

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 Caribbean, Central American and South
American Countries

02 November 2021, 21.00 WIB

Zoom Meeting

*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 Deputy Director for Technical Cooperation, Mr.
Irvan Fachrizal,*

*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.

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

Distinguished trainers,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we are all aware, the focus of the NAM Centre is the agricultural post-harvest sector. And when I speak of post-harvest, I mean, not just agricultural product processing, but also the labelling and packaging components.

We work to improve the capacity of relevant stakeholders to conduct current research on developments, to share their experiences, to recognise food packaging and labelling challenges, problems and opportunities.

We gave an invitation in June 2021 and one month ago to brief the goals and expected results of training. These are measures accepted by the organisers which emphasise the goals of the distribution of food packaging and labelling guidelines, the correct allocation of food packaging and labelling resources and know-how in food packaging systems.

The guideline will focus on key food packaging and labelling concerns, for example **halal labelling, basic packaging, type of packaging, design of packaging and labelling.**

In the following four days of training, you will certainly discuss all these subjects and try to obtain the outcomes that you may present in your esteemed countries, to your colleagues, co-workers, students and farmers. In the short- and medium-term, the NAM Centre will aim to include the results of the discussions into the NAM Centre's plan.

Distinguished participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Different elements need to be investigated, including **existing criteria for labelling, the Certification and Accreditation Scheme for food packaging, the expansion of product shelf life through the packaging and the Halal Certification and Halal Inspection.** The subtopics will also address the present guidelines

on labelling understanding for consumers, the building of packaging and its basics and the interpretation of halal products. These are the trainers who will teach throughout the programme.

And obviously, in order to meet the Indonesian and United Kingdom standards, we shall explore geographic differences across the participating countries in your discussions in four days to find one answer.

The honourable Directors and Deputy Director,

Distinguished trainers,

Distinguished participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I will attempt to mention the views of the NAM Centre in a number of headlines.

With regard to food safety, NAM Centre undertakes agriculture activities on the basis of local, partnership, transformative, resilient and sustainable principles.

The NAM Centre therefore concentrates on organising activities, such as local or direct sales of agricultural products, varying crops and organic methods, especially for small farmers and young people.

In relation to partnership, we emphasise arrangements for pooling mutual benefits. The pooling includes: Farming knowledge, marketing or distribution plans and farm networks.

The NAM Centre also works to strengthen our training programme, in particular in connection with the current Covid-19 pandemic, that is meeting an increasing number of barriers and limitations.

In terms of sustainability and resilience, the NAM Centre provides a technique for sustainable use of existing natural

resources in order to generate more climate-friendly output and earnings.

Of course, we hope the non-aligned countries will support the NAM Centre in those areas. It cannot be a one man show; everybody must work together.

This might be supported in particular by agricultural experts in the development of their abilities, knowledge and other marketing and commercial strategies.

Lastly, I would want to stress that a system to monitor this training needs to be developed. I would invite government, academics and corporate staff to take part in this programme by presenting their views to our co-organisers.

The honourable Directors, Deputy Director and trainers,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to offer you a very successful training and to officially open the “Online Training Course on Food Packaging and Labelling for Caribbean, Central American and South American Countries.”

Thank you.