“By God, I swear, I will fulfill the obligations of the President of the Republic of Indonesia fairly. I will uphold the constitution and carry out all the laws and regulations as straight as possible and serve the homeland and the nation”

Jakarta (ANTARA) - Joko Widodo and Ma'ruf Amin had officially taken oaths as Indonesia's president and vice president for the 2019-2024 term at a swearing-in ceremony taking place at the parliament building in Jakarta on Sunday.

"By God, I swear, I will fulfill the obligations of the President of the Republic of Indonesia fairly. I will uphold the constitution and carry out all the laws and regulations as straight as possible and serve the homeland and the nation," Joko

**Jokowi-Ma'rup Amin Officially Become President and Vice President**
Widodo read the president's oath witnessed by Chief Justice of Supreme Court.

After that, it was Ma'ruf Amin's turn to read the oath.

Both of them along with the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR) speaker and deputy speakers then signed the minutes of the president's inauguration.

With the reading of the oaths of office and the signing of the minutes of inauguration, Joko Widodo and Ma'ruf Amin had officially become the President and Vice President of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.

Witnessed by the ranks of the MPR, Ministers of Working Cabinet I, heads of state institutions, several foreign leaders, and other invited guests, Joko Widodo and Ma'ruf Amin took their oaths of office.

Joko Widodo and Ma'ruf Amin officially became the President and Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia after winning the 2019 Presidential Election, defeating Prabowo Subianto and Sandiaga Uno.

The Joko Widodo-Ma'ruf Amin pair won 85,607,362 votes or 55.5 percent of the legitimate votes. This pair's total number of votes were higher than those gained by the Prabowo-Sandi pair that received 68,650,239 votes or 45.5 percent of legitimate votes.

The Prabowo-Sandi camp challenged the General Elections Commission's (KPU's) presidential vote counts at the Constitutional Court regarding the result but the final decision of the Constitutional Court still rejected the entire lawsuit of Prabowo and Sandi.

Thanks to the goodwill of Prabowo Subianto and incumbent President Joko Widodo, a national reconciliation between the two camps could then be promoted.

Both Prabowo Subianto and his former running mate, Sandiaga Uno, also attended the presidential inauguration. This historic event was also attended by the fifth Indonesian President Megawati Soekarnoputri, the sixth Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, the eleventh Vice President Boediono and the ninth Vice President Hamzah Haz.

Several heads of state also witnessed Jokowi's inauguration, including Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad, Brunei Sultan Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, King eSwatini, Mswati III, Chinese Vice President Wang Qishan, and the United States Minister of Transportation Elaine Chao.

In addition, ambassadors from friendly countries representing their respective leaders also attended the inauguration of President Joko Widodo and Vice President Ma'ruf Amin.


31 October 2019

Foreign Leaders Express Commitment to Strengthen Bilateral Ties

Jakarta (ANTARA) - Several foreign leaders while meeting President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) and First Lady Iriana ahead of the presidential inauguration ceremony, have expressed their commitment to strengthen bilateral ties with Indonesia.

“They have expressed commitment to continuously strengthen bilateral cooperation with Indonesia. The President expressed gratitude for the presence of the guests including those coming from far away, to attend this inauguration ceremony,” Indonesian Foreign Affairs Minister Retno LP Marsudi
said at the Merdeka Palace here on Sunday.

Among the guests are Brunei Darussalam's Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, Australia's Prime Minister Scott Morrison and spouse Jenny Morrison, Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Mrs. Ho Ching, Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen and King of Eswatini Mswati III and his wife Siphelele Mashwama.

"And the President has also conveyed similar commitment, that in future Indonesia will remain committed to strengthening bilateral relations with those countries," Retno Marsudi said.

The Sultan told Jokowi that his country wanted to strengthen ties with Indonesia and expressed gratitude to Indonesians living in Brunei for their contribution in supporting the economic development in Brunei, the minister said.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Jokowi held a tête-à-tête meeting, and Minister Marsudi was not present in the meeting.

Singapore's Prime Minister and Jokowi discussed cooperation in digital economic, she added.

Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen and Jokowi talked about economic cooperation and the presence of several Indonesian pharmaceutical companies in Cambodia.

"And the President has also conveyed similar commitment, that in future Indonesia will remain committed to strengthen bilateral relations with those countries"

"And now we are offering several Indonesian strategic industrial products including from PT INKA (railway company)," she said.

