Chairman of BKPM: It is Time to Invest in New Balis

Jakarta, 9 October 2017 – Chairman of the Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) Thomas Lembong invites foreign and domestic investors to invest in the tourism sector. He pointed out that tourism investments, especially in Bali ten years ago, would have made a profit.

"If investors invested in Bali ten years ago in hotels, resorts and villas, they must be enjoying the benefits of the development of Indonesian tourism. Therefore, it is time to invest in the 'New Balis'," Thomas said in an official statement to the media on Monday (9/10).

He invites investors to see opportunities in the priority tourism destinations at the Regional Investment Forum (RIF) which will be held in Padang, West Sumatra on 15-17 October 2017. "In the first half of 2017, tourism sector grew by more than 35% compared to the same period last year. It certainly shows that this sector is growing very well," Thomas, who is also known as Tom, said.

Based on BKPM data, during the period of 2010 - 2016, investment realization in the tourism sector increased by an average of 20% per year and employed 221 thousand workers.

Referring to the data in the first half of 2017, investment realization in the tourism sector reached USD 929.14 million or equals IDR 12.4 trillion. This figure shows a 37% growth compared to the first half of 2016.

Minister of Tourism Arief Yahya fully supports RIF Padang 2017, especially to boost the number of tourists who will visit Indonesia. "Participating investors can invest their capital to build facilities in the priority tourism destinations offered. This will support the increasing number of foreign and domestic tourists in Indonesia," Arief said.

Arief emphasizes that preparing Attractions, Amenity (infrastructures and facilities), and Accessibility (3As) to meet the needs of tourists during their visit in Indonesia is a joint task, for both government and business community.

Meanwhile, West Sumatra Governor Irwan Prayitno explained that Padang has actually been an international port since the 16th century. "West Sumatra is very open to business and investment. The beauty of Mount Padang, Mandeh Beach, as well as the delicacy of Padang cuisine are ready to welcome foreign and domestic investors," he said.

The investment promotion forum is organized by the BKPM, supported by the Ministry of Tourism, Bank Indonesia and the Government of West Sumatra Province. At this event, six of 10 government’s priority tourism destinations, namely Lake Toba (North Sumatra), Kelayang Cape (Bangka Belitung), Lesung Cape (Banten), Thousand Islands (Jakarta), Borobudur (Central Java),
Bromo-Tengger-Semeru (East Java), and two integrated tourism area in West Sumatra, Mandeh Beach and Mount Padang, will be the main offers to investors.

To date, approximately 114 investors from Australia, Japan, the United States, Singapore, China and the United Kingdom have confirmed their presence at the event. Around 66 meetings have been scheduled between investors, local governments and entrepreneurs to explore investment opportunities in the tourism sector.

Deputy Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Arcandra Tahar, Senior Deputy Governor of Bank Indonesia Mirza Adityaswara, West Sumatra Governor Irwan Prayitno will also be in Padang for this event. In addition, Indonesian Ambassadors to the UAE, Sweden, Belgium, Malaysia and Mexico are also scheduled to attend. More information on the tourism destinations offered and the event can be accessed through www.regionalinvestmentforum.com.

RIF 2017 in Padang is one of BKPM’s initiatives to support President Jokowi Administration in developing tourism sector. By 2019, the government targeted the number of foreign tourist arrivals to reach 20 million people per year and domestic tourists amounted to 275 million people. This sector is expected to generate up to 260 trillion rupiahs in foreign exchange earnings.

--The End--

For further details please contact:

Husen Maulana  
Director of Regional Promotion Facility BKPM  
Jl. Jend. Gatot Subroto No.44 Jakarta 12190  
Phone: 0821-2594-0807  
E-mail :humas@bkpm.go.id

Henky Manurung  
Head of Division Tourism Investmetn, Ministry of Tourism  
Sapta Pesona Building, Jln Medan Merdeka Barat No. 17, Jakarta Pusat 10110  
Phone : 021 - 3838040  
E-mail : indonesia.tourisminvestment@gmail.com