

Media update
12 July 2023

RI Vice President Ma'ruf Amin Appreciates Vocational Education Provided at Freeport's Nemangkawi Mining Institute

TIMIKA – As part of a series of working tours made in Mimika Regency, Central Papua, RI Vice President Ma'ruf Amin visited and greeted student participants in the Nemangkawi Mining Institute belonging to PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI) in Mimika Regency, Central Papua on 12 July 2023.

Increasing the quality of human resources is a primary focus of the government in realizing an advanced and progressive Indonesia. To this end, the government is encouraging various programs related to manpower. One such program is for boosting competencies and productivity through provision of vocational training.

"I toured and observed the Nemangkawi training center where young native Papuans receive instruction to increase their skills towards becoming quality workers. It was outstanding, I noted there were 15 branches of training provided, and they were aimed not only for Freeport purposes, but for employment outside of Freeport as well. I highly appreciate this, as this exemplifies the role the private sector can play in increasing the quality of young Papuans specifically, and Indonesians in general," the **Vice President** stated.

The **Vice President** added, in the endeavor to revitalize education, the government has adopted several strategies. One such strategy is to push for upstream to downstream transformation of vocational education and training, with focus on not only theoretical aspects, but on practical application in the real world as well and strengthening linking and matching between vocational education and training institutions and industrial sectors and transforming BLK job training centers with the engagement of diverse stakeholders involved in vocational education and training.

PTFI President Director Tony Wenas conveyed PTFI is continually committed to improvement of education in Papua. He explained, PTFI has consistently undertaken this endeavor while at the same time increasing the number of native Papuans employed at PTFI who currently make up more than 40 percent of the company's workforce.

"In its operating area, PTFI conducts various programs for increasing education for Papuan youths, including through Nemangkawi Mining Institute," **Tony Wenas** stated on the same occasion. Tony disclosed Nemangkawi Mining Institute (NMI/IPN) was built in 2003 and serves as a vocational education facility aimed at improving the quality of Papuan human resources towards meeting industry demand, The institute has 15 departments relating to applied and industrial technology and 3 non-technological programs. 90% of the participants are native Papuans, with 4,000 having graduated to date, and 2,500 graduates are employed at PTFI. "This serves as a forerunner to afford young native Papuans opportunity to enter the workforce, not just in PTFI but outside of PTFI as well," **Tony said**.

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