



ASEAN Countries (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Collaborate in the Fight Against the Covid-19 Outbreak

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Abstract. The emergence of the rapidly spreading Covid-19 disaster has led to uncontrolled deaths. Therefore, to deal with the epidemic, especially in the ASEAN region, it is necessary to have a strategy not to spread the disease. A prepared disaster response is essential. From regional and international. The existence of a new virus makes it very necessary to provide medical equipment such as masks, gloves, PPE, food and others. ASEAN member states should be prepared to agree on procurement objectives. A number of policies set by ASEAN members make it convenient to experience the order of life. Health program regulations were also improved to ensure public safety. In addition, through ASEAN organizations, a number of cooperation have been carried out to effectively destroy the Covid-19 pandemic, with the aim of ending the pandemic. As a result, many economic systems have been reformed, such as in Brunei, Vietnam and Indonesia. It is hoped that some of these policy provisions can facilitate and help the lives of the ASEAN people.

Keywords: ASEAN · Covid-19 · disease prevention strategies

1 Introduction

The emergence of the Covid 19 disaster began in the city of Wuhan, then its movement spread throughout the territory of China. This is certainly a threat to other countries, to be able to deal with it, several countries, especially ASEAN, have issued several policies that support each other to achieve common goals. This purpose is none other than to ensure that the disaster that has been considered a pandemic can be resolved immediately so as not to cause casualties. Some of the policies set by various ASEAN countries include the implementation of lockdowns for highly contagious regions. Complete closure of modes of transport in some areas. These efforts are made to prevent the spread of the virus more widely in their respective regions. ASEAN provides a step-by-step process to strengthen cooperation between countries. Attention should be paid to the extent to which prevention and countermeasures can be applied.

2 Discussion

2.1 Understanding the Meaning of Disaster

Indonesia is a disaster-prone area accompanied by a high level of density. Disasters become calamities and blessings for those who receive them, the existence of these disasters makes us realize that there is a need for synchronization between living beings, nature, and their God. However, by being equipped with knowledge, humans can carry out a process of prevention or preparation before the disaster occurs [1]. According to Law No.24 of 2007, disasters can be interpreted as a series of events that threaten and disrupt people's lives caused by natural and non-natural factors, and humans so that they can cause losses, environmental damage to casualties [2], hereby disasters can be categorized into three parts including:

1. Natural disasters are disasters caused by events or a series of events caused by natural factors including earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, floods, tsunamis, hurricanes, landslides and droughts.
2. Social disasters are disasters caused by events or a series of events caused by human factors including social unrest, social conflicts between certain groups to terror events. For example, the terror that occurred in the churchyard of the Makassar region.
3. Non-natural disasters are disasters caused by a series of events by non-natural factors such as technological failures and disease outbreaks [3].

According to the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, a disaster is an event or occurrence in an area that results in ecological damage, loss of human life and deterioration of health and meaningful health services that require help from several outside parties. Another definition of disaster according to WHO is any event that causes damage, ecological disturbance, loss of human life or deterioration of the degree of health and health services on a certain scale that requires a response from outside the community or certain affected areas.

Disaster according to the Asian Disaster Reduction Center is a serious disturbance to the community that causes widespread losses and is felt both by the community, various materials and nature where the impacts caused exceed the ability of humans to cope with existing resources. Meanwhile, Parker argues that a disaster is an event that is not caused by nature or its human actions, but is also the result of technological errors that trigger the response of the community, community, individuals and the surrounding environment. All bencans can cause damage or changes in the order of life of society that is not normal in its proper way.

It is undeniable that disasters often occur in every region of Indonesia such as earthquakes, tsunamis, fires, disease outbreaks and others. The various disasters faced certainly bring losses, but humans can still live safely and comfortably as long as they can manage disasters properly and make efforts in dealing with the impacts given, so that from these disasters we can minimize dangers and damage losses. With this, knowledge of disaster preparedness is needed properly, the need to review efforts before a disaster occurs. Preparedness can be applied especially in areas with a high risk of disaster. In its application, it does not only rely on the government but also involves other components such as the health sector and the community in particular.

2.2 Understanding the Meaning of Plague

Infectious diseases or commonly known as epidemics are outbreaks of infectious diseases in society, in general the number of infected people increases faster than before and can be disastrous. The source of the disease can come from humans, animals, plants or other objects infected with pathogens to grow and cause outbreaks [4]. Therefore, it is necessary to group the outbreak areas appropriately to identify countermeasures or efforts to reduce mortality and the spread of disease to other regions.

