

Opening Speech

by

Amb. Diar Nurbintoro,

Acting Director of NAM CSSTC

on the occasion of the Online Training Course on Food Packaging
and Labelling for African Countries

26 October 2021, 14.00 WIB

Zoom Meeting

*The honourable Director for Technical Cooperation, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, Mrs. Maria Renata
Hutagalung,*

*The honourable Director for Indonesian Centre for Agricultural
Training, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Indonesia, Dr.
Leli Nuryati,*

The honourable Director for ICAT of Lembang, Dr. Ajat Jatnika,

*The honourable Dr. Imtiaz Hussain, Technical Lead Auditor and
Food Technologist of Halal Food Authority of United Kingdom,*

The honourable trainers,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamu'alaikum wr. Wb.

First of all, I would like to thank **the Government of the
Republic of Indonesia, the United Kingdom Halal Food Authority**
and all those who have provided the virtual training and organised
it.

Distinguished trainers,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we all know, it is decided that the post-harvest agricultural sector is the focus of the NAM-Centre. And when I say post-harvest, I mean not just the processing of agricultural products, but also the labelling and packaging aspects.

In order to reach synergy with the aim, we are **expanding efforts** to enhance the ability of related stakeholders for current developments research, to share their experience, to recognise the challenges, problems and opportunities of food packaging and labelling.

In June 2021 and a month ago, we provided an invitation describing the training objectives and expected results. These are measures approved by the organisers that underline the outcome on distribution of guidelines on food packaging and labelling, the proper allocation of food packaging and labelling resources and know-how on food packaging systems.

The guidelines will focus on essential issues of food packaging and labelling: halal labelling, basic packaging, packaging type, packaging design, labelling fundamental, food labelling and labelling design.

In the following four-day training sessions, you will of course discuss all those topics and aim to achieve results that you can present to your colleagues, co-workers, students and farmers in your respected countries. The NAM Centre will try to incorporate the results of the discussions into the plan for the NAM Centre in the short and medium term.

Various aspects need to be investigated, namely **existing labelling requirements, the food packaging Certification and Accreditation Scheme, the expansion of product shelf-life through packaging and the profile of the Halal Certifying and Halal Inspection Entity. The existing consumer guidance on food labelling, the construction of packaging and its fundamentals**

and the interpretation of halal products will also be included in the subtopics. These are absolutely the trainers will impart during the programme.

And of course, there are geographical differences across participating countries in order to meet the Indonesian and the United Kingdom criteria, which we intend to examine in your discussions in the following four days to discover a one size fits all solution.

I shall try to mention the NAM Centre's perspective in a number of headlines.

With regard to food security, NAM Centre will implement agriculture activities on the basis of local, collaborative, transformative, resilient and sustainable principles.

The NAM Centre therefore focuses on organising activities that even small farmers and young people can undertake in their

institutions, like local and/or direct sales of farm products, diverse cultivations and organic ways.

In terms of partnership, we emphasise arrangements to pool resources for mutual benefits. Resource pooling includes: knowledge in agriculture, marketing/dealing plans and farm networks.

The NAM Centre is also working in the field of transformation to enhance our training programme which meets an increasing number of obstacles and limits, especially in connection with the current Covid-19 pandemic.

With regard to resilience and sustainability, the NAM Centre offers a method which utilises existing natural resources on a sustained basis to produce higher climate-adapted production and incomes.

Certainly, we hope the government of non-aligned countries to support the NAM Centre in those areas. It cannot be a spectacle for a single person; everyone must cooperate.

In particular, agricultural professionals could support this in the proliferation of their skills, information and other marketing and commercial methods. That is an example.

Finally, I should like to emphasise the need to design a strategy for monitoring this training. By submitting input to our co-organisers, I would invite government, academic, and corporate personnel to fully join in this programme.

The honourable Directors and trainers,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to provide you with a very successful training and to **officially open the 'Online Training Course on Food Packaging and Labelling for African Countries.'**

Thank you.