

INDONESIA



VETERANS LEGION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA (LVRI)

COUNTRY REPORT **18TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY** 10 – 14 December 2018 Vientiane, Lao PDR

Honourable VECONAC President,
Honourable Vice Presidents,
Ladies and Gentlemen

First of all, I would like to convey the best wishes and deep regrets from Lt. Gen Rais Abin, President of the Veterans Legion of the Republic of Indonesia, for not being able to attend this General Assembly. I am honored to represent him and extend his warm regard to all Vice Presidents of VECONAC and Delegates attending this VECONAC 18th General Assembly.

The Legion Veterans of the Republic of Indonesia (LVRI), the organization of War Veterans, was established in the National Congress on January 2, 1957. Participants of the Congress were the freedom fighters such as regular armed forces, ex warriors, ex-partisan and armed people organizations who fought in the period from 1945 through 1949 and they are called the Freedom Fighter Veterans. And those who struggle to maintain the sovereignty of the Republic of Indonesia after 1949 are called Defender Veterans. In 2012, Indonesian citizen who plays an active role in international troops under the United Nations (UN) mandate to carry out the world peace mission, were designated as Peacekeeper Veteran.

The latest record of Indonesian Veterans member is about 106.000 consisting of 67.200 Freedom Fighter Veterans, 32.600 Defender Veterans and 6.200 Peacekeeper Veterans.

LVRI has conducted the 11th National Congress in October 2017, an officially marks the leadership hand over of the LVRI Central Boards organization from the Freedom Fighter Veterans to the Defender and Peacekeeper Veterans at both the Central and Regional Levels.

By Special consideration, for the Chairman of LVRI, all Congress participant believes that the figure of the Lt. Gen. Rais Abin is still needed in the near future, thus acclamatory he was re-appointed as Chairman of Central Board of LVRI with the mandate to prepare a candidate as his successor.

The main task mandated by Freedom Fighters Veterans to the Defender Veterans through the 11th National Congress was to raise an awareness of Nationalism through the 1945 struggle values to the next generation. Since 2013, LVRI has socialized the value of 1945 fights to college and high school students, Military Academy cadets and other youth organizations.

For further improve the Inheritance of Nationalism through the 1945 struggle value activities, LVRI has signed an MOU with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Defense.

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Achievement attained for Veteran wellbeing's in 2018 to includes :

- The government continues to renovate the uninhabitable veterans' home.
- 25% increase in Dana Kehormatan and Tunjangan Veteran as promised by the President of the Republic of Indonesia, during the closing of the 11th National Congress.

Dana Kehormatan (Veteran Honorary Fund) is a fund given by the Government as a form of appreciation and respect for freedom fighter veterans.

Tunjangan Veteran (Veteran allowance) is benefit provided by the Government to improve the welfare of veterans.

The important events in 2018 is the Inauguration of the LVRI Central Boards and the ratification of LVRI Chartered and By Law for the period of 2017-2022 by the President Joko Widodo coinciding with the celebration of National Veterans' day 10th of August 2018.

Last but not least, may I wish the 18th VECONAC General Assembly a great success and I would like to express my deep appreciation to Lao National Veterans Federation for their excelent efforts to host the 18th VECONAC General Assembly, and for your warm hospitality during our stay in the beguile glittering temples city, Vientiane.

“VECONAC FOREVER – FOREVER VECONAC”

11th of December 2018

MAJ GEN (RET) SAIFUL SULUN