



Retno L.P. Marsudi
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Republic of Indonesia



The Hon Julie Bishop MP
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Australia

Dear Minister

Tens of millions of people worldwide are subject to human trafficking and related exploitation. Over the last few years there has been a greater global focus on these issues. With the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, all UN Member States committed to eradicating human trafficking and related exploitation.

The *Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime* remains fundamental to enhancing regional cooperation in addressing these issues. While primarily a forum for policy dialogue and information sharing, it also enables practical cooperation to help build the capacity of member states to manage these challenges.

At the Sixth Ministerial Conference held in March 2016, Ministers recognised the need to engage constructively with private industry in a genuine partnership to combat human trafficking and related exploitation in our region, including by promoting and implementing humane, non-abusive labour practices throughout their supply chains.

To bring this to fruition, we, the Foreign Ministers of Indonesia and Australia, have agreed to co-chair the inaugural Bali Process Business Forum in **Perth**, Australia on **24-25 August 2017**. We cordially extend to you an invitation to attend the Forum.

The Forum will bring together Bali Process ministers and senior private sector leaders from the region to consider ways to prevent and combat human trafficking and related exploitation. Private sector participants will advise governments on policy approaches to tackling these crimes, and share experiences on best practice.

The Forum will become a permanent track of the Bali Process and offer a mechanism for consultation amongst members and business representatives in responding to emerging issues. With business working collectively and with governments, the Forum presents an opportunity to deliver meaningful outcomes.

Eddy Sariaatmadja, founder of media group Emtel, and Andrew Forrest, founder and chairman of Fortescue Metals Group and founder of the Walk Free Foundation, will be the Indonesian and Australian Co-Chairs of the Forum.

Ahead of the launch, Mr Sariaatmadja and Mr Forrest will invite business champions from other Bali Process member countries to join the Forum. The Forum will be driven by the private sector, with selected participants developing their own program of work, independent of governments.

We look forward to your personal participation in the Forum, in particular your views on helping set the strategic priorities for private sector engagement. In the lead-up to the launch, we will continue to liaise with you and other regional partners on the agenda.

Yours sincerely



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