In the meeting with the King of Eswatini, the two leaders discussed about economic cooperation, particularly Indonesia's interest in participating in infrastructure development in the African kingdom.

After the inauguration ceremony, Jokowi is scheduled to receive courtesy calls among others from China's Vice President Wang Qishan, Vietnam's Vice President Ng Th Ng ThNh, Myanmar's Vice President Henry Van Thio, the South Korean President's Special Envoy Noh Young-min, the Filipino President's Special Envoy Theodoro Locsin Jr, the Japanese Prime Minister's Special Envoy Nakayama Norihiro, the United Arab Emirates President's Special Envoy Sheikh Nahyan Mabarak Al Nahyan, and the US President's Special Envoy Elaine L. Chao.


20 October 2019
His Majesty King Mswati III yesterday congratulated the Indonesia President Joko Widodo for a peaceful election into his second term.

The King, accompanied by Inkhosikati LaMashwama, met the president-elect in private talks prior to the inauguration event at the State House. He extended greetings and well wishes from the Indlovukazi and the people of Eswatini.

The monarch described the election victory as a sign of great confidence that the people of Indonesia have in the President (58), popularly known as “Jokowi”.

He said he was impressed by the development that has taken place in Indonesia and wished him great success in his new term, adding that he was looking forward to strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries through a cooperation agreement. This agreement, he highlighted, could help Indonesia tap into the market opportunities that Africa now has to offer following the launch of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

**Proposed**

His Majesty also shared some of the country’s development initiatives guided by the strategic roadmap as well as the development of the energy sector which seeks to use high tech systems to reduce emissions in the proposed thermal powered station. The president of south-east Asia’s largest economy, acknowledged the King’s commendations and praised Eswatini for maintaining peace and the development that has taken place in the country. The president said seeing through the strategic roadmap was key for successful development.

The president also informed the King how Indonesia was in the process of building a new city over the next five years as Jakarta had become too small to accommodate the on-going development. Later yesterday afternoon, the King and Inkhosikati attended the inauguration of the president and Vice President Ma’ruf Amin at Jakarta’s Parliament building.

Among the leaders present were the Sultan of Brunei Hassanal Bolkiah, Singapore’s Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Australia’s Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Malaysia’s Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammed.

21 October 2019
Jokowi Announces His Cabinet Line-Up Dubbed Indonesia Onward

Jakarta (ANTARA) - President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) flanked by Vice President Ma'ruf Amin announced his cabinet line-up dubbed Indonesia Onward Cabinet at the Merdeka Palace, here on Wednesday.

Following is a complete list of members of Jokowi's cabinet line-up for the 2019-2024 period:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs</th>
<th>Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs</th>
<th>Coordinating Minister for Human Development and Culture</th>
<th>Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs and Investment</th>
<th>Minister of Defence</th>
<th>Minister of Foreign Affairs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mohammad Mahfud MD</td>
<td>Airlangga Hartanto</td>
<td>Muhajir Effendy</td>
<td>Luhut Binsar Panjaitan</td>
<td>Prabowo Subianto</td>
<td>Retno L. P. Marsudi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minister of Home Affairs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tito Karnavian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Mulyani Indrawati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nadiem Makarim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sofyan Djjalil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pratikno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major General dr. Terawan Agus Putranto</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minister of Law and Human Rights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yasonna Laoly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnny Gerald Plate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tjahjo Kumolo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agus Suparmanto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basuki Hadimuljono</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syahrul Yasin Limpo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Minister of Manpower
- Ida Fauziyah

### Minister of Industry
- Agus G. Kartasasmita

### Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources
- Arifin Tasrif

### Minister of Transportation
- Budi Karya Sumadi

### Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
- Edhy Prabowo

### Minister of Religious Affairs
- Fachrul Razi

### Minister of Research, Technology, and Higher Education
- Bambang Brodjonegoro

### Minister of Social Affairs
- Juliari Batubara

### Minister of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Regions, and Transmigration
- Abdul Halim Iskandar

### Minister of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection
- I Gusti Ayu Bintang Darmawati

### Minister of Sports and Youth
- Zainudin Amali

### Minister of Environment and Forestry
- Siti Nurbaya Bakar

### Minister of State-Owned Enterprises
- Erick Thohir

### Minister of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises
- Teten Masduki

### Minister of National Development Planning/National Development Planning Agency
- Suharso Monoarfa

### Minister of Tourism and Creative Economic
- Wishnutama Kusubandio

### Chief of the Investment Coordinating Board
- Bahlil Lahadalia

### Chief of the Presidential Staff
- General (Ret.) Moeldoko

### Attorney General
- ST Burhanuddin

---


23 October 2019
Two days after inaugurating the Indonesia Onward Cabinet, President Joko “Jokowi” Widodo has named the new deputy ministers to assist the work of his Cabinet members in his second and final term in office.

