

INDONESIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Ihsan OETAMA*¹

Right after the CMAAO Congress in Bali (November 2009) the IMA held its 17th General Assembly in the city of Palembang, South Sumatra.

In this event, Dr. Prijo Sidipratomo was installed as the new president of the IMA, replacing Dr. Fachmi Idris, for the period of 2009–2012.

Dr. Zaenal Abidin, the former Secretary General of the IMA was elected as the President-Elect.

In his inaugural address, Dr. Prijo Sidipratomo explained his program for the coming three years.

One month after the Assembly, Dr. Prijo Sidipratomo announced the composition of the new office bearers of the IMA, with Dr. Slamet Budiarto as the new Secretary General.

In May, the IMA held an event called **INDONESIAN DEDICATED DOCTOR'S DAY**. Programs within this event are:

1. An appeal to doctors throughout Indonesia not to charge patients for their services for one particular day, or to turn their earnings of that day to the IMA to be donated away to those needing aid.
2. Medical Expo.
3. Dedication Safari (Safari Bakti) across the country: Free cataract operations, free cleft palate operations done by IMA members.
4. Seminars.
5. National panel discussions, where the most serious health problems in the country were brought forward.
6. Steps taken in regard of collaborations with the government are:
 - assisting the generic drug campaign, in hospitals and private practices
 - escalating the anti tuberculosis campaign
 - formulating the methods to reach the best results of the MDG program, particularly



items 4 and 5

- training for early detections of cervical and breast cancer
- facing the problems of how to deal with the presence of foreign doctors practicing in Indonesia
- campaign of acceptance to use condoms as a way to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS
- on the Independence Memorial Day, at the Indonesian National Committee of Tobacco Control gathering, Dr. Prijo Sidipratomo delivered a speech of how pressing tobacco control is for Indonesia (**photo**). According

*1 International Relations, Indonesian Medical Association, Jakarta, Indonesia (pbidi@idola.net.id).

This article is based on a presentation made as the annual activity report during the Country Report session at the 46th CMAAO Mid-term Council Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on September 17, 2010.

to the WHO, tobacco consumption in Indonesia is number three in the world. Noted in 2008, 240 billion cigarettes, which equals 658 million/day, or IDR 330 billion, are burned daily. This loss could and should be used to promote the health of the people.

- Advertisement make as if smoking is a normal thing, with no risk to one's health. The aim of tobacco control is to protect the following generation of a nation.
- At the end of his speech, he as the president of the Indonesian Medical Association, with

the organization fully backing him, urged the government to pass the Law for Control of the Impact of Tobacco Products to Health.

International

- Attending the First International Summit on Tobacco Control in Asia Oceania Region in Sampran, Thailand
- Invited to attend the General Assembly of the Philippine Medical Association in Manila.
- Invited to attend the General Assembly of the Malaysian Medical Association in Melaka.