

INDONESIAN DELEGATES ARRIVE IN BANGKOK FOR DELGOSEA CONFAB.

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Byline: Editor Antaranews.com

Bangkok, Aug 6 (ANTARA) - Delegates representing six regional governments of Indonesia arrived in Bangkok for a Delgosea conference which will open on Tuesday to create a more permanent dialogue on decentralization and better management of the municipal and district governments.

The six regional governments of Indonesia that will participate in the conference for ASEAN region are among others municipal government of Pangkal Pinang, Kupang, Kartamantul (Yogyakarta, Sleman and Bantul), Solo and district government of Wakatobi and Tarakan, said Natalis in her capacity of Project Manager of Delgosea Indonesia to Antara here on Monday.

In the meantime, some delegates from other regional governments of ASEAN member countries are from the Philippines with 50 participants, Thailand 49 participants, Indonesia 30 participants, Cambodia 2 participants and Vietnam 4 participants.

According to Natalis, the Delgosea called for a more permanent dialogue on decentralization and local governance to be established between ASEAN member states and for expanded collaboration with local authorities (LAs), as well as civil society, in a multi-stakeholder approach.

The importance of regional cooperation on local governance with the aim of securing better living conditions for the people of Southeast Asia has been recognized by ASEAN and support for a joint approach by the member states is growing.

The final conference of the Partnership for Democratic Local Governance in Southeast Asia will concentrate on the further integration of local governance into the ASEAN framework. Signaling the end of the EU co-financed project activities, it will take place on Tuesday, August 7 and Wednesday, August 8, 2012 in Bangkok.

Hosted by the Municipal League of Thailand (MLT) and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) on behalf of the Delgosea network, the conference brings together over 50 participants, representing the project partners and Local Government Associations (LGAs), pilot cities, best practice cities, academia, media, national governments and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

The focus of the conference will be on sustainability of the project results and future possibilities for the network. The aim is to develop a strategy for a permanent dialogue on democratic local governance on the regional level. The participants will also be looking to develop an exit strategy to secure sustainability and project results, she said.

Another important aspect is to look at the organizations and institutions that are able and willing to offer a support system to cities and municipalities: the Local Government Associations (LGAs) and associations on a regional/global level, such as United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) and, on the European level, the Committee of the Regions (CoR).

The conference will explore the role of these institutions and how they can contribute to good local governance in the Southeast Asian region. *****