Compared with only appointing three deputy ministers in his first term - namely deputy finance minister Mardiasmo, deputy foreign minister AM Fachir, and deputy energy and mineral resources minister Archandra Tahar, Jokowi has expanded the number of deputy ministers to 11 posts for his new Cabinet.

The following are the names and position of the newly sworn in deputy ministers:

1. **Deputy Minister of State-Owned Enterprises**  
   Budi Gunadi Sadikin (former president director of state-owned mining holding company Mining Industry Indonesia [MIND ID])

2. **Deputy Minister of State-Owned Enterprises**  
   Kartiko Wirjoatmodjo (former president director of state-owned lender Bank Mandiri)

3. **Deputy Minister of Defense**  
   Wahyu Sakti Trenggono (businessman in telecommunication sector, founder of PT Teknologi Riset Global [TRG] Investama)

4. **Deputy Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy**  
   Angela Tanoesoedibjo (former managing director of Rajawali Citra Televisi Indonesia [RCTI], a subsidiary of diversified conglomerate MNC Group)

5. **Deputy Minister of Religious Affairs**  
   Zainut Tauhid (deputy chairman of Indonesian Ulema Council [MUI])

6. **Deputy Minister of Agrarian and Spatial Planning**  
   Surya Tjandra (Indonesian Solidarity Party (PSI) politician)

7. **Deputy Minister of Public Works and Housing**  
   John Wempi Wetipo (Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P) politician and former Jayawijaya regent)

8. **Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs**  
   Mahendra Siregar (former Indonesian ambassador to the United States)

9. **Deputy Minister of Environment and Forestry**  
   Aloe Dohong (former Peatland Restoration Agency deputy for construction, operation and maintenance)

10. **Deputy Minister of Villages, Disadvantaged Region and Transmigration**  
    Budi Arie Setiadi (chairman of Projo, journalist, and businessman)

11. **Deputy Minister of Trade**  
    Jerry Sambuaga (Golkar Party politician)

12. **Deputy Minister of Finance**  
    Suahasil Nazara (former head of Finance Ministry's Fiscal Policy Agency [BKF])


25 October 2019
Indonesia makes a return to the United Nations Human Rights Council for the 2020 to 2022 period after securing the most votes in the Asia-Pacific region with the backing of 174 countries, marking its fifth term on the council.

The council is an intergovernmental organ of the UN consisting of 47 UN member states and is responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights throughout the world, which includes dealing with situations of human rights violations and making recommendations to address them.

The president of the UN General Assembly, Tijjani Muhammad-Bande of Nigeria, announced that Indonesia had obtained 174 votes from 193 UN member countries from a secret ballot held during a UN General Assembly session on Thursday morning in New York (Thursday night in Jakarta).

The country came out well ahead of its competitors in the Asia-Pacific region: Japan and South Korea secured 165 votes each, while the Marshall Islands got 123 votes, followed by Iraq with 121 votes. With only four seats available to the region, Iraq failed to secure a seat at the council.

Indonesia was among the first countries to have served a year on the UN body when it was formed in 2006. It was re-elected for a second time for the 2007 to 2010 period and then again from 2011 to 2014 and 2015 to 2017. Together with 13 countries from other regions, Indonesia is to begin its fifth term on the council in January 2020.

Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi welcomed the mandate and said it was further proof that the international community puts its trust in Indonesia. “We are so grateful to not only succeed, but to succeed with the most votes,” she told reporters at press gathering at the Foreign Ministry in Jakarta, on Thursday evening.

Since last year, she said, the ministry had been actively campaigning for support at all levels, including at the 74th session of the UN General Assembly in September and the 40th session of the UN Human Rights Council in March, during which the minister held more than 50 meetings with ministers, deputy ministers and ambassadors from various UN member states.

“To all the friendly countries who had lent their support to Indonesia, we assure you that Indonesia will be your true partner for human rights development and social justice,” she said.

As the highest governing body for human rights in the international multilateral system, Indonesia's re-election to the council would likely be seen as a crowning achievement for Retno in her role as top diplomat, just days ahead of President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo's inauguration ceremony and the announcement of his new Cabinet line-up.

