Increase Synergy in the Utilization of Air Transport Services, The Ministry of Trade-Garuda Indonesia Sign MoU

Jakarta, 2 July 2015 – The Ministry of Trade is committed to realizing the 2015-2019 trade sector target. Various efforts have been made, this time through a synergy between the Ministry of Trade and PT. Garuda Indonesia (Persero) Tbk in the field “The Utilization of National Air Transport Services in Order to Increase Trade and Realize Good Governance”.

“The Ministry of Trade has made a breakthrough by partnering with the countries flagship airline Garuda Indonesia to achieve the work target that has been set. The role of air transport services is crucial in increasing trade activities,” explained the Minister of Trade Rachmat Gobel in his opening remarks at the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Trade and PT. Garuda Indonesia at the Ministry of Trade Building on Thursday (2/6).

The cooperation entitled “The Utilization of National Air Transport Services in Order to Increase Trade and the Realize Good Governance” was signed by the Secretary General of the Ministry of Trade, Gunaryo, and the Managing Director of Garuda Indonesia, M. Arif Wibowo, and witnessed by Trade Minister Rachmat Gobel.

The scope of this cooperation is quite comprehensive, encompassing the use of national air transport services to increase trade, implement good governance in the Ministry of Trade, and support programs carried out by both parties.

Trade Minister Rachmat said that cooperation such as this is aimed at increasing trade and promoting both parties, while at the same time acts as an instrument for internal supervision on the use of the National Budget, particularly for business travels of employees and shipment of goods through cargo.

“Through this internal supervision, it is hoped that a good governance can be realized within the Ministry of Trade. The utilization of the budget for air transport services used to support the activities of the Ministry of Trade will be more effective and efficient. This cooperation also supports the efforts to increase exports by 300% and the realization of the Nawacita,” asserted Trade Minister Rachmat.

Meanwhile, the Managing Director of Garuda Indonesia, M. Arif Wibowo, said that this cooperation was an embodiment of Garuda’s commitment as the flagship carrier of Indonesia to continuously support the Government’s programs. “With the shared mission of Garuda and the Ministry of Trade, this cooperation is hoped to be able to contribute to the development of Indonesia’s economy,” asserted Arif Wibowo.
Secretary General of the Ministry of Trade Gunaryo hopes that this signing can strengthen the national wheels of trade. "The government together with its strategic trade partners are fully committed to implementing the items that are part of the scope of cooperation in the agreement according to the duties and functions of the respective institutions so as to be able to increase competitive national trade and realize good governance," said Gunaryo.

At the same time of the memorandum of understanding signing, a signing of two cooperative agreements was done containing the technical provisions of the air transport utilization cooperation for passengers and cargo by Ministry of Trade Officials comprising the Secretaries of Directorate Generals/Agencies, the secretary of the Inspectorate General, and the Head of the Bureau for General Affairs with Garuda Indonesia’s Vice President for the Region of Jakarta, Dony Widojoko, and the Vice President of Garuda Cargo, Sudarmadi.

As it is known, Garuda Indonesia -Indonesia’s flagship airline carrier- currently flies to 76 destinations worldwide and various exotic locations in Indonesia. With more than 600 daily flight schedules, Garuda Indonesia operates a fleet of 169 aircraft, aged an average of 4,5 years, Garuda Indonesia provides the best service. Garuda Indonesia’s service has a new concept called the “Garuda Indonesia Experience” which puts the hospitality and cultural richness of Indonesia at the forefront.

Through this continuous transformation program, particularly the fleet expansion program, by the end of 2015 Garuda Indonesia will have an active fleet of 185 aircrafts (which includes those under its Citilink subsidiary). Various accolades were awarded to Garuda Indonesia for the success of their transformation program including being awarded “5-Star Airline” and “The World’s Best Cabin Crew” in 2014 and 2015, and also “The World’s Best Economy Class” in 2013 from an independent airlines and airport review institution based in London, SkyTrax. Garuda Indonesia currently ranks eighth in the list of “World’s Best Airline 2015”.

Garuda Indonesia is a member of the SkyTeam, a global alliance with 20 member airlines offering a global network with more than 16,320 to 1,052 destinations in 177 countries each day.

“The Ministry of Trade hopes that PT. Garuda Indonesia (Persero) Tbk can be a strategic partner in realizing the national development program by way of accelerating the performance wheels of exports and national trade activities,” said Gunaryo.

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