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PRESS RELEASE
Immediate Release

For

SAY NO TO PLASTIC BAGS

One Island One Voice Joint Campaign with Government for a Stop of Marine Debris Pollution

Bali, February 24, 2018 - This year's One Island One Voice campaign has been extended to more than 100 locations in Bali from 55 locations in 2017, attracting around 25,000 participants compared to 12,000 in 2017. Not only is this campaign centered in Bali, but also it encourages people's participations across Indonesia to jointly undertake clean-up activities from their lands, riverbanks, coastal areas to their respective residential areas.

In an attempt to make clean and waste-free Indonesia by 2025, One Island One Voice Campaign has again launched its socialization and educational movements, aiming to raise people's awareness of maintaining cleanliness, particularly in combating marine plastic debris pollutions. The action in observance of the National Waste Awareness Day (HPSN) will be carried out on February 24, 2018, with Bali hosting the campaign.

Based on data of the Director General of Waste, Hazardous Waste, and Material Management of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (KLHK), some 9.85 billion pieces of plastic bag wastes are produced every year polluting environment for over 400 years. Only 5% of plastic bag wastes are recyclable and the remaining 50% are dumped in the landfill and need more than 100 years for decomposing. The marine debris is a serious problem being encountered by Indonesia as the world's second largest country making contribution to the marine debris.

Present at the press conference on "SAY NO TO PLASTIC BAG: One Island One Voice Joint Campaign with the Government for a STOP of Marine Plastic Debris Pollution" in Bali on Sunday (24/02) were Melati Wijzen, Co-Founder of Bye Bye Plastic Bags & One Island One Voice; Suzy Hutomo, Environmental Activist and Founder of SustainableSuzy.com and Executive Chairwoman of The Body Shop Indonesia Dr. Safri Burhanuddin, DEA., Deputy IV Coordinating for Human Resources, Science and Technology, Maritime Culture, Coordinating Ministry for Maritime Affairs, Dr. Ir. Haruki Agustina, MSc., Head of Specific and Recyclable Wastes Sub Sector, Directorate of Waste Management, Directorate General of Waste, Hazardous Waste and Material Management (PSLB3), Ministry of Environment and Forestry (KLHK); Erik Armundito, ST, MT, PhD., Directorate of Environment of the National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas); Hamish Daud, Celebrity and Environmental Observer, I Made Gunarta, Baga Palemahan (Committee for Village Environmental Department) Pakraman Padangtegal Ubud; I Ketut Mertaadi Co-founder and Owner of EcoBali; and Eka Rock, Musician (Superman Is Dead).

"One Island One Voice Campaign wants to do something more than just raising awareness of plastic waste problems, but we also want to set an example that the organizations, businesses, villages and individuals should come up with their respective solutions to reduce plastic wastes so that others can follow suit," Melati Wijzen, Co-Founder of Bye Bye Plastic Bags & One Island One Voice said. Melati expressed her optimism that Bali can in the future make the same success as Banjarmasin that has had a policy on ban on the use of plastic bags. It is very likely for the local administration such as especially Bali to follow suit in terms of technology and their people who have been ready to succeed plastic waste-free Bali.

The campaign has got started with signing the online petition and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that Governor of Bali has signed. This MOU aims to make Bali free from the plastic bags. In 2015, Mr. Mangku Pastika signed a circular letter to make Bali free from the plastic wastes by 2018.



Unfortunately, early 2018 the Badung District Environment and Sanitary Office (DLHK) have declared a state of waste emergency along the six kilometer coastline including Bali's popular beaches such as Jimbaran, Kuta, and Seminyak. Suzy Hutomo, Environmental Activist and Founder of SustainableSuzy.com said it is a necessity that people should start changing their lifestyle to be more convivial and friendly with the Earth. The problem of marine plastic debris shall be solved by a policy on waste management, especially reduction of the onshore wastes. Suzy said some 80% of the marine plastic debris come from the onshore activities. Suzy Hutomo founded sustainableSuzy as a platform or forum for achieving an eco-friendly and sustainable eco-lifestyle.

According to Suzy, using straws and reusable cutlery can significantly reduce the use of disposable plastic. SustainableSuzy.com has tried to offer an alternative by providing a straw made of glass, iron or bamboo and soon wooden cutlery products.

Dr. Ir. Safri Burhanuddin, DEA. Deputy IV for Coordinating Human Resources, Science and Technology and Maritime Culture added that "We express our deep appreciation for the One Island One Voice campaigning action. Bali will be proposed as a pioneer of plastic waste-free area, while the local administration is tasked to prepare policy on waste prevention and also involve communities with a joint commitment to plastic waste-free Bali."

