

## Media Update

June 7, 2020

### **PT Freeport Indonesia Distributes the Second Stage of Social Assistance to Communities from 5 Villages**

**Timika** - PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI) through its Community Relations team distributes another social assistance in the form of staples. The staples, amounted to Rp800 million, is handed over to the communities from 5 villages (Nayaro, Nawaripi, Koperapoka, Ayuka, and Tipuka), to ease the economy of the communities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The staples, which consist of rice, cooking oil, eggs, sugar and instant noodles are handed over by PTFI representative from the Community Relations team, Alfonsus Ramidi, received by the Village Head and several representatives of the communities. The handover is conducted in line with the health protocol of using masks and keeping a physical distance.

"In the midst of this pandemic that has been impacting our life, we hope PTFI can help to ensure that their basic needs remain fulfilled. Hopefully this social assistance can ease the economy of the communities from the five affected villages," said **Yohanes Bewahan, PTFI Community Economic Development Manager**.

This social assistance distribution is a continuation of the previous support, of which PTFI handed over staples to around 4,200 Amungme and Kamoro communities who live around the company area in April 2020. In addition to the assistance provided directly by PTFI, the Foundation of Amungme and Kamoro Community Empowerment (YPMak) who manages Freeport Partnership Fund for Community Development, has also distributed similar assistance at the value of RP9 billion to the community of seven tribes in Mimika region.

"PTFI will continue providing social assistance. After this, we will handover the assistance to the ex-Banti villagers who are now in the Timika area," **Bewahan** continued.

The distribution of the second social assistance is conducted together with Mimika Bishopric, who also hands over 2,400 masks. All the assistance is targeting indigenous Papuans, most of whom work as farmers and fishermen in the five villages.

Mimika Bishopric that has been working closely with PTFI, especially in economic development programs, hopes this aid can help the communities to face the pandemic that happens not only in Papua, but also throughout the world.

**Benjamin Meo, the Head of the Mimika Bishopric Socio-Economic Development Commission, who is also the Manager of Koperasi Maria Bintang Laut (KMBL)** said, the social assistance really helps the food security of the communities. This is because people's productivity, especially those who work in plantations and fisheries, are decreasing, with all the restrictions due to the coronavirus,

“All the staples have been checked by the National Agency of Drug and Food Control to ensure they are all in a good condition and safe to be consumed. Hopefully the staples will be used well by the communities, while we are all praying for the situation to return as it used to be,” **Benyamin** continued.

###