The concept of agent transmission includes the transmission of disease to worshippers by air, food, and direct contact. The host will be infected by the carrier under unsanitary environmental conditions. This medium can spread to many other environments favored by individual mobility and the environmental conditions of each one. Diseases that spread in society are very diverse in terms of conditions and distribution of transmission. If the disease is not treated properly, the risk will be greater, because if there is a wound that is not treated immediately, which can become more severe it can lead to death. From the existence of these endemic species, the following sections will explore the developmental process to how quickly and precisely it can be treated and evaluated with resolution.

2.3 ASEAN'S Response to Covid 19

The Covid 19 outbreak was first reported on December 31, 2019, from China. Sometime later, several countries reported similar cases on February 11, 2020 and subsequently spread to other parts of the world including Southeast Asia. On January 13, 2020, the case was declared a pandemic with an extraordinary intensity of events and extensive physical and immaterial damage.

At the launch, Riaz Saehu, Director General of ASEAN Socio-Cultural Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, Indonesia also expressed his views and enthusiasm in restoring the health of the ASEAN people. President Joko Widodo suggested that ASEAN could take advantage of the ASEAN Plus Three or APT cooperation mechanism. Three partner countries including Japan, China and South Korea have successfully dealt with Covid 19, so they hope to share their experiences with each other according to their respective abilities [5]. Various policies and commitments have been established to determine the lives of ASEAN people in particular. Management of economic, social and cultural aspects as a whole in the context of natural disaster management. The progress of various health sectors carried out by ASEAN includes sharing information and experiences in handling Covid 19, including ASEAN discussion partners held through the ASEAN Network of Emergency Operations Centers (EOC), to be able to notify each other in real time.

Several forms of cooperation can be observed in the medical field in response to Covid 19. The health sector regulatory body is part of the ASEAN cooperation pillar through the ASEAN senior officials and health ministers meeting mechanism known as the Senior Officials Meeting on Development (SOMHD) and the ASEA Health Minister (AHMM) Summit. Although in the previous period, ASEAN has experienced several catastrophic epidemics such as H1N1, this time ASEAN countries will intensify efforts to strengthen cooperation in the health sector by implementing old strategies and some

new initiatives. Bilateral and multilateral cooperation continues to be carried out to produce the best way to deal with Covid 19.

The existence of the Regional Public Health Laboratories Network (RPHL) by placing Thailand at the forefront, can create opportunities for all ASEAN member states to access laboratories, support technical and material support as well as experimental and laboratory supervision. With this, it is hoped that the Covid 19 outbreak can be analyzed scientifically to produce effective solution studies. The emergence of a large number of fake news and hoaxes that appear on the surface can affect the opinion too much, the existence of the ASEAN Center for Communication and Risk Assessment (ARARC) can emphasize the importance of risk in the management of health. Emergency health wisely, both before and after. So that the amount of news circulating can be proven to be true, its accuracy at all times to the public.

ASEAN member states have made several efforts to manage the impact of Covid-19, especially in the economic field. Several things can be elaborated which can be divided into 5 things as follows:

- 1) First, tax incentives for related business entities, especially MSMEs.
- 2) Second, funding the community in the form of cash assistance, ranging from reducing electricity bills to extra support for health workers who can help deal with Covid 19.
- 3) Thirdly, postpone the payment of taxes or loose loans in order to extend the time of return of capital.
- 4) Fourth, the government waives fees or charges lower fees.
- 5) Fifth, the Central Bank can implement a policy of reducing interest rates for its customers [6].

The specific policies implemented in some ASEAN countries are mainly community-oriented. Like Brunei Darussalam by allowing the suspension of pension funds while Malaysia allows the reduction of pension contributions. Singapore plans to temporarily halt loans and tuition fees in Vietnam, the banking industry created a credit package worth 12.3 million USD specifically for business activities. It is given to citizens for their convenience during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The various types of policies offered to ASEAN Member States in the ASEAN Policy Brief include mobilizing all available macroeconomic, financial and structural policy tools, and maintaining economic viability, manufacturing, maintaining procurement chains, using digital technologies and trade, strengthening security networks, enhancing the pandemic response at the regional level, and so as to increase determination to promote regional integration.

3 Conclusion

The existence of a major disaster that caused a large number of casualties and has been determined to be a pandemic, Covid-19 has provided many changes ranging from the economic, social, and cultural sectors. The steam provided as well as the form of cooperation between ASEAN is expected to provide the priorities of the country's population. This can be seen from several ASEAN organizations that provide leeway and assistance to affected communities. Strategies in preventive and post-pandemic efforts

have been widely applied to eradicate covid 19. Some of the opportunities provided by Indonesia, especially, are expected to really help the community during the pandemic.

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