

## Media Update

17 August 2022

### **Investment Minister Officiates at Flag Raising Ceremony Commemorating RI 77<sup>th</sup> Independence Day in Tembagapura with Freeport Indonesia, Reiterates Commitment to National Recovery from Eastern Indonesia**

**Tembagapura** – On Wednesday (17/8), PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI) commemorated Republic of Indonesia's 77<sup>th</sup> Independence Day at three of the company's locations, namely Tembagapura, Kuala Kencana and Jakarta. In Tembagapura, Investment Minister/ Head of Investment Coordination Agency BKPM Bahlil Lahadalia acted as Inspector of Ceremonies. This year's commemoration at PTFI was the first with the Investment Minister/BKPM Head leading the ceremony, which also welcomed an era of new normalcy after two years of restricted Independence Day celebrations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The event was attended by the company's direct employees as well as employees of contractors operating in the PTFI area, representatives from both central and local governments, students and teachers in the company area, TNI and Police personnel, and representatives of communities in the company area.

In an address delivered in his capacity of Inspector of Ceremonies, Bahlil stressed the independence day celebrations provide a momentum to reinforce the spirit of *gotong royong* or working together shoulder to shoulder to achieve common goals. "In line with President Jokowi's directive and the grand theme of Recovering Faster, Rising Stronger, all components of the nation need to move in concert to realize all hopes and speed up recovery in various sectors so that Indonesia is geared up to meet global challenges. Private entities such as PTFI, in conjunction with the people, play a vital role in reinforcing national resilience amid the uncertainty brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic," **Bahlil** said.

In his message, Bahlil voiced his appreciation of PTFI's growing continuously alongside the people of Indonesia, in particular in Papua, through the greatest provision of benefits for all stakeholders. "Investments made in Indonesia drive the nation's economic growth, in particular through creation of jobs and improvement of the people's wellbeing. The investment PTFI is undertaking with its underground mining in Papua and smelter development in Gresik is helping the government to bring about equitable investment and develop downstream industries, as well as generating multiplier effects through creation of jobs for local communities that will spur regional and national economic growth," **Bahlil** added.

Central Statistics Agency BPS has Papua on record as the Indonesian province with the highest economic growth rate in the second quarter of 2022, at 14.38 percent. To boot, the mining and extraction sector contributed 43.95 percent of this economic growth. This cannot be dissociated from PTFI's production increase throughout the second quarter of 2022, of 407 million pounds of copper and 473 thousand ounces of gold. PTFI set a production target of 1.6 billion pounds of copper and 1.6 million ounces of gold

in this year. “This production achievement is the result of *gotong royong* by Indonesian nationals at PT Freeport Indonesia together with stakeholders, including the communities living alongside us. This year’s Independence Day commemoration will reenergize us to strive harder to validate our independence with continuous work and increasing contributions for the nation and state,” **PTFI President Director Tony Wenas** stated after the ceremony.

Achievements from PTFI operations are directly contributing to community development and empowerment that conform with Sustainable Development Goals or SDGs. PTFI promotes multi-party partnerships in the implementation of sustainability programs. “PTFI partnering with the Mimika Regency government and the Amungme and Kamoro Community Empowerment Foundation YPMAK for various community development efforts is our commitment to achieve SDGs in Papua, specifically in Mimika. We also engaged in this strategic multi-party partnership in drafting the Regional Action Plan (RAD) for SDGs that includes a road map for accelerated achievement of SDGs in the 2020-2024 period,” **Tony** said.

A few days earlier, Bahlil Lahadalia had attended an event for the induction of a Flag Raising Troop (Paskibra) in Kuala Kencana where he met with representatives from communities surrounding the company’s operation area, which are the beneficiaries of the company’s empowerment programs. Bahlil also visited the company’s Dewatering Plant (DWP) in Portsite to witness the sendoff of a concentrate-carrying vessel and to observe PTFI operational activities.

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