



Opening Speech
The President Director / CEO of TELKOM
on Opening Ceremony
Workshop on Disaster Management
Menara R&D Center, Bandung-Indonesia, 28 March 2007

Distinguished participants,

Mr. Basuki Jusuf Iskandar, Deputy Minister for Posts and Telecommunications of the Republic of Indonesia

Mr. Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid, Director of Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), ITU Geneva.

Ladies and Gentlemen,
The participants of the Workshop
Good morning,

First of all I'd like to thank all of you for attending the Workshop on Disaster in TELKOM R & D Center in Bandung – Indonesia.

Disasters and emergency situations occurred recently in Indonesia and also in many countries, with a devastating impact resulted in many injuries and victims, prompted the need of better preparation to reduce the impact especially on human lives.

The disaster such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, cyclones, volcanic eruptions and also tsunamis, when they come, we can't deny them for happen to us, but we can prepare ourself to be ready if they happen and minimize the impact of the disaster to human being.

In general, disasters occur every year. Even in recent years, in Indonesia, disasters have become more frequent and take place one after another. The impact of it, many people died, injured and because of late to handle the victims, many people are suffered by epidemics in the refugees camps.

When earthquake and tsunami disaster happened in Aceh in 2002, more than 200.000 people affected, all of main infrastructure in most of Aceh area was down fall includes telecommunication. Red cross and army are first institution which arrives in location instantly after information had been validated. Medical care is established at first chance with limited condition and support usually. Meanwhile victim is going down because medical care unit only have inadequate facility. In this case ICT should have solution to support information exchanging between medical care unit in disaster area with principal hospital and logistic unit at other locations.



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By this lesson and also many experience about disaster, we realize that one of the important aspects related to disaster prevention is a well designed telecommunication networks and information system that suitable in coping with chaotic situation after disaster and during emergency. The telecommunication and IT facilities are the two expected aspects in dealing with disaster and emergency situation.

Many countries have developed this kind of system in coping with disaster and emergency situation. Japan for example, a country with constant threat of disaster such as earthquake (followed by tsunami), typhoons and volcanic eruption, is a good example of a country which has developed the prevention and mitigation system of disaster and emergency situation. A long observation in Japan showed that a good communication to provide accurate information during emergency and disaster condition is one of the top factors affecting the function of an emergency and disaster mitigation.

ITU (International Telecommunication Union) as an international body defining standard and recommendation, by considering the Tampere Convention (adopted by Intergovernmental Conference on Emergency Telecommunications, Tampere, Finland, 1998) in its Resolution 36 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002), has given the importance of the role of telecommunication network to mitigate the disaster devastating impact. For that purpose, ITU under study group 2 issued the question with topic of "Utilization of ICT for disaster management, resources, and active and passive space-based sensing systems as they apply to disaster and emergency relief situations", which discuss the important role of radio communications, including remote sensing, in addressing disasters. The output is expected to be a reference to assist and guide the developing nations in building a comprehensive disaster mitigation plan and promote international cooperation in the time of disasters through a coordinated effort at international level.

All participants, to gain a well understanding on the need of the disaster prediction, detection and mitigation, we conduct this workshop to get some benchmarks and lesson can be learned from experienced expertises from international institutions. That goal is to be achieved through a broad participants from ITU member countries and other participants.

Other expectations from this event are getting new ideas in developing voice and data communication technology that can be implemented in any disaster area, inviting IT professionals to participate in developing the communication system in disaster area, recommendation to establish an institution consists of professionals from different aspects (government bodies, IT professionals,



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medical agents, volunteers) to help the victims of disaster and emergency situation.

At last, as the host of this workshop, I hope all participants can get as many informations from this event and have a good time to enjoy the environment of our beautiful city in Bandung.

Thank you and good luck.

Bandung, 28 Maret 2007

RINALDI FIRMANSYAH
PRESIDENT DIRECTOR