

BKSAP Ready to Exercise Parliamentary Diplomacy to Bring South Sumatra Forward

Palembang, 3/3/2021- BSKAP organized BKSAP Day in collaboration with the South Sumatra Provincial Government. The delegation was led by Vice Chairperson of the Committee, Hafisz Tohir, and included executives and members of the Committee: Fadli Zon, Mardani Ali Sera, Dyah Roro, R Wulansari, Andi Muawiyah and Didi Irawadi Syamsuddin.

In the meeting, Hafisz Tohir shed a light on the role of BKSAP as the focal point of parliamentary diplomacy. "The Indonesian House today is not just an institution closely associated with its legislation, oversight, and budgeting functions. It now also exercises another function, which is parliamentary diplomacy," said the National Mandate Party (PAN) politician.

Moreover, Tohir added that the parliamentary diplomacy missions carried out by the Committee include a number of different activities at both bilateral and multilateral levels.

"At bilateral level, the Committee has established Parliamentary Friendship Groups with 102 parliaments across the globe. The primary diplomatic mission of these 102 friendship groups is to promote Indonesia's national interests, as well as to explore regional potentials and opportunities all over Indonesia, including South Sumatra," he explained.

At multilateral level, he continued, BKSAP plays a vital role in various parliamentary forums both at regional and international levels. These forums include the Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU), Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF), ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), and Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States (PUIC).

Tohir, who is also a member of the House Commission XI on Finance and Banking, invited the South Sumatra Provincial Government to capitalize on bilateral and multilateral diplomacy in taking South Sumatra's economic potential abroad.

During the discussion, several issues of mutual interest for the progress of South Sumatra were also raised, including tourism, cooperation between universities, infrastructure, and rubber production.