Dr. Ir. Haruki Agustina, MSc., Head of Specific and Recyclable Wastes Sub Directorate of the Directorate General of Waste Hazardous Waste and Materials Management, (PSLB3), Ministry of Environment and Forestry, has expressed his appreciation for the spirit of One Island One Voice Campaign by carrying out clean-up activities undertaken in observance of the National Waste Awareness Day (HPSN) 2018. With the KLHK ministry slogan, 'Love the Earth, Clean up from the Trash' and the tagline # BersihBisaKok, HPSN 2018 will be gathering the national momentum that collaborative actions by various parties such as communities and the people are needed for the national waste management. "To be responsible for the waste that we produce, now start applying the principle of 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) from ourselves," Haruki said. KLHK pinned its hope that such momentum could highlight the unresolved environmental problems, and directly raise awareness and contribution of all parties in tackling the waste problems.

Haruki added that every local administration has had their own regulations and policies on waste management, including waste management, waste reduction and handling, which should be carried out sustainably. "In handling the plastic wastes, the Bali Administration will be greatly helped by the One Island One Voice campaign. The local administration has the authority and flexibility in the issuance of effective policies to overcome the problems of plastic waste, so that Bali can later become a pioneer for waste problem-free city, especially marine plastic debris," Haruki said.

Erik Armundito, S.T., M.T, PhD, Directorate of Environment of the National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas), said he gave his supports for One Island One Voice campaign which has the same spirit with the government in handling the waste problems. For information, the target of waste service and management as set out in the National Medium Term Plan (RPJMN) 2015 should have been 100% achieved, including the waste reduction, management, and composting. Bappenas also continues to encourage the commitment of central government and local administration to prioritize budget allocation in the plastic waste management sector.

I Made Gunarta, Baga Palemahan (Committee for Village Environment Department), Desa Pakraman Padangtegal Ubud, confirmed the importance of waste management by implementing 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle). Made said that the waste management should start from the village level to customary village regulations on waste management. , In addition to the customary regulations, Made added that the environmental education approach has held a key to its success. He also called for limiting the supplier of plastics and materials that are less environmentally friendly.



Ketut Mertaadi, Co-founder and Owner of EcoBali, said that waste management through educational approach is enormously important. In addition to the educational approach, Ketut added that there should be a support for the waste management facilities and infrastructures. "The waste separation on the basis of waste categories is one of the keys to the successful waste management," Ketut said. He went on to say that he had called for a reduction of plastic bag uses by launching a local and national campaign, that is 'Bring Your Own Bag'. The joint commitment by the government, people and business is crucial. They should work together to create a cleaner and sustainable environment.

Hamish Daud, Celebrity and Environment Observer said as part of the society growing up in Bali, as if the sea is my second home. His proximity to the sea has raised his awareness that the conditions of the sea were getting worse. One of the causes is plastic waste. This condition has caused concern to the man born in Gosford, Australia. This fact must undermine the beauty of the panoramic seas and slowly reduce the country's foreign exchange from the tourism sector. For Hamish, the small step he has made to reduce the plastic wastes is by carrying a refill bottle wherever he travels and stopping drinking using a plastic straw. "The use of plastic straws has now become a sort of lifestyle. Upon watching the documentation of the use of plastic straws having bad impact on the environment and marine species, I have stopped using straw, especially when traveling. It is not a matter without a straw, try to be creative instead of producing plastic wastes," Hamish said.

Eka Rock, Musician (Superman Is Dead) and Environment Observer said, "Bali Island has given us a lot of life, fun, and so forth. According to Eka, the existence, beauty, cleanliness and sustainability of Bali are our joint responsibility, especially in handling the waste problems. "Who else will be held responsibility to take care of ?" Eka said.

The Body Shop Indonesia has given its supports for the positive One Island One Voice campaign. The campaign is in line with the commitment of The Body Shop®, which since 2008 it has been concerned with waste problems, especially the plastic waste packaging they produced. Back Our Bottle (BBOB) is the idea to manage the packaging wastes from The Body Shop®. This program has been running for more than a decade. Through the program, The Body Shop® has attracted the customers to return their empty packaging to The Body Shop® stores and they get rewards. Based on the data in 2017, about 1.2 million The Body Shop® empty packaging have been returned by the customers.

"Protect the Planet" is The Body Shop® guideline to protect the planet from the threat of environmental damage. The Body Shop®'s awareness of the plastic wastes has been built since the company's establishment. The Body Shop® has taken part in the campaign by providing inspiration to the other companies that the company can make contribution to reducing the plastic wastes by formulating the concept of 'ethical and responsible business'

** END **

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