While the government would have more opportunities to pursue its national interests on the rights council, the minister insists Indonesia would continue to work with other countries to promote and protect human rights.

“Indonesia will also have a greater opportunity to push the UN Human Rights Council to be more effective and efficient, more objective, transparent, fair and non-political, as well as being impartial and open to dialogue.
with all parties – not to mention results-oriented,” she said.

Furthermore, 2020 is to be the year that Indonesia serves on both the UN Human Rights Council based in Geneva, Switzerland and the UN Security Council based in New York, United States. Retno said Indonesia is committed to helping bridge the work of the two UN organs.

A former Indonesian ambassador to the UN, Makarim Wibisono, said Indonesia should pursue a more efficient working method at the council while also addressing unresolved human rights issues such as Israel’s occupation of Palestine.

“Indonesia should focus more on resolving long-standing problems in other countries – we do not want human rights violations to be tolerated,” said the former UN special rapporteur on human rights in the Palestinian territories.

Indonesia’s successful bid has served to assuage previous concerns that the campaign was at risk of being overshadowed by efforts to “internationalize” the recent spate of violent unrest in Papua, as well as repressive actions taken by the government and security forces against student rallies across the archipelago.

Now that Indonesia sits on the Human Rights Council, it is afforded the opportunity to better explain the domestic situation to the international community, Makarim said.

Amnesty International Indonesia executive director Usman Hamid said Indonesia’s participation in and membership on the council was important for safeguarding the promotion and protection of human rights domestically.

"It will serve as a tie that binds Indonesia to continue trying to improve the state of human rights in the country," Usman told The Jakarta Post.

"By improving human rights conditions domestically, Indonesia can play a greater role on the global stage, especially in responding to the human rights situations in Myanmar, Syria and Palestine.”

18 October 2019

Business Eswatini Signs MoU With Indonesia Chamber of Commerce

Business Eswatini has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The signing took place in Jakarta, Indonesia, on Friday.

Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade Communications Officer Thabile Mdluli disclosed this information through a statement.

She said the main purpose of the MoU is to promote and enhance collaboration and strengthen the partnership between the private sectors of both countries.

She further disclosed that Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Manqoba Khumalo was received by the Chairman of the Indonesian Chamber, Rosan Roeslani and the Vice-Chairman Shinta Widjaja Kamdani.

The minister was accompanied by Chief Executive Officer of the Eswatini Investment Promotion Authority (EIPA), Sibani Mngomezulu.

“The officiating of the signing of the MoU had Kamdani representing the Indonesian Chamber and Mngomezulu signing on behalf of Business Eswatini as duly requested by the leadership of Business Eswatini who could not make the trip,” she said.

She also mentioned that ahead of officiating at this landmark
agreement between the two chambers, Minister Khumalo took advantage of the opportunity to unpack the commercial benefits of investing in Eswatini and how the country is open for business.

“He fielded a number of questions on investment opportunities as well as on the National Strategic Roadmap 2019-22.

Mdluli added that following the meeting and officiating, the minister invited representatives of the Indonesian Chamber to visit Eswatini with intent to cement their relationship and partnership with Business Eswatini and also to explore for themselves the many opportunities that had been discussed during this meeting.

21 October 2019

Indonesia to Increase Its Contribution, Leadership at Global Level

“ASEAN will remain the pillar of Indonesian foreign policy”

Indonesia under the leadership of President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) is eager to increase its contribution and leadership both at regional and global levels in the next five years, Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi said.

"The next five years will be hectic period for Indonesian diplomacy and foreign policy," she said on Tuesday.

Indonesia is a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the 2019-2020 period.

During its UNSC presidency in June 2019, Indonesia highlighted world peace maintenance efforts. But in 2020, Indonesia will focus on counter-terrorism efforts

In addition, Indonesia will also play a role as a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council for the 2020-2022 period.

The priority programs that Indonesia will encourage in the UNHRC are the promotion and protection of human rights at regional and global levels, the strengthening of synergetic partnerships to implement human rights national action plans for the 2020-2024 period.

Indonesian will also encourage the UNHRC to become more efficient, effective, objective, transparent, fair, non-political and impartial and open dialogs for all sides.

At a regional level, Indonesia will assume the post of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) chairman in 2023.

"ASEAN will remain the pillar of Indonesian foreign policy," she said.

