# **ICCC** Webinar

25 September 2020

# Financial and Health Management in Covid-19 Era



### Wisnu Wardana

**Economist** 

wisnu.wardana@danamon.co.id

## **Executive Summary**

In 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic has become an indiscriminate disrupter of economies worldwide. Financial market volatility was led by flight to quality, causing a temporary crunch in global liquidity. Economic activity was brought to a virtual standstill, raising fear of recession along with its political and social consequences. It is under these circumstances that policymakers of the world launched an unprecedented and coordinated stimulus, in hope to relieve some of the pressure. Specifically for Indonesia, the highlight that had happened and possibilities yet to come, are as follow:

- On FX market; the fundamental of Rupiah has recently stabilized, notwithstanding support from massive Quantitative Easing by global central banks. Merchandise trade surplus reached USD11.0bn year-to-date as import demand, and thus FX needs, declined significantly. Reductions in FDI and share of foreign investment in LCY securities were countermanded with USD7.5bn worth of external corporate bond issuances, pushing the can towards medium-run. On the flip side, domestic portfolio investors stepped up and peddled through, which may have an adverse effect when real sector activity starts to recover. Something to look forward to, at this point.
- On Interest Rate; aside from utilizing its traditional monetary tools of lowering policy rates and reserve requirement ratio, Bank Indonesia also tapped into unconventional methods of Quantitative Easing, with a customized burden sharing scheme. It is worth mentioning that the central bank had properly address their first-aid measure vis-à-vis guaranteeing sufficient liquidity, while minimizing the contagion recourse to financial sector. However, further stimuli seem rather limited henceforth and would require low inflation as well as solid fundamentals of Rupiah. A luxury thing to have at the wake of cost-push inflation environment.
- <u>Possible Implications:</u> as the divergence between real sector economy and financial market widens, it has become imperative to address income equality. Only 40% of the population has bank accounts whilst 0.4% of account holders manage 2/3 of total deposit. Moreover, only 1% of the population has access to capital market. These are the ones that would benefit.

#### ANALYST CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that all of the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect our personal views about any and all of the subject issuer(s) or securities. We also certify that no part of our compensation was, is, or will be directly or indirectly related to the specific recommendation(s) or views in this report.

#### DISCLAIMER

The information contained in this report has been taken from sources which we deem reliable. However, none of P.T. Bank Danamon Indonesia, Tbk. and/or its affiliated companies and/or their respective employees and/or agents makes any representation or warranty (express or implied) or accept any responsibility or liability as to, or in relation to, the accuracy or completeness of the information and opinions contained in this report or as to any information ontained in this report or any other such information or opinions remaining unchanged after the issue thereof. We expressly disclaim any responsibility or liability (express or implied) of P.T. Bank Danamon Indonesia, Tbk. its affiliated companies and their respective employees and agents whatsoever and howsoever arising (including, without limitation for any claims, proceedings, action , suits, losses, expenses, damages or costs) which may be brought against or suffered by any person as a result of acting in relianceupon the whole or any part of the contents of this report and neither P.T. Bank Danamon Indonesia, Tbk. its affiliated companies or their respective employees or agents accepts liability for any errors, omissions or misstatements, negligent or otherwise, in the report and any liability in respect of the report or any inaccuracy therein one omission there from which might otherwise arise is hereby expressly disclaimed. The information contained in this report is not be taken as any recommendation made by P.T. Bank Danamon Indonesia, Tbk. or any other person to enter into any agreement with regard to any investment mentioned in this document. This report is prepared for general circulation. It does not have regards to the specific person who may receive this report. In considering any investments you should make your own independent assessment and seek your own professional financial and legal advice.