4 March 2019

The Honourable Mr Simon Birmingham
Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment
Australia

Dear Minister,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of this date, which reads as follows:

In connection with the signing on this date of the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement ("IA-CEPA"), I have the honour to confirm the following mutual understanding reached between the Government of Australia ("Australia") and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia ("Indonesia"):

1. Improving access to health and related services in Indonesia is a priority for Indonesia. Australian investors would welcome the opportunity to invest in health and related services in Indonesia.

2. Australia and Indonesia have mutually decided to further strengthen their economic partnership in the health sector under the IA-CEPA by undertaking work on strengthening Health Professional standards and competitiveness in the health sector as indicated in the exchange of letters signed between Australia and Indonesia on this date in connection with the signing of IA-CEPA with respect to economic cooperation and the medium term objectives attached to those letters. This will include:

   a) encouraging the Australian and Indonesian relevant health regulation and accreditation bodies to collaborate on health professional standards, including how Indonesia’s standards could be made more compatible with Australian standards.

   b) a comparative assessment of nursing education standards including skills and competencies in Indonesia against Australian nursing education standards with the objective of identifying how Indonesia’s nursing education system could be improved to deliver world qualified and competitive nurses; and
c) recommendations from this assessment to strengthen Indonesia’s nursing education system to guide any further cooperation, as mutually determined between Indonesia and Australia.

3. Furthermore, work on technical barriers to trade (TBT) to promote further standards harmonisation and support product compliance, including pharmaceuticals and medical devices, is set out in the Side Letter between Australia and Indonesia on Economic Cooperation under IA-CEPA and the medium term objectives attached to that letter.

4. Indonesia will encourage more Australian investment and service providers in the health sector through utilisation of Indonesian commitments under IA-CEPA.

I have the further honour to confirm that the above reflects the mutual understanding reached between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia during the course of the negotiation of IA-CEPA, and propose that this Note and your Note of confirmation in reply constitute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Government of Australia.

I have the further honour to confirm that the above reflects the mutual understanding reached between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia during the course of the negotiation of IA-CEPA, and that this Note and your Note constitute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Government of Australia.

Yours sincerely,

Egggartiasto Lukita
Minister for Trade