**PRESS RELEASE**

**Celebrating 75 Years of Indonesia-Greece Relations: "Indonesia Expo 2024"**

**Indonesia and Greece: The Relationship and Beyond**

Athens, Greece - In 2024, Indonesia and Greece will celebrate a significant milestone: 75 years of historical relations, which began with Greece's de jure recognition of Indonesia's membership in the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) on November 28, 1949. Formal diplomatic relations were established on February 23, 1953, leading to the opening of the Indonesian Embassy in Athens in 1994 and the Greek Embassy in Jakarta in 1997. These steps have fostered a growing bond between the two nations.

To commemorate this historic occasion, the Indonesian Embassy in Athens will organize the **"Indonesia Expo 2024"** with the theme **"Indonesia and Greece: The Relationship and Beyond."** This event aims to enhance Indonesia's positive image in Greece, showcase its trade and investment potential, and strengthen people-to-people connections.

The "Indonesia Expo 2024" was launched in conjunction with the 5th Indonesia-Hellenic Business Forum (IHBF) on June 5, 2024. Indonesian Ambassador to Greece, Mr. Bebeb A.K. Nugraha Djundjunan, has unveiled the commemorative logo for the 75th anniversary. The logo, featuring elements of jasmine and olive—symbols of harmony and prosperity—alongside the red and blue colors of the two nations' flags, represents the ever-closer relationship between Indonesia and Greece.

A highlight of "Indonesia Expo 2024" is the Balinese wood carving art exhibit. Two artists from the Indonesian Institute of the Arts Denpasar will craft 1.5-2 meter tall wooden statues from olive trees, an iconic Greek symbol. The carving process, beginning in early August, and working in collaboration with the Athens School of Fine Arts, will kick off the expo. The Athens School of Fine arts has offered the requested space and the facilities for the workshop. These statues will be presented to the Greek people through the Hellenic Parliament and placed in a public area of the parliament building as a testament to the deep friendship between the two countries.

Another artistic collaboration will involve young Indonesian contemporary artist Naufal Abshar and Greek artist Caroline de Souza under the Artion Gallery's patronage. They will participate in a month-long residency in Athens, culminating in a week-long art exhibition. The resulting artworks will be gifted to the Greek people, symbolizing friendship, and presented to the President of the Hellenic Republic.

The grand finale of the celebrations will feature a collaborative orchestral music performance by Indonesian and Greek maestros. The concert will showcase a repertoire reflecting the rich cultural and historical diversity of both nations, including pieces inspired by traditional Indonesian and Greek music. Scheduled to take place at the UNESCO World Heritage site Odeon of Herodes Atticus in Athens, this performance promises to be an unmissable experience.

An integral part of "Indonesia Expo 2024" is the Integrated TTI Exhibition, set for mid-September 2024 at a prominent public venue in Greece. This hybrid event will feature talk shows, seminars, and a mini exhibition of multi-sector products. The exhibition aims to present modern Indonesia as it moves toward 2045, fostering economic partnerships in priority sectors such as electric vehicles, renewable energy, and startups, while increasing exposure for Indonesian products in Greece.

A diplomatic reception in mid-October 2024 will also mark Indonesia's 79th Independence Day and serve as the closing event for the 75th-anniversary celebrations. This reception will showcase the artworks from the Balinese wood carving project and the contemporary art residency, adding to the event's vibrancy and significance.

With this series of events, "Indonesia Expo 2024" not only celebrates the historical milestone of Indonesia and Greece relations but also serves as a platform to introduce Indonesia's cultural richness, economic potential, and to strengthen ties between the peoples of both nations. Through this celebration, Indonesia and Greece reaffirm their commitment to fostering a close, mutually beneficial partnership, paving the way for a brighter future together, and marking a new milestone in their bilateral relations.