After ASEAN member states have adopted ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific during the 34th ASEAN Summit held in Bangkok, Thailand, last June, Indonesia will make sure that the cooperation will be realized.

Indonesia also plans to host an ASEAN infrastructure and connectivity forum related to Indo-Pacific in 2020, she said.

30 October 2019
The government has launched the Indonesian Agency for International Development, an endowment and development fund to help reduce poverty and social inequality around the world.

The agency, to be known as Indonesian AID, is an overdue reflection of the country's stature as one of the biggest economies in the world.

"This is a very precious tool for Indonesian diplomacy [that we can use] to strengthen our presence on the international stage. Indonesia can now walk in international development," Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi said at a ceremony to launch Indonesian AID at the Pancasila Building in Jakarta on Friday.

Vice President Jusuf Kalla, Finance Minister Sri Mulyani Indrawati and the chairman of the National Development Planning Agency, Bambang Brodjonegoro, also attended the event.

Kalla said the program is long overdue as Indonesia's economy has grown six times into a $1 trillion dollar economy in the past two decades.

"This is a very important step for us because our economy is continuing to expand. We are now part of the G20 countries. We need to start helping other countries in need," Kalla said.

Retno said this year Indonesian AID has already provided aid for five Pacific countries – Tuvalu, Nauru, Solomon Island, Kiribati and Fiji – and for Myanmar and the Philippines.

Bappenas and the Finance Ministry will be responsible for managing the funding for this program.

"This endowment fund will be taken out of our state budget. We will use the interest, which increases each year. We already have Rp 3 trillion ($212 million) so far," Retno said.

According to the minister, the agency will focus on providing aid during times of natural disasters and for humanitarian crises.

Doing so will allow Indonesian AID to help reduce poverty and social inequality between developed and developing countries. This will increase Indonesia's participation in reaching the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

Retno also used Friday's event to announce that on Thursday Indonesia had been elected to sit in the UN Human Rights Council from 2020 to 2022. This is the fifth time the country has been asked to join the council.

"We received the most votes among other Asia-Pacific countries, 174 votes out of a total of 193 countries," Retno said.

Indonesia will officially join the council on Jan. 1 next year. It will sit with 47 other countries to find solutions for human rights violations and promote human rights protection all across the world.


18 October 2019
The King of Eswatini Wishes to Increase Bilateral Cooperation with Indonesia

“There are a lot of good things around us, we have to work together”

The statement was made by The King of the Kingdom Eswatini, King Mswati III, in his remarks at the Credentials ceremony by the Ambassadors accredited to The Kingdom of Eswatini (Indonesia, India, Japan, Kuwait, and Uni Arab Emirates) on October 14, 2019, at the Royal Palace in Mbabane, the capital city of the Kingdom of Eswatini. His Majesty who accompanied by the Deputy of Prime Minister, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Prince, and the number of government officials expressed his desire to strengthen bilateral cooperation with friendly countries.

Specifically to Indonesia, the King expressed his hopes to increase cooperation with Indonesia, primarily by encouraging Indonesian investors to come to Eswatini as an investment destination in a number of sectors that could be explored together, such as tourism sector which had the potential to be developed. Meanwhile, in the political sphere, the King congratulated on the success of the general elections in Indonesia which took place safely and peacefully, and also expressed his joy to participate in the inauguration of the President of Indonesia on October 20, 2019 in Jakarta.

In his remarks, the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia, His Excellency Salman Al Farisi, delivered greetings from the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Joko Widodo to King Mswati III, the government and the people of the Kingdom of Eswatini. In this opportunity, the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia hopes for further bilateral cooperation which in line with Indonesia's foreign policy priorities that give more attention to the African Continent. The Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia not only conveyed the potentials of cooperation that had not been explored, including the construction of a railroad linking Eswatini with neighboring countries, infrastructure development, technical cooperation, but also conveyed his commitment to continue to enhance the cooperation between two countries.

Related to that, the King welcomed the offer of cooperations from Indonesia and also the request for visa-free agreements for Indonesian diplomatic and service passports holders to enhance bilateral relations between the two countries.

In addition, the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia also had the opportunity to meet with Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Eswatini, Honorable Ms. Thuli Dladla, to discuss various opportunities for further cooperation between the two countries. Minister Dladla hopes that the various cooperation can be realized to improve the welfare of citizens of the two countries.

