

# INDONESIA NEWS

Friday, August 26, 2022

## PRESIDENT JOKOWI LEADS RATAS

President Jokowi chaired a Ratas (Rapat Terbatas) on the Acceleration of the Digital Transformation Program for the Procurement of Goods and Services, at the Merdeka Palace, Jakarta, Thursday (25/8).

SETKAB



# Indonesia Has Never Leaned Toward One Geopolitical Bloc: Lemhannas

**Indonesia has never leaned toward one particular bloc in response to global geopolitical and geomaritime challenges, governor of the National Resilience Institute (Lemhannas), Andi Widjajanto, has said.**

“WE are never being caught up to take a position and be part of one particular (geopolitical) bloc,” Widjajanto affirmed at the 6th Jakarta Geopolitical Forum on Wednesday (24/8).

Indonesia has never felt obliged to be part of one particular bloc as its free and active

foreign policy has encouraged the country to seek options to prevent the polarization of the global community into two opposing blocs, he added.

“Whether during the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union, or today when the United States has risen as

a single superpower, we need to seek other options to accentuate our national interests,” he said.

Indonesia often heeds more than one doctrine and implements them concurrently, he noted, adding that while pursuing a free and active foreign policy, the nation also abides by ASEAN consensus in the Southeast Asian region and offers technical and functional solutions to address international issues.

President Joko Widodo’s (Jokowi’s) recent visit to Ukraine and Russia — which are at war with each other -- has highlighted his

commitment to prioritizing technical and functional solutions for resolving conflicts, Widjajanto pointed out.

During the visit, the President offered options for peace that the leaders of the warring countries could pursue to end the conflict, he added.

“We also offered other technical and functional options as a solution (to existing issues), and President Joko Widodo offered (solutions) to anticipate the food crisis, particularly on the wheat supply aspect, to ensure that the commodity can be exported during the harvest season in Ukraine,” he said.(\*)

## Ready to Hold Djakarta Festival Featuring 300 Small Businesses: Kadin

THE Jakarta Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Kadin) has expressed its readiness to hold the Djakarta Festival 2022 by involving 300 small and medium industries (SMEs) and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

The festival, scheduled to be held from August 26–28, 2022, will also involve businesses owned by persons with disabilities, chairperson of Jakarta Kadin, Diana Dewi, informed on Wednesday (24/8). “The Jakarta Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as the organizer, aims to strengthen the commitment between stake-

holders to take sides and collaborate together in re-elevating Jakarta’s SMEs and MSMEs after being hit by the COVID-19 pandemic,” she said.

The Djakarta Festival 2022, which is a part of the Provincial Leader’s Meeting III activities, will involve SMEs and MSMEs in the fields of culinary, fashion, and craft, as well as technopreneurs. Their products have passed the curation stage, which covered business licensing, packaging models, daily production capacity, and portfolios.

Two of the products marketed at the

Djakarta Festival are knitted bags and woven batik goods.

The festival participants have been provided items for booths, such as tents, tables, chairs, and electricity for free.

“The main concept of Djakarta Festival is ‘nobody left behind.’ This means that all layers (of society) are invited to collaborate. The Jakarta Kadin wants to take real actions so that MSMEs owned by persons with disabilities can be equal to other MSMEs,” Dewi said.

She further said that Jakarta Kadin is fully committed to helping MSMEs to continue to upgrade themselves so that they can go digital and global to penetrate the export market.

Dewi expressed the hope that the Djakarta Festival will run smoothly and provide benefits to participants, as well as promote pride in using local products. “The next impact is to increase job opportunities, and indirectly, increase people’s income and post-pandemic economic growth,” she said.(\*)