As of 31 August, the Government of Indonesia has announced 174,796 confirmed cases of COVID-19 across all provinces of the country, with 7,417 deaths. The Government has also announced that 125,959 people have recovered from the illness.

The President of Indonesia made a statement that 20-30 million COVID-19 vaccines would be available by the end of 2020, and the number would reach 290 million by the end of 2021; the vaccines will originate both from imports and domestic production. The government is preparing a regulation for the procurement of the vaccine and the implementation of the vaccination. In the regulation, the Ministry of Health would determine the type and quantity of vaccines needed, criteria and prioritization of recipients, and standards for vaccination services. Vaccines may be procured through State-owned enterprises, companies, or in collaboration with international institutions, while the vaccination will be carried out by the Ministry of Health, and will involve Ministries / Agencies, local governments, and professional / community organizations.

The Committee for the COVID-19 Response and National Economic Recovery (PC-PEN Committee) held a meeting on 26 August to evaluate the implementation of various policies and programs during the last month. The meeting resulted in the following recommendations to amend the Presidential Decree on the Committee, specifically on:

1. Simplification of the Committee's structure and duties into two levels: policy and program level. The policy structure would consist of a Committee Chair (Coordinating Minister for the Economy) and seven Vice Chairs (Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs and Investment, Coordinating Minister for Politics, Law and Security, Coordinating Minister for Human Development and Culture, Minister of State-owned Enterprises (SOE), Minister of Finance, Minister of Health and Minister of Home Affairs), while the Executive Team would coordinate the two Task Forces: Task Force for the COVID-19 Response and the Task Force for National Economic Recovery (PEN).

2. In relation to programme mechanisms, reporting, and budget allocations, the Committee's Secretariat would be funded through the budget of the Coordinating Ministry for the Economy. The Executive Team and the PEN Task Force would be funded through the budget of the Ministry of SOE, and the Task Force for the COVID-19 Response would be funded through BNPB’s budget.

On 28 August, the Chair of the PEN Task Force explained the main achievements that fall under Indonesia for Work and Indonesia for Growth priorities, as follows:

1. Social Protection
   - Family Hope Program: has helped 10 million households, with an absorption of 71% or IDR 26.6 trillion of the IDR 37.4 trillion budget;
   - Food Program Vouchers: have helped 20 million households, with an absorption of IDR 26.3 trillion or 60% of the budget of IDR 43.6 trillion.
   - Cash and Non-Cash Social Assistance Programs: have helped 10.9 million families, absorbing 62%, or IDR 24.2 trillion out of the IDR 39.2 trillion budget. In August, this program was expanded in both regions; IDR 20.7 trillion for Non-Jabodetabek and IDR 3.5 trillion for Jabodetabek (Jakarta and its greater areas).
   - Cash Assistance through the Village Fund: has benefited eight million households, with an absorption of 30% or IDR 9.6 trillion out of an IDR 31.8 trillion budget.
   - In addition, the Government has also implemented other programs including Electricity Subsidy, free electricity for houses with a maximum power of 450 Va, and the Pre-Employment Card Program.

2. Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
   - Through banks, funds have been channeled to 1.02 million MSMEs with an implementation rate of 52.3% of IDR 78.8 trillion. Interest subsidies currently absorb 6.12% of the allocation of IDR 35.3 trillion, and have helped 7.2 million MSMEs with IDR 2.2 trillion for a total loan value of IDR 277 trillion.
   - As the latest program launched on 24 August, the Presidential Assistance for Productive Micro Enterprises (BanPres Productive) with a budget of IDR 22 trillion and a target of 9.1 million micro businesses in various...
sectors, can be expanded to 12 million micro enterprises with a budget of IDR 28.8 trillion. In the first week, the Assistance was distributed to one million micro entrepreneurs, each of whom received direct cash support of IDR 2,400,000.

3. Ministry or Agency and Local Government Programs
   - The Ministry / Agency Labor Intensive Program has reached more than 3 million workers with a budget of IDR 18.4 trillion and absorbs 49% of the total or IDR 9 trillion. The Ministry of Public Works has expanded the scope of the Cash For Work Program, including the work to revitalize the 5,000 km national road drainage and the procurement of fast-steady patching materials with an IDR 1.2 trillion budget. In the next three months, this program will support 28,000 workers.

4. Corporate Financing Assistance
   - Cash Assistance for Employees with a salary rate under IDR 5 million has just started, with a budget of IDR 37.8 trillion. Total 15.7 eligible million workers will get IDR 600,000 per month for 4 months.

