Trading Mission to Belarussia: 
*Opening Up Opportunities for the Cooperation of Trade, Investment and Technology*

**Jakarta, September 18, 2010** — In the framework of paving the path of non-traditional market, the Minister of Trade Mari Elka Pangestu continued his visit to Belorussia along with the delegates having the members of business players from 14 companies. The country with Minsk as its capital becomes the goal of further Trading Mission after Moscow, as it has specialization including the mastery of technology both agricultural and military technologies.

“Belorussia has specialization as the producers of heavy means, agricultural equipment, even the mastery of military technology. This is especially when Belorussia has still as a part of the Soviet Union formerly”, said the Minister. “This matter makes Belorussia to be strong enough country as the manufacture central, therefore, the economy of Belarus is extremely oriented to export and definitely very competitive. The Export of Belorussia contributed 70% of total GDP”, added the Minister of Trade after meeting with Foreign Minister cum the Minister of International Trade Sergei Martinov, in Minsk, Friday (18/09).

Therefore, the Minister said that “we expect that we also cooperate in other sectors such as investment and technology with the country having 10 million lives.

Indonesian trade balance against Belorussia still experiences deficit. “Indonesia is still deficit, but it is due to the importation of goods we need”, he said. The Indonesian largest import from Belarus such as potassium, being the basic materials of the fertilizer making, and tire. Meanwhile main Indonesian export to Belorussia such as tobacco, rubber and musical instruments.

Total trade value of both countries are US$11.46 million in 2009. Of the said value, Indonesian export of US$1.2 million or only 0.14% from total import of Belorussia from the world.

The largest Indonesian export is more than 60% supplied by tobacco products, 17% more are musical instruments, 10% rubber and the rest divided into chocolate, coffee, tea and through textile thread, meanwhile the value of import reaches US$10.2 million dominated by the raw materials of fertilizer such as potassium chloride through more than 76%, and the rest supplied by steel products (coat and batik products).
In the beginning of semester 2010, non-oil and gas to Belarus reached US$452.1 thousand, increased by 38.2% compared to the previous year with around US$327 thousand.

In the visit, the delegate of Trading Mission succeeded in agreeing upon the trade cooperation for the tire of tractor, being the needs in the sectors of agribusiness and non-produced in Indonesia. The second cooperation is the cooperation for heavy equipment.

Spirit to build cooperation and view Indonesia as the important partner, causing the break-country of the Soviet Union intends to open representative or at the same level of Embassy in Jakarta. Hopefully, Belorussia may be realized in the year 2011. To date, the representative of Belarus in Asia such as only in the People’s Republic of China, India, Korea, Japan, and Vietnam. In this connection, the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia for Russia cum Belarus, confirmed that the intention will be positively welcomed by Indonesian Government, and to the reverse, Indonesian Government plans to specifically appoint the Consul of Honorary in Belarus.

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