POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES FOR SUSTAINED DEVELOPMENT IN THE COCONUT SECTOR IN INDONESIA

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ABSTRACT

Following the important issue raised on the World Council of Economic Development in 1987 on sustainability, many countries are pursuing to reach the excellence of sustainability related to know-how such as environmental issues, human resource management issues, quality management issues and many more. Even more, the concept of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has been flourishing since early 2000’s and being adopted in many countries in the world. To some extent, agriculture sector became the sector that prioritizes for sustainable development of a country, mostly in developing countries. Indonesia, in particular, has been prioritizing the sustainable agriculture development, not only in food sufficiency but also renewable energy. Many of the agricultural commodities are being develop accordingly to fulfil the 3 P’s (people, planet, and profit) principles of sustainable development.

Thus, to achieve that, the importance of sustainability in agricultural supply chain become relevant and considers being equal to any other supply chain in the world. While considering its importance to the economic development of a country, recent attention on product development of agricultural products as well as on farmers’ welfare have increasingly significant and become more and more important to the governmental policy direction. To date, more that 70% of the available land in Indonesia is used for agricultural activities with more than three-fourth of the population work in the agricultural sector, both direct and indirect employment. Agricultural industry itself, has multiple effects whereas amongst them, estate crops is contributing more to the national income compare to the food crops, horticulture and livestock sub sectors, in term of export revenue.

Coconut, as one of the commodity in the estate crops sub sector, plays important role in the market of food products and become important sector for the national income of Indonesia. The industry itself employs millions of farmers and contributes significantly to eradicate poverty in Indonesia as well as providing employment from the downstream to the upstream of the industry. However, coconut industry in Indonesia faced several problem and challenges in the global market. Issues such as low productivity, market access and lack of derivative products are becoming the obstacles for coconut development in Indonesia.

The Government of Indonesia has implemented policies and programmes to support the coconut development. Replanting, rejuvenation and research and
development are amongst the priorities programmes for Indonesia to support the
development of coconut products in Indonesia. Furthermore, joint collaboration with other
countries and participations in various international event also foster in order to achieve
sustained coconut development.

*Keyword: sustainable development, coconut, farmers, government policies*