

**Remarks at Handover Ceremony of Ventilators to PMI Hospital in Southeast Sulawesi
under Stockpile Project for Strengthening Preparedness and Response to the COVID-19
and other Emerging Infectious Diseases**

by Ambassador Beata STOCZYŃSKA

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Good morning, distinguished guests, partners.

It is an honour to join you today for this important occasion – the official handover of ventilators to PMI (Indonesian Red Cross/Palang Merah Indonesia) Hospital in Southeast Sulawesi. Following the handover of four ventilators to PMI Hospital in Bogor in 2024, I am delighted to be part of another significant step in strengthening Indonesia’s healthcare system and ensuring we are better prepared for imminent health threats, including COVID-19 and other emerging infectious diseases.

This initiative is part of the two-year Stockpile Project, launched in 2023 with generous support from the Government of Japan and implemented by IFRC in collaboration with PMI. The project aims to strengthen preparedness and response to COVID-19 and other emerging diseases by equipping health facilities in ASEF member countries with critical resources—ensuring they are ready to save lives during current and future public health crises.

PMI Hospital plays a pivotal role in delivering health services to the local community. Strengthening its capacity—especially with essential equipment like ventilators, prioritized based on lessons from the pandemic—ensures better readiness for future health emergencies.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the critical need for preparedness against unexpected health threats. Ventilators are essential life-saving equipment for critical patients. To date, four ventilators have been provided to PMI Hospital in Bogor in 2024, benefiting 170 patients. Today, we are handing over three more ventilators to support even more lives.

With these life-saving machines and other medical supplies, we are strengthening Indonesia’s capacity to support vulnerable populations, which is exactly what this project aims to achieve

We deeply appreciate the support of our partners- the Government of Japan, IFRC, PMI Hospital, and all those involved. Through this collaboration, we are building a resilient health system capable of responding to future health threats.

Let us continue working together, as I strongly believe that even our small efforts are important to achieving our shared goals.

Thank you.