His Majesty King Mswati III also plans to conduct a working visit to Indonesia in October 2019. While in Indonesia, His Majesty King Mswati III will attend
the inauguration of the President and Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia and make a courtesy call with the President of the Republic of Indonesia after the inauguration ceremony. In addition, His Majesty King Mswati III is also scheduled to meet with several businessmen, state-owned companies and other relevant parties in Indonesia to discuss various opportunities for cooperation between the two countries.

Bilateral relations between Indonesia and Eswatini was established on 12 April 1991 and the relations have been running well ever since. The relations between two countries have been supported by the active role of the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Indonesia for the Kingdom of Eswatini based in Mbabane, Mr. Kareem Ashraff, who was officially appointed by the Indonesian Government in 2003. The Kingdom of Eswatini is the only country in the African region that still perform the absolute monarchy with a population of around 1.36 million people. On 19 April 2018, which coincided with the commemoration of His 50th birthday, King Mswati III announced the change of country name from Swaziland to Eswatini to restore the country's original name before the time of British colonialism.

16 October 2019

Indonesia Stock Exchange Sees Fastest Membership Growth in Asia

The Indonesia Stock Exchange has seen the fastest growth in Asia over the past five years and gained 42 new listings so far this year, bringing the total to 656, its president said on Thursday.

The bourse has a target to attract 75 new listings in 2019 and there is still hope that it may achieve this in the remaining two months.

"There are around 30 candidates in the pipeline, so hopefully we can achieve the target," Inarno Djajadi, president director of the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX), told Beritasatu.com.

He said the bourse's membership had been growing at an average rate of 25 percent over the past five years.

"We are above Vietnam and Thailand, and of course, far ahead of Malaysia, which only grew at 1 percent, and Singapore, which saw a decline," he said.

Citing data by Ernst & Young, Inarno said the IDX was the world's seventh-most active stock market in terms of new listings.

The Indonesian bourse is celebrating its 42nd anniversary on 31 October.

31 October 2019
Trade Expo Indonesia 2019 Recorded a Transaction of US$9,30 Billion

Jakarta (ANTARA) - The 34th Trade Expo Indonesia (TEI) 2019 recorded a US $ 9.30 billion transaction, an increase of 9.6 percent compared to last year's transaction of 8.49 billion US dollars, said the Director General for National Export Development, Ministry of Trade, Dody Edward.

"This is the result of the calculation until today at 13:00 West Indonesia Time. The transaction still expected to grow, bearing in mind that several buyers are continue to negotiate and visit producers. Transactions still continue until the end of the day. For this reason, we should be proud of this year's TEI achievements," said Dody through his statement in Jakarta, 20 October 2019.

The countries with the highest trade in goods are Egypt, Japan, China, the United Kingdom, and the United States (US). Meanwhile, the biggest transaction products are processed food, paper and paper products, palm oil (CPO), agricultural products, and coffee.

Whereas in exploring business cooperation programmes, there were buyers from 36 participating countries, including Japan, Mexico, India, Serbia and Malaysia. For the number of exhibitors there were 1,500 participating companies. This number increased by 29.3 percent compared to last year which reached 1,160.

From the number of participants this year, there were 295 SMEs from 34 provinces in Indonesia joining the Nusantara Food Pavilion. For the number of visitors, there was also an increase in TEI this year compared to last year by 15.8 percent. Last year there were 33,333 visitors, while this year 38,590 visitors.

For all of these achievements, Dody conveyed high appreciation to all parties who have participated and fully supported the 34th TEI, from the relevant Ministries/Institutions, regional governments, Indonesian Missions abroad, business actors, associations, SMEs, organizers, and the media.

"Like last year, the 34th TEI this year saw the synergy between ministries again. Synergy, coordination, collaboration between the government and business actors in developing national exports will be further expected in the future," said Dody.

The Director General of National Export Development also emphasized that this achievement was inseparable from the hard work of all the Ministry of Trade's apparatus, both domestically as the driving force of the national economy, as well as representatives of foreign trade who had carried out trade diplomacy very well.

"Businesses actors must be able to take advantage of every opportunity to promote their superior products to the global market. The Ministry of Trade and its apparatus are ready to help and support business actors who contribute to maintaining the country trade balance through increased exports," said Dody.


20 October 2019
Indonesia to host FIFA U20 World Cup in 2021

Indonesia have won the bid to host the 2021 FIFA U20 World Cup beating out bids from Brazil and Peru, the Persatuan Sepakbola Seluruh Indonesia (PSSI) have confirmed.

