



**AUSTRALIA-INDONESIA
BUSINESS COUNCIL LTD**
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MEDIA RELEASE

INDONESIA – MINISTERS GIVE GREEN LIGHT FOR INVESTMENT

STRONG RELATIONSHIPS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO BE DISCUSSED AT MAJOR BUSINESS CONFERENCE

Australia should be engaging more extensively with Indonesia in an effort to improve the business and cultural ties between Indonesia and Australia, according to the Australia-Indonesia Business Council.

Blaine Gordon, the national president of AIBC, said that conditions are right for Australians to invest in Indonesia. With economic growth of 6% per annum and reductions in bureaucracy and corruption, Indonesia is giving the green light for investment. Mr Gordon was commenting on the good news from Indonesia, of the approvals for Orica from Australia to proceed with development of an A\$200 million ammonium nitrate plant in East Kalimantan. “This is the largest Australian investment in Indonesia for several years and signals a desire on the part of Indonesians to work together with Australians to develop their economy,” he said.

“Many Australian and Indonesian companies and agencies have a long history of close collaboration, and this can be of enormous benefit to new market entrants looking for assistance. In fact, these relationships are strong across the region, and must be continually nurtured.”

Mr Gordon, who was speaking on the eve of a major business conference between the two countries (to be held in Adelaide on 15-17th November) also highlighted that Indonesia itself is “open for business” and on a recovery trajectory from the previous economic crisis. With over 220 million people and a strong and moderate leadership, Indonesia represents enormous opportunity for two way trade and investment.

“In addition to high calibre business speakers, we have attracted senior Indonesian ministers including HE Mr PurnomoYusgiantoro (Energy and Mineral Resources), HE Mrs Sri Mulyani Indrawati (Finance), and HE Vice-Admiral (retd) Freddy Numberi (Maritime Affairs & Fisheries). Both Ambassadors will also take part. This will ensure that conference attendees have the opportunity to directly connect with specific market information. We are encouraging academics, business people and all members of the community to attend this important event as it brings together some of the best 'minds' from both countries.”

Key opportunity areas covered within the conference include Investment, Mining, Oil & Gas, Infrastructure, Education, Training, Small Business, Tourism and Food & Beverage.

Mr Gordon said that these issues would be discussed with leading Indonesian business people and government leaders at the conference in Adelaide.

END

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**For further information, please phone Mr Blaine Gordon (National President) on 0412 192 262.
Further details of the conference and registration are at www.aibconf.com.au**