



**Remarks
by
Director of Technical Cooperation
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Indonesia**

**Delivered at the Opening Session of
Online Training Course on Food Packaging and Labelling
for Caribbean, Central and South American Countries
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Excellency Ambassador Diar Nurbintoro

Acting Director, of
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Honorable Dr. Ir. Leli Nuryati

Director of Indonesian Center for Agricultural Training
Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Indonesia

Representatives from International Cooperation Bureau
Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Indonesia

Distinguished guests and participants,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Good evening to distinguished guests in Indonesia,
Good morning to all participants in Caribbean, Central and South America,

It is my pleasure to welcome all of you to the online training course on Food Packaging and Labelling, a collaboration between Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Indonesia, and Non-Aligned Movement Center.

Despite different time zone and transcontinental distance, I believe the knowledge sharing has no boundaries. This evening, we are glad to meet all participants virtually who represent 8 countries in the Caribbean, Central and South America.

The online training has become popular recently due to the pandemic of Covid-19. There is a blessing in disguise that we can attain more cross-border participants. I hope in due course, we are able to meet face-to-face and you are able to visit Indonesia to get the on-site training.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to emphasize how important food packaging and labelling are, particularly in daily life. Packaging will influence consumer behaviors and preferences, meanwhile labelling is essential for consumers' understanding.

In couple of days, the experts from Ministry of Agriculture of Republic of Indonesia will share knowledge on food packaging and labelling, how to create value added, and an introduction to halal certificate. During the course, they will also notify the harmonization to international standards. For your perusal, Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO) have worked together with Codex Alimentarius to implement the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme. The purpose of this programme is to protect the health of consumers and to ensure fair practices in the food trade.

In the global food chains, we need to comply with these food packaging and labelling standards in order to penetrate the market.

Distinguished Guests and Participants,

Indonesia stands ready to be a southern provider in the global development, through an active contribution in South-South Cooperation.

The role of South-South Cooperation itself is essential to promote a large number of knowledge and expertise exchanges through programs, projects and initiatives, that have helped solve specific problems in the countries of the Global South. Specifically, this online training aims to support small and medium agro-enterprises to improve the handling, packaging, processing and labelling of food products in a sustainable way.

In 2020, the UN Office for South-South Cooperation published a document gathering more than 100 successful experiences that have contributed to the development of countries around the world. One of the successful programs is the lessons from Chile to the Caribbean countries on product labelling as a measure to end obesity.

Last but not least, I would kindly invite all of you to take a chance to initiate another substantial program that can be supported by the Government of Indonesia and NAM Center. Your exchanges will open new avenues to strengthen South-South Cooperation and also to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Thank you.

526 words
7 minutes