

Indonesia's Experience in Handling the COVID-19 Outbreak

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Introduction

Published by Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana (BNPB) & Universitas Indonesia, the COVID-19 pandemic is being faced by all countries in the world including Indonesia. As in other countries in the world, the COVID-19 pandemic has also had an impact in Indonesia on safety, health, economy, social culture and all aspects of human life. The National Disaster Management Agency appointed by the President of the Republic of Indonesia as coordinator of the Acceleration Task Force Handling COVID-19 in Indonesia, are trying with all their might empowering the capabilities of all components of the nation's citizens in a synergistic manner dealing with the impact of COVID-19. Coordination and communication between the center and the regions is always maximized so that all elements of the nation move together with one goal of dealing with this pandemic. The diversity of the Indonesian nation with various conditions, efforts and local wisdom from each region brings out unique and creative ways to handle this pandemic. These factors are what the authors try to explore and then explain in a book on Indonesia's experience in handling COVID-19.

This book is collaboration between the National Disaster Management Agency and the University of Indonesia. In this book, not only health programs are announced, but also various economic and social programs culture, leadership and other factors that apply to the societal level. Data collection and information for writing this book were obtained during assignment of the Task Force for the Acceleration of Handling COVID-19 which began in March 2020 to July 2020 through searching secondary data, social media, online searches, interviews, Focus Group Discussions both to Regional Leaders, Head of Regional BPBD, Head of Regional Health Service and other key sources in handling COVID-19. It is hoped that this book can become a reference source for various stakeholders in Indonesia in dealing with the impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. At the cross-country level, through this book the authors hope to show the world what Indonesia is doing in handling COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, this book is

organized into 3 books. This book describes the handling of COVID-19 in 17 regions in Indonesia as well several countries in dealing with the pandemic so it is hoped that this book can be a useful inspiration for other countries in handling the impact COVID-19 pandemic. This book discusses and contains a variety of important and up-to-date information about the development and handling of COVID-19 in various regions (provinces) in Indonesia and in several other countries which are considered quite successful in handling this pandemic.

The presence of this book is very relevant for almost all countries including Indonesia that is still struggling hard to face this pandemic. In just 7 months, after reports of cluster pneumonia due to certain virus in Wuhan China, the world is now experiencing a global catastrophe because of that virus. The virus known as COVID-19 has turned into pandemic and attacks many countries in the world. Currently 213 countries are affected by the pandemic and experiencing serious effects on the health, economic, social and political sectors. At the global level, nearly 16 million people have now been infected with the COVID-19 virus with a death toll approaching 600 thousand people. This number is expected to continue to increase due to the pandemic not yet subsides in various countries and globally, the ILO reports that 40-60 million people have changed their condition to become very poor, the value of world trade declined 3% in the first few months of 2020, and 1.6 billion informal workers lost most of their income resources. A similar situation also occurs in Indonesia. The number of people confirmed positive is now approaching 100 thousand with a death toll approaching 5 thousand. From an economic aspect, there has been a decline in people's purchasing power, layoffs in various sectors and the level of economic growth that was originally predicted has ranged 5.1-5.5%, now estimated to be -3.5%. Despite experiencing serious impacts, hope and optimism that Indonesia will be able to overcome this pandemic is visible before our eyes. Indonesia's estimated economic growth is still better than India, Japan and Singapore, each of which is estimated at -12%, -8% and -6.8%. The government is also currently making maximum

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efforts to be able to control the development of the pandemic and the effects it causes, including by imposing large-scale social restrictions and providing incentives and economic stimulus to society and the business world.

In conclusion this book contains a collection of information and views from a number of sources regarding the development of the COVID-19 pandemic and how to deal with it in various regions in Indonesia as well as several countries that are considered successful in doing so countermeasures, such as New Zealand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Germany and South Korea. This information is written in the form of popular scientific narrative writing based on interviews with sources and policy makers from related agencies and literature review. With the information and views presented in this book, it is hoped that readers can obtain a relevant picture about various conditions and types of pandemic response in various regions that have different settings and conditions, which could ultimately become learning points in improving or enhancing pandemic response in each region or sector. This book was published in collaboration with the University of Indonesia and BNPB, which is the institution appointed to coordinate the COVID-19 response program in Indonesia. The book on Indonesia's Experience in Handling the COVID-19 Outbreak is packaged in 3 titles. The first title focuses on discussing handling COVID-19 at the national level. The second title focuses on handling COVID-19 in 17 provinces and several other countries. The third title includes a discussion of handling COVID-19 in 17 other provinces. Data collection and information for the preparation of this book was carried out during the Task Force's assignment period Accelerating Handling of COVID-19 which ended in July 2020. Data and information

collection was carried out by collecting secondary data from social media, the internet, interviews with regional leaders, Head of BPBD, Head of Health Service, Head of the Communication and Information Service and other key informants related to handling COVID-19. It is hoped that this book will be read by various parties involved in overcoming COVID-19 both in capacity of individuals and organizations. For the community, this book is useful in adding insight and understanding of the various conditions and steps involved carried out by various regions and countries in tackling the COVID-19 pandemic. With this understanding, it is hoped that the community can contribute more actively and significantly in helping overcome COVID-19.

Reference

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