The decision was taken during the FIFA Council’s quarterly meeting held in Shanghai, China PR on Thursday.

Indonesia were among the three Southeast Asian nations who were bidding for the FIFA U20 World Cup, but the Football Association of Thailand (FAT) and Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) had decided to withdraw their joint bid in August 2019 making Indonesia the lone bidder from ASEAN.

“We are naturally very happy that Indonesia have emerged as the only bid from ASEAN to host the FIFA U20 World Cup in 2021,” PSSI general secretary and ASEAN Football Federation (AFF) vice-president Ratu Tisha Destria had said then.

Initially, FIFA had received bids from eight nations to host the 2021 FIFA U20 World Cup, but it was Indonesia, Brazil and Peru who were the nations that were in contention in the final stages.

Bahrain Football Association, Saudi Arabian Football Federation and United Arab Emirates (UAE) Football Association were also hoping to host the tournament with a joint bid.

Indonesia hosting the FIFA U20 World Cup will also boost ASEAN’s proposed joint-bid to hosts the 2034 FIFA World Cup.

The FIFA Council meeting also announced China as the host of the first edition of the new FIFA Club World Cup in 2021 while Peru will host the FIFA U17 World Cup 2021.


24 October 2019

Indonesian Fashion Collection Draws Africa's Interest

Two talented fashion designers from Indonesia namely Nonita Respati and Dhira Ragasanma were exhibiting their latest collections at the 19th Africa Fashion Exchange (AFE) which took place in Durban, Kwazulu Natal Province (KZN), South Africa, on 16-19 October 2019.

The Indonesian Embassy in Pretoria and the Indonesian Consulate General in Cape Town facilitated the participations of both designers to join series of activities. The Indonesian Consul General in Cape Town who representing the Indonesian Ambassador in Pretoria, together with the Minister of Economic Development, Tourism and Environment of the KZN Province had the honor to officially open the event.

Consul General of the Republic of Indonesia and the Minister of Economic Development, Tourism and Environment of the KZN Province inaugurated the event
The presence of the Indonesian Designers was a direct invitation from the Managing Director of KZN Fashion Council, Dr. Joy Ndlovu, to Indonesia after they witnessed firsthand the work of both designers at the “Made in Indonesia: Wonderful Journey to Indonesia” event, organized by the Consulate General in Cape Town a couple months before.

During the Africa Fashion Exchange event, the Indonesian fashion designers were not only showcasing their collection but also entrusted to be a speaker at a panel discussion session. Nonita Respati, Creative Director of “Purana” spoke at the forum with the topic “The Influence of Clothing in Daily Life in the Southeast Asian Region”.

Nonita delivered various information related to the influence of local wisdom and culture on handmade fabrics and lifestyles. Also, she shared several tips for African aspiring designers to further introduce their creations and reach a wider market.

The unique characteristics of various collections displayed by Indonesian designers become one of the attraction for the visitors who attended the Africa Fashion Exchange.

“Purana” as one of the trendsetter at the home country presents their hybrid outfit collection at the AFE event. Purana explores various types of handmade fabrics including batik, tie dye, shibori, hand-woven, eco-print and hand-painted. The various collections displayed include accessories and hats, jumpsuit, outwear, tops, pants and multi-functional dresses.

While “NurZahra” displays a collection of contemporary creations combined with traditional collections, without leaving moslem characters. “NurZahra” features a collection of hijab, pashmina, tunics and maxi dresses that are edgy and modern in character. NurZahra's creations intelligently mix the use of classical batik elements with modern ideas from other parts of the world that produce a new universal design.

By participating in this kind of activity, the Indonesian Embassy in Pretoria hopes that fashion designers and other creative industries businessmen from Indonesia will be able to expand their businesses, increase exposure to various creations, and elevate partnerships.

Support from the Government of Indonesia as partners for the creative industries is very tactical and strategic especially by providing correct information and facilitation. The Indonesian Missions in foreign countries support the expansion of Indonesian Creative Industries by linking and developing cooperation with relevant stakeholders in the accreditation country.

(Source: Indonesian Embassy in Pretoria and Consulate General in Cape Town)

**Competition Announced to Design New Capital City**

The Indonesian government on Wednesday announced a competition to design the country’s new capital in East Kalimantan.

It will be open to individuals and groups, local citizens or foreigners, with expertise in architecture and urban planning.

The new capital's design must contain elements of a smart city and a forest city, Public Works and Housing Minister Basuki Hadimuljono said during a
focus group discussion in Balikpapan, East Kalimantan.