Continuing the policy of easing the School Operational Assistance (BOS) fund, which authorizes schools to allocate BOS funds for internet costs for teachers and students, the Ministry of Education and Culture allocated additional IDR 7.2 trillion for internet subsidies during September-December 2020. Students will get 35 GB / month, teachers will get 42 GB / month, while students and lecturers will receive 50 GB / month. The ministry also allocated IDR 1.7 trillion for the recipients of professional allowances for teachers and education personnel, lecturers and professors.

The Afirmasi and Kinerja BOS Funds of IDR 3.2 trillion will be allocated to the most in need in 56,115 private and public schools in 31,416 urban / rural villages, with the following criteria:
   - Isolated or underdeveloped,
   - The condition of remote indigenous peoples,
   - Borders with other countries,
   - Affected by COVID-19, natural disasters, social disasters, or other emergencies.

Below are the main highlights of the National Clusters and priority areas’ activities over the past two weeks:

Health:
During August, the Ministry of Health, with WHO’s support, has conducted an Intra-Action Review (IAR) to identify lessons learned and corrective steps that need to be taken in dealing with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The IAR covered the nine key pillars of the COVID-19 response: 1) command and coordination; 2) risk communications and community empowerment; 3) surveillance, rapid response teams and case investigation; 4) points of entry, international travel, and transport; 5) laboratory; 6) infection control; 7) case management; 8) operational and logistics support and 9) maintaining essential health services and systems. It also included special considerations for community transmission settings and low-capacity and humanitarian settings. Some of the main results of the review are:
   - The command and coordination of the COVID-19 response needs to be optimized with the existence of a systematic schedule related to coordination meetings between various sectors at the central level and between the central and local governments to monitor the indicators of the COVID-19 response plan.
   - The preparation of strategic plans and operational plans is constrained by overlapping operational and strategic tasks for assigned staff; inadequate data quality, data that may not be provided timely, which complicates decision-making and strategic planning.
   - Health clusters need to be utilized optimally and meet regularly for the COVID-19 response. In this regard, the Ministry of Health held a Health cluster meeting on 28 August.

Risk Communications and Community Engagement:
   - The Minister of Social Affairs chaired the highlight commemoration of the World Humanitarian Day and launched the Community Engagement Practitioners group on 19 August 2020.
   - The first edition of the Suara Komunitas Bulletin on the COVID-19 response has been issued, and is available at: www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/indonesia/
   - The Risk Communication and Community Engagement Working Group under BNPB has provided direct support to the Task Force for the Acceleration of the Handling of COVID-19. The COVID-19 chatbot reaches 2.5 million people;
The website www.covid19.go.id reached 20.1 million users, with 62.7 million page views; the SMS messaging platform with Mobile Network Operators reaches 200,000,000 people with COVID-19 related messages every week;

• Since April, four online media briefings have been held in collaboration with the Association of Independent Journalists (AJI), and more than 1,000 journalists and participants attending online sessions. Through partnerships with Nahdlatul Ulama (NU) and Muhammadiyah, 350,000 people in 34 districts have been reached with awareness and behavior change interventions.

• Radio Public Service announcements about 'pray at home,' immunization and 'don't travel after Ramadan' were broadcasted on the government-run RRI (Radio Republik Indonesia) and through 55 private radio stations, totaling 13,122,930 people.

**Logistics:**

The activation of logistics coordination in the Provinces of South Sulawesi and South Kalimantan through a series of stakeholder meetings. Logistical gaps have been identified based on the results of the logistics capacity assessment. A Logistics Operations Concept has been developed, and logistical operations actors in handling COVID-19 have been identified.

**Psychosocial Support:**

Laporcovid-19 and the Faculty of Psychology, University of Indonesia recently conducted a survey about the social stigma associated with COVID-19. This online survey was conducted in August with respondents who have experienced symptoms, are under the treatment and who have survived COVID-19. More than half of the respondents (55%) indicated being talked about by those around them about their illness, and a third of them (33%) experienced exclusion. Respondents family members have also experienced stigmatization through various actions. The survey found that more women were subjected to stigmatization. In dealing with the experience, half of the respondents (51%) felt worried, while others felt sad, afraid, disappointed, and even numb. On the other hand they felt supported when someone else asked about their well-being, were able to return to their normal activities, received attention or gifts, and were given the opportunity to express their feelings.

There are now 271 non-government institutions with over 3,800 activities recorded in the 3W – “who does what where” – tool to date. The most active areas include health, education and WASH, while the geographical areas with the greatest number of activities are in DKI Jakarta, East Nusa Tenggara, Central Java and West Java. The sharing of data and information can be done by any organization in any of the following three formats: Kobo Toolbox, Google form or MS Excel, through the following links:

    https://bit.ly/BersatuLawanCovid19_EN (English)

For further information on the 3W, please contact Rifkianto Aribowo at rifkianto.aribowo@un.org.
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