Seminar on the Future Direction of Rural Banks (BPR) / APEX in Indonesia

The Central Bank of Indonesia (Bank Indonesia / BI) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) will co-organize a seminar on the future development of rural banks (Bank Perkreditan Rakyat / BPR) in Indonesia on May 10th, 2012 at BI’s main office in Jakarta. The seminar aims to have a discussion between BI and other related financial institutions about the support towards BPRs by taking reference from Japan’s financial support model.

BI has been providing support towards BPRs (banks operating in the rural level, including in Jakarta) to help grow small and medium enterprises (SMEs) by promoting the assignment of commercial banks with the APEX\(^1\) functions that are the following three (3): pooling of fund, financial support, and technical support. Currently, five (5) commercial banks have started a part of APEX functions. However, BI is now reviewing an APEX model in order to develop APEX banks that provide the whole functions nationwide.

As BI reviews the APEX model, BI has requested JICA to conduct a study regarding the Japanese model of support towards financial institutions for SMEs, namely, the Shinkin Chukin Bank and the Norin Chukin Bank. Based on the request, JICA is implementing a survey to check the feasibility of applying the models of the two (2) banks to the Indonesian APEX model and the future direction of BPR and APEX in Indonesia.

The seminar consists of two (2) parts. First part is a lecture about "Feasibility of applying models of Shinkin Chukin Bank and Norin Chukin Bank to Indonesia’s APEX system" by Nomura Research Institute, Japan, who undertakes this survey. Second part is a panel discussion where panelists from BI, APEX banks, and the Association of Indonesian BPRs (Perbarindo) discuss about the future direction of supporting BPRs based on their experience in introducing APEX.

1. Date May 10\(^{th}\), 2012 (Thu) 09 00—16 30
2. Place Bank Indonesia
   Conference Room, 25th floor, Gedung A, Bank Indonesia
   JL. M.H. Thamrin No2., Jakarta, 10350
   Tel. No. +62 (021) 381-8238

\(^1\) APEX or Apex institution usually refers to a wholesale organization that channels funding (grants, loans, guarantees) to multiple microfinance institution (MFIs). However, in BI’s case, APEX means assignment of function (provider of fund pooling, financial support, and technical support services) to commercial banks as means to support BPRs.
3. Agenda  Please see the Attachment

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