

Media Release

HSBC Indonesia and Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) contribute to anticipating risks in lead-up to new normal

Jakarta, 2 July 2020 – As part of its corporate response to Covid-19 crisis, HSBC has made yet another donation in partnership with the Indonesian Red Cross (PMI). The collaboration supplies personal protective equipment (PPE) to medical workers in several regions in Indonesia, particularly in Jakarta, East Java and South Sulawesi.

"Despite the relaxation of the large-scale social restrictions (PSBB), we believe that we still have a long way to go in our battle against COVID-19 pandemic," said PMI Secretary General Sudirman Said.

He saw a potential risk with the re-opening of public spaces such as shopping malls, parks, and even schools. The increase curve for COVID-19 sufferers in Indonesia has not yet been sloping. A little negligence potentially triggers positive case increase that lead to the second wave of Coronavirus attacks. For this reason, during this transition period, people should be accustomed to live with extra health protocols to smooth the transition to New Normal or a new order of life in the future.

The PMI Central Board Official, Dr. Heru Aryadi explained that PPE remains highly needed considering the confirmed positive case increase in Indonesia is still happening. According to him, the PPE needs in hospitals that handle covid-19 patients reach 200 pcs per day.

"Based on observation, the average covid-19 patient is treated for 20 days. Given the average of 10 PPE per day for one patient, which means 10 times 20 days, so one patient needs 200 PPE," he said.

The need for PPE for PMI volunteers is no less important than that is for medical staff. Volunteers spraying disinfectant for an instance, need PPE to protect themselves from chemical exposure. Moreover, those who perform patient evacuation services as well as the burial of the bodies of deceased COVID-19 patients, require PPE Level 3.

"We understand that the easing of massive social distancing is necessary to resuscitate the economy. Thus we need to encourage people's awareness to maintain a strict standard of sanitation and hygiene because a healthy society allows us to develop the economy sustainably. Therefore, we highly appreciate the initiative from Indonesian Red Cross to distribute assistance in the form of protective kits and to reach out to health workers in need of help," says Nuni Sutuyo, Head of Corporate Sustainability at PT Bank HSBC Indonesia.

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With different levels of readiness in each region in facing the New Normal, the struggle against Covid-19 virus in Indonesia should be supported by all parties, including private sector, non-governmental organizations and the community itself. In this case, paramedics' role is the main key in efforts to provide optimal health services to people in need.

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