ABSTRACT

Role of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Relationship with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for Handling Immigrants and Refugees in Indonesia

By

LUKMAN PRAYITNO

The world is open to the public, free to travel and move anywhere. However, there are some people who move not because the will of their own will but by necessity. They save themselves because of economic factors or conflicts in their countries who encourage them to go from his country. In some cases, those who go into the country using a travel agent or penyelundup (people smuggler) to go to another country that can protect them. Armed with makeshift, limited knowledge and the smugglers who act less responsible, make them stranded in a place completely unknown before. Indonesia is a transit country for illegal immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees. International protection of refugees set in the 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol on the Status of Refugees. Indonesia has yet to ratify the 1951 Convention and 1967 Protocol on refugees, so there is no specific national law governing the status and whereabouts of asylum seekers and refugees in Indonesia. Therefore, the Indonesian government deems it necessary in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in dealing with immigrants and refugees in Indonesia.

This study discusses how the role of IOM and its relationship to the UNHCR in dealing with immigrants and refugees in Indonesia. The research method used in this research is to use normative legal research methods and methods of empirical legal research and preparation of descriptive and qualitative manner.

The results in this paper namely the role of IOM in dealing with immigrants in Indonesia is to provide counseling services, medical care, food and housing, and voluntary repatriation assistance (Assisted Voluntary Return - AVR) for migrants, provide training and technical assistance to the Indonesian immigration in
identifying illegal immigrants and documents in places prone to be entered by the immigrants, detect and monitor the dark current pattern of migration in Indonesia with Dark Migration Management Strengthening Program (Reinforcing Management of Irregular Migration - RMIM), handle and care for Non-immigrant Regular programs Management and Care of Irregular Immigrants Project - MCIIP, provide assistance to migrants who transit destinations in Indonesia with Australia or New Zealand through an agreement triparte - Models of Regional Cooperation, or Regional Cooperation Model (RCM), which was established by the Indonesian government, Australia and IOM, to give an explanation to migrants about their rights in asking for asylum and referring those who wish to submit a request to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and provide service and handling when the status of migrants was processed by the UNHCR. The relationship between IOM and UNHCR are the second such international organizations together to help the Indonesian government in dealing with immigrants and refugees in Indonesia. IOM helped the Indonesian government in upholding the rights of immigrants by providing humanitarian assistance in the form of food, clothing, etc., while the UNHCR to help the Indonesian government in finding a third country for migrants who proposes himself as a refugee.

Keywords: Immigrants, IOM and UNHCR’s role