BAPPENAS and JICA to Hold a Seminar on Health Security and Retirement Income Security

The National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) will co-organize the “Seminar on Health Security and Retirement Income Security: Sharing Japan’s Experience” on July 26th, 2011 at the Hotel Nikko in Jakarta. The seminar aims to support the Government of Indonesia (GOI) in its Social Security reform efforts through sharing Japan’s experience in this regard. Two experts will be invited as lecturers from Japan, namely Professor Eiji TAJIKA from the School of International and Public Policy, Hitotsubashi University, and Professor Yoshinori HIROI from the Department of Policy Studies, Faculty of Law and Economics, Chiba University (See Attachment 2 for their respective profiles).

In the seminar, the lecturers will give presentations concerning Japan’s experience in Social Security Reform by touching upon two issues that attract a particular policy interest from the GOI; i.e. ‘the Impact of Social Security on Economy and Public Finance’ and ‘Inclusion of Informal Sector Workers into Social Security Systems’. From the Indonesian side, the National Social Security Council (DJSN) will be invited to update the audience on the reform progress in Health Security and Retirement Income Security in the country. The presentations will be followed by a session of Discussion and Q & A.

Social Security Reform is an imminent issue for Indonesia. By seizing opportunities of globalization, the country’s economy has been steadily growing. For the sustainability of the growth, the country needs to address the issues of equitable redistribution of wealth and ensuring stable life for its citizens. With that awareness, the GOI has enacted the National Social Security System Law in October 2004. The law aims at universal coverage of five Social Security programs, namely Health, Pension, Old-age Saving, Work Accident and Life Insurance, primarily through contributory social insurance systems. The law is yet to be implemented to this day although the preparation is underway. There are issues to be dealt with before the actual implementation starts, such as assessing economic and financial impacts associated with the reform and making policy consensus on the implementation structure, levels of benefit and contribution, among others.

Japan’s experience, including its successes and drawbacks, could serve as policy hints for the GOI. Japan has been facing the similar reform challenges for decades, and it has been making continuous policy efforts to overcome them. Through trial and error, Japan has achieved universal health coverage and universal pension coverage, which are aspired to be accomplished by the GOI today. We hope that the seminar will serve the interests of the Indonesian policy makers and the relevant stakeholders by evoking policy inspirations and invigorating policy discussions.

1. **Date and time**
   July 26, 2011 (Tue) / 09:00-13:10

2. **Venue**
   Hotel Nikko Jakarta (Diamond 1 Room)
   Address: Jl. M.H. Thamrin 59, Jakarta 10350, Indonesia
   Tel. No: (021) 230-1122

3. **Program**
   See Attachment 1

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