

INDONESIA NEWS

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VP RECEIVES VISIT OF THE MINISTER OF HAJJ AFFAIRS SAUDI ARABIA

Vice President Ma'ruf Amin received a visit from Saudi Arabia's Minister of Hajj and Umrah Affairs Tawfiq Fawzan Muhammad Alrabiah, Wednesday (26/10), at the Vice President's Palace, Jakarta, Wednesday (26/10).

RI First to Build Collaborative Platform for Plastic Waste Handling

Indonesia will become the first country to build a collaborative platform for handling plastic waste under the National Plastic Action Partnership (NPAP) scheme, NPAP Chairwoman Tuti Hadiputranto has informed.

"INDONESIA is the first country to adopt NPAP. This multi-stakeholder comes in the form of a platform in which we hope there will be cooperation with and participation from all sides," she said at a press

conference on "Handling Marine Debris: From Bali for the World," which was accessed online from Jakarta on Wednesday (26/10).

The relevant parties, including the government, ministries, institutions, non-gov-

ernmental organizations, companies, and the public, are expected to play a role in handling marine debris, she said.

Marine debris poses a problem not only for Indonesia but the world as well. Indonesia is believed to be the world's second-largest plastic waste producer, she underlined.

On the plastic waste issue, President Joko Widodo has said that it cannot be left unheeded and Indonesia must prove its capability to handle plastic waste, she added. "As a result, the NPAP platform has been created. That is the background for the creation of NPAP in

Indonesia," she said.

Indonesia will showcase its marine debris handling during its G20 presidency this year, she added. It will hold a meeting to show the world that the country is committed to not only making a promise and an action plan but also to realizing it. However, it still has to be increased through strong collaboration.

"The meeting, which will be held in the first week of November 2022, will team up with NPAP to demonstrate that strong partnership and commitment will yield better results," she said. (*)

Army Chief Asks Soldiers to Remain Neutral During 2024 Elections

ARMY Chief of Staff General Duding Abdurachman on Wednesday reminded soldiers of their obligation to uphold neutrality and shun practical politics during the 2024 simultaneous general elections.

"We continue to strongly uphold the TNI's (Indonesian military's) neutrality not to get involved in practical politics," he said while addressing the soldiers during a roll call at the National Monument (Monas) Square

in Jakarta.

The military has decided to return to the barracks and completely refrain from practical politics in 2004, in accordance with the TNI Law.

Abdurachman said the phases of the 2024 simultaneous general elections have been determined and the General Elections Commission (KPU) has announced that 18 political parties have passed the administrative

verification process.

In fact, some of the political parties have begun to declare their presidential and vice presidential candidates for the 2024 elections, he noted. "After all, we continue to uphold strongly the TNI's neutrality," he affirmed.

One of the TNI soldiers' duties and responsibilities, in accordance with the law, is assisting the government in ensuring that

all phases of the general elections run in a smooth and safe way.

He vowed to take stern measures against Army soldiers who are found getting involved in politics.

"If any of Army soldiers supports (a certain political party), we will process him/her legally. From the beginning, the Army must stay neutral, and must not choose one of the candidates," he said. (*)