



## WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE FOOD SECURITY RELATED INFORMATION

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### Indonesia

**The west coast of North Sumatra was struck by a strong earthquake.** According to the Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency (BMKG), a 6.2-magnitude earthquake jolted the west coast of North Sumatra province at a depth of 95 kilometres on 3 April 2023. The earthquake forced thousands of people to flee their homes. The tremor was also felt in West Sumatra province and the Nias Islands. Meanwhile, officials from the Regional Agency for Disaster Management (BPBD) monitored the situation. However, the earthquake did not cause any injuries or damages.

**Sources:** The Jakarta Post. (2023, Apr 5). *6.2-magnitude tremor hits west coast of North Sumatra, no damage reported.*

### The Philippines

**Catanduanes experienced a 6.2-magnitude earthquake.** On 4 April 2023, an earthquake of magnitude 6.2 hit Catanduanes province causing at least nine

families or 32 people to evacuate from the coastal areas of Gigmoto town. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) later issued a tsunami warning for the provinces of Catanduanes, Northern Samar, and Eastern Samar. However, there was no reported of casualty or damage. The epicenter of the earthquake was located 150 kilometers east of the Gigmoto town, at a depth of 72 kilometers.

**Sources:** Inquier.Net. (2023, Apr 5). *32 persons evacuate after Catanduanes quake*; Philstar. (2023, Apr 6). *Magnitude 6.2 quake hits Catanduanes.*

### China

**Severe sandstorms swept across the capital and other parts of China.** The sandstorms brought thick clouds of sand and yellow smog to engulf Beijing and several northern provinces. This caused an air pollution to reach hazardous levels. People were warned of respiratory hazard, and very low visibility while travelling. Besides, a dozen provinces, including Shaanxi, Shanxi, Hebei, Shandong, Jiangsu, Anhui, Henan and Hubei, Inner Mongolia, and metropolis Shanghai would be affected by sandstorms until 12 April 2023 according to the National Meteorological Centre. The sandstorms caused by the influence of cold air, Mongolian cyclones, and cold fronts on the ground regularly occur in March and April.

**Sources:** CGTN. (2023, Apr 11). *Sandstorms in China: Authorities issue health warnings as multiple provinces affected.*

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