



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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11 – 17 January 2023

Indonesia

A strong earthquake struck western Indonesia. According to the United States Geological Survey (USGS), a magnitude 6.2 earthquake, with the epicentre of 48 kilometres south-southeast of Singkil city, Aceh province at a depth of 37 kilometres, hit off the coast of Sumatra Island on 16 January 2023. The earthquake was felt in four districts of Aceh and North Sumatra provinces causing people to panic. However, there was neither tsunami alert nor major damage reported. Indonesia experiences frequent seismic and volcanic activities due to its position on the Pacific "Ring of Fire", where tectonic plates collide.

Sources: The Jakarta Post. (2023, Jan 16). *6.2-magnitude quake hits off Sumatra: USGS.*

Malaysia

Bukit Larut hill resort in Malaysia was closed due to a landslide. On 12 January 2023, heavy rains caused a landslide in Bukit Larut hill resort of Taiping town, Perak state

resulting in the main route to be blocked by soil and fallen trees. The Public Work Department (JKR) later installed plastic sheets to cover the collapsed area to prevent further erosion. Besides, the hill resort had to completely close for all activities until the affected area was cleaned up and repaired.

Sources: The Star. (2023, Jan 13). *Bukit Larut closed due to landslide; The Star. (2023, Jan 13). Stranded Bukit Larut landslide victims reach foothill safely.*

The Philippines

Over 15,000 people in Negros Occidental suffered from severe floods. A low-pressure area and the shear line had brought heavy rains to hit Negros Occidental province, the Philippines since 11 January 2023. Several cities and municipalities were submerged. At least 15,198 people from 4,476 families were affected. Some of them had to stay at the evacuation centres. The Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO) promptly distributed food and hygiene kits to those affected. As of 23 January 2023, the alert status of weather condition remained in blue, indicating that the operation centres must be on standby and prepared for responding to the incident. Schools were suspended while some routes of the water transport were canceled. Earlier, a landslide, rockslide and mudslide were reported in the province.

Sources: Philippines News Agency. (2023, Jan 13). *Over 15k persons affected by floods in Negros Occidental.*

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