

BKPM Took Several Measures To Anticipate COVID-19

Indonesia Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) continuously respond the COVID-19 pandemic actively. The lead government agency that responsible to facilitate foreign investment in Indonesia has stop their offline services start from March 17, 2020, in order to anticipate the widespread of the COVID-19 outbreak.

BKPM Chairman Bahlil Lahadalia inform that the decision to stop the offline services will not reduce the quality of services given to investor. "The offline services will be stop for two weeks, after that we will evaluate the decision whether it is necessary to extend the policy," he asserted.

The online services will be the only mode for investor to reach out BKPM officers. Bahlil assure that his office will optimize their services to investor through online system. "In current situation (COVID-19 Pandemic), we will do our best to assist and facilitate the investor. It is crucial to keep the level FDI stay in Indonesia," said former Indonesia Youth Entrepreneur Associaton (HIPMI).

The FDI prove as one of important component to support Indonesian economy during the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic create supply shock and influence global economy negatively. Other foreign investment such as investment in portfolio market, stocks and bond will easily shifted to other instrument like US dollar or gold during the hard times, but the FDI will not easily shifted.

The shifting of the stock market for instance, if we take a closer look on index of Indonesia stock exchange currently in level 4,300 decrease significantly from level 5,300 in the early of March.

Other measures, is to expedite the licence process for medical purposes i.e. medical equipment, personal protective equipment, disinfectant, and hand sanitizer. All the process to get the license is done through Online Single Submission system (OSS) and being monitor directly by the BKPM Chairman himself through BKPM Invesment Control and Command Center.

BKPM along with other ministries implement the work-from-home policy to reduce the people mobility in order to lower risk of probability of infected by COVID-19. This policy allign with President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo direction to urged social distancing. President ask all Indonesians to "work from home, study from home and worship at home" in the coming weeks to stem the spread of the virus. (*)