The government has allotted Rp 5 billion ($353,000) in prize money for five winners, with a top prize of Rp2 billion, according to a government circular seen by Jakarta Globe.

Registration opens Thursday until Oct. 18 and the deadline to submit the design is on Nov. 29.

"By the second half of 2020, we will start building public infrastructures based on the [winning] masterplan from the competition. We will start with building roads, drainages and dams," Basuki said.

Landmark buildings such as the presidential palace and the parliament compound will follow later, but they will be completed by 2024, he said.

"God willing, we will start moving to the new capital in 2024. The president has told me the first ministry to be moved to the new capital is mine," Basuki said.

The new capital will occupy a 180,000-hectare area in the Kutai Kertanegara dan Penajam Paser Utara districts.

National Development Planning Minister Bambang Brodjonegoro said the new capital will be a smart, livable city with underground utilities and a protected urban forest.

The city will be attractive to both investors and tourists, he said.

"The new capital will be Indonesia's most comfortable city to live in," Bambang said.

https://jakartaglobe.id/context/competition-announced-to-design-new-capital-city
2 October 2019

Indonesia Wants to Remind You It Has Islands Not Named Bali

There are 18,307 islands in Indonesia. That’s fifth-most of any country in the world, but most people can only name one: Bali.

The island is a brand unto itself at this point, synonymous with self-exploratory retreats, coral beaches and temples in the shadow of volcanoes. Bali takes in around six million visitors each year, and they’re a disparate bunch, ranging from backpackers staying in value hostels to well-off couples spending nights at Amandari.

It’s odd, though, that a generation of Instgrammers all flock to the same island. Over 40% of tourism to Indonesia last year was to Bali, and governmental officials, helmed by President Joko Widodo, have noticed. Widodo was reelected in May of this year, winning 55.5% of the vote, and he appears intent on convincing tourists — Malaysians, Japanese, Americans, what have you — to

“Find temples, volcanic craters and surf towns all across the massive country”

Labuan Bajo, East Nusa Tenggara
come visit other areas of the country.

His plan, which has been called “10 New Balis” in the press, is to transpose the success Indonesia has found with Bali to several corners of the country; see a chart of those corners here. Widodo, and his supporters, believe that if these new areas are given the attention they deserve, by 2020 Indonesia can increase tourism to 8% of its total GDP, increase its foreign exchange income to $18 billion, and employ 13 million Indonesians with jobs — for reference, the country has a surprisingly high population of 270 million.

Areas that Widodo is most interested in “Bali-izing”? They’re not all beaches. Lake Toba, the nation’s largest lake and actually a caldera (a volcanic crater) is one. The Indonesian government imagines watersports on the lake, and surrounding museums that detail the way of life on Lake Toba’s island, North Sumatra.

Another hotspot is Borobudur, a 1,200-year-old Buddhist temple that doesn’t get nearly the same dinner table recognition as Angkor Wat, despite claiming over 500 Buddha statues. The, of course, there a slew of glittering coastlines, from Wakatobi, which is a pristine dive site, to Lombok Mandalika, a neighbor to several surf spots.

The challenge for Widodo and Indonesia will be getting the word out about these places, and developing the infrastructure to make sure visitors can hop off their international flight and reach these places without having to experience a series of regrettable misadventures. Provincial airports are in dire need of overhauls, as are public facilities, and the nation’s roads are too often entirely congested (Southeast Asia loves its motorbikes) or remote and unkempt. This is part of a long laundry list that includes desires to enhance internet connectivity, build sustainably, and relax seaport regulations (think access for personal boats).

Foreign investment, particularly that from Middle Eastern powers, will be key for Indonesia to make any of these changes, and meet its hefty 2020 goals. Widodo has apparently been pitching anyone who will listen, and the fit makes sense, in an admittedly very oversimplified way — Indonesia is the biggest Muslim-majority country in the world.

Whatever your faith, though, Indonesia should be on your travel list, and on your radar over the next few years. When you do plan your visit, keep in mind Indonesia’s dry season lasts from May to September, and even if the A-to-B travel isn’t yet at its 2030 efficiency, many of the “new Balis” have already seen a influx of development. Check out Tanjung Lesung for instance, a beach only 100 miles west of Jakarta (the capital), which already has all manner of ocean fun, a number of affordable beach clubs, and boat rides to Krakatoa Volcano.