Martowardojo added, "AM 2018 is the momentum for Indonesia to showcase the success of a reformed, resilient and progressive nation. The country has proven to have a sustainable and more balanced economy that focuses on national welfare. As AM 2018 host, Indonesia will gain many benefits, including economic opportunities in its VTI preparation series, the promotion of featured national products, Indonesia as investment destination, and increasing foreign exchange reserves through participants' visit. Indonesia will also use this opportunity to showcase the success of ASEAN that has developed into a regional partnership with stable economies, careful management and ready to be the engine for world growth."

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d/a: Kementerian Keuangan Republik Indonesia, Gedung Juanda 1 Lt. 6, Jalan Dr. Wahidin Raya No 1, Jakarta Pusat 10710







