

REPORT

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**MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA**

**AT THE OPENING OF THE
INDONESIA-AFRICA FORUM 2018**

BALI, 10 APRIL 2018

**Your Excellency, Vice President of the Republic
of Indonesia,
Governor of Bali,
Ministers and Ambassadors,
Distinguished Delegates,**

**Assalammu'alaikum Wr Wb,
Om Swastiastu,**

Welcome to Bali, Indonesia.

Welcome to the first ever Indonesia-Africa Forum
2018.

You might ask yourself “why did Indonesia initiate
the Indonesia-Africa Forum?”

The quick answer is simply because Indonesia
loves Africa.

Our love of Africa is not only reflected in words, it is
reflected in deeds.

In 1955, through the Asian-African Conference in
Bandung, we forged Bandung Principles, that
inspired and liberated many nations.

When the word “LOVE” is there, it means equality,
caring, sustainable and win-win cooperation.

Therefore, for more than one year, we have worked hard in preparation for this Indonesia-Africa Forum.

To show Indonesia's commitment to strengthen its love and cooperation with Africa.

**Mr. President,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

This Forum is attended by more or less 500 participants from Africa and Indonesia, both policy makers as well as the private sector.

During this two-days event, participants will share their views on how to strengthen economic cooperation.

Today, panels of discussion on "Policy Makers' Perspective" will feature strategic topics, such as economic diplomacy; infrastructure development; financing facility initiatives; digital transformation; as well as strategic industry cooperation.

Tomorrow, the Forum will feature Indonesia – Africa Business Forum, which will discuss important topics such as connectivity, digital economy, agriculture, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), South-South and Triangular Cooperation and the way forward.

Throughout the Forum, ministers, high-ranking officials, CEOs, bankers, and leaders of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry will speak and share their thoughts.

I am pleased that a number of Indonesian SOEs participating today includes Pertamina; PT Inka; PT Dirgantara Indonesia, PT PAL, PT TIMAH, GMF, and many others.

We also welcome CEOs and business representatives from Africa, including the Ethiopian Airlines; Topwide Ventures Limited; Africa Export-Import Bank; as well as Amirco Commercial Services

Of course, the duties of the government as policy makers includes opening doors and supporting activities of business sectors.

Excellencies,

We have learned about the Africa Vision 2063.

We have closely monitored the progress of the African Continental Free Trade Area.

Indonesia wants to be part of developments in Africa and likewise Indonesia wants Africa to be part of developments in Indonesia.

The Exhibition held at the sideline of this Forum will showcase a glimpse of the many potentials that Indonesia and Africa can unleash.

Please visit the exhibition.

Thank you so much for your participation in this Forum.

Please make use of this Forum to unleash all of our potentials and possibilities.

As the song “waka-waka” says “This time is for Africa!”

I thank you.

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