

## Screening of Textiles to Shoes RI Free of Import Duty to Australia

Contributed by Maizer  
Thursday, 12 October 2017

Indonesia and Australia are exploring bilateral cooperation for the implementation of zero tariff (0%) tariff on the three main commodities from each country. The related efforts in the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement are expected to spur the growth of the two countries' industries through the expansion of the export market.

"We will study first, because this is a discussion of the implementation of free trade agreement, so it must be taken into account the advantages and disadvantages," said Minister of Industry, Airlangga Hartarto, after receiving Australian Ambassador to Indonesia Paul Grigson. Australia asked Indonesia to have its three commodities free of import duty, namely milk (skim milk and skim milk powder), copper cathode, and steel (hot rolled coil and cold rolled coil). Instead, Australia is offering an import duty of 0% for the country's three potential commodities. "They offer to be exchanged for textiles, footwear (footwear), and clothing (clothing) whose import duties also become zero percent," he said. According to Airlangga, the exemption of import duty becomes a great opportunity for Indonesian industry to continue to grow and develop. For example in the textile and textile products (TPT). "Currently, China and Vietnam have been charged 0%, while the export of Indonesian textile products to America and Europe is still subject to import duty of 5-20%." With this import duty exemption, our industry will be stronger," he said. Airlangga hopes that this collaboration can further remind the competitiveness and productivity for the national manufacturing sector through the provision of quality raw materials. Because, so far Indonesia is still subject to tariffs on traditional markets such as the United States and the European Union. "This is because we have a high competitiveness, so they put a barricade too," he explained. The national textile industry is able to show its competitiveness in global level. This flagship sector has been integrated from upstream to downstream and its products are known to have good quality in the international market. "Especially for the sport shoes and apparel industry, we have already passed China, and in Brazil, we have dominated the market there up to 80%," Airlangga said. Meanwhile, the Director General for the Resilience and Development of Industrial Access International (KPAII) of the Ministry of Industry, Harjanto, said it would not immediately approve the Australian proposal. Therefore, a comprehensive calculation is required to be mutually beneficial. Harjanto proposed that Australia could use a user specific duty free scheme (USDFS) scheme. That is, a 0% tariff preference can be given if there is incoming investment. Thus, there is still added value and Indonesia can export to other countries. "The raw materials may be from them to us, but the investment must come in so there is a transfer of technology so that although we still import raw materials, but have the possibility to export derivative products," he said. Australia is one of the investment source countries for Indonesia. BKPM data for the period of 2010-2015 shows the realization of investment of US \$ 2.1 billion consisting of investment in mining sector, basic chemistry and infrastructure. Of the investment commitments, it stood at US \$ 7.7 billion from the industrial sector of metals, property and livestock sectors. The realization of investment figures in I quarter 2016 from Australia stood at US \$ 59.98 million consisting of 131 investment projects with employment reaching 5,070 people. Overall total investment in the first quarter of 2016 reached Rp 146.5 trillion, an increase of 17.6% from the previous period of Rp 124.6 trillion. Penjajakan Tekstil Hingga Sepatu RI Bebas Bea Masuk ke Australia Indonesia dan Australia tengah menjajaki kerja sama bilateral untuk pemberlakuan tarif bea masuk nol persen (0%) terhadap tiga komoditas unggulan dari masing-masing negara. Upaya yang terkait di dalam Perjanjian Kemitraan Ekonomi Komprehensif Indonesia-Australia ini diharapkan memacu pertumbuhan industri kedua negara melalui perluasan pasar ekspor. "Kami akan pelajari terlebih dahulu, karena ini merupakan pembahasan dari implementasi free trade agreement. Jadi, harus diperhitungkan keuntungan dan kerugiannya," kata Menteri Perindustrian, Airlangga Hartarto, usai menerima Duta Besar Australia untuk Indonesia Paul Grigson. Australia meminta kepada Indonesia agar tiga komoditasnya bisa bebas bea masuk, yaitu susu (skim milk dan skim milk powder), copper cathode, serta baja (hot rolled coil dan cold rolled coil). Sebagai gantinya, Australia memberi tawaran bea masuk 0% untuk tiga komoditas potensial Tanah Air. "Mereka menawarkan untuk ditukar dengan tekstil, footwear (alas kaki), dan clothing (pakaian) yang bea masuknya juga menjadi nol persen," ujarnya. Menurut Airlangga, pembebasan bea masuk tersebut menjadi peluang besar bagi industri Indonesia untuk terus tumbuh dan berkembang. Misalnya di sektor tekstil dan produk tekstil (TPT). "Saat ini, China, dan Vietnam sudah dikenakan 0%, sedangkan ekspor produk tekstil Indonesia ke Amerika dan Eropa masih kena bea masuk 5-20%. Dengan pembebasan bea masuk ini, industri kita akan semakin kuat," ungkapnya. Airlangga berharap, kolaborasi ini dapat lebih meningkatkan daya saing dan produktivitas bagi sektor manufaktur nasional melalui penyediaan bahan baku berkualitas. Sebab, selama ini Indonesia masih banyak dikenakan tarif bea masuk ke pasar tradisional seperti Amerika Serikat dan Uni Eropa. "Ini karena kita punya daya saing tinggi, sehingga mereka pasang barikade juga," jelasnya. Industri TPT nasional mampu menunjukkan daya saingnya di tingkat global. Sektor andalan ini telah terintegrasi dari hulu sampai hilir dan produknya dikenal memiliki kualitas yang baik di pasar internasional. "Khusus untuk industri shoes and apparel sport, kita sudah melewati China. Bahkan, di Brasil, kita sudah menguasai pasar di sana hingga 80%," ucap Airlangga. Sementara itu, Dirjen Ketahanan dan Pengembangan Akses Industri Internasional (KPAII) Kemenperin, Harjanto, mengemukakan pihaknya tidak akan langsung menyetujui usulan Australia tersebut. Sebab, diperlukan perhitungan yang komprehensif agar bisa saling menguntungkan. Harjanto mengusulkan, Australia bisa menggunakan skema user specific duty free scheme (USDFS). Artinya, preferensi tarif 0% dapat diberikan jika ada investasi yang masuk. Dengan demikian, masih ada nilai tambah dan Indonesia bisa melakukan ekspor ke negara lain. "Bahan baku boleh saja dari mereka ke kita, akan tetapi investasi harus masuk sehingga ada transfer teknologi. Dengan begitu walaupun kita masih impor bahan baku, tetapi memiliki kemungkinan untuk ekspor produk turunannya," tuturnya. Australia merupakan salah satu negara sumber investasi bagi Indonesia. Data BKPM periode tahun 2010-2015 menunjukkan realisasi investasi US\$ 2,1 miliar

terdiri dari investasi di sektor pertambangan, kimia dasar dan infrastruktur. Dari komitmen investasi, tercatat sebesar US\$ 7,7 miliar dari sektor industri logam, properti dan sektor peternakan. Angka realisasi investasi pada triwulan I-2016 dari Australia tercatat sebesar US\$ 59,98 juta terdiri dari 131 proyek investasi dengan penyerapan tenaga kerja mencapai 5.070 orang. Secara keseluruhan total investasi yang masuk triwulan I-2016 tercatat mencapai Rp 146,5 triliun atau meningkat 17,6% dari periode sebelumnya sebesar Rp 124,6 triliun.