

## **Role of the Antitrust Commission (KPPU) Amidst the Tussles between Modern Retailers and Traditional Marketplaces in Indonesia**

BALIKPAPAN – On Friday, 4 December 2009, within the framework of fostering inter-organizational cooperation and socialization of Indonesia's Antitrust Law No. 5 of 1999, the KPPU organized a public lecture before the academic community of the Faculty of Law of the Balikpapan University. The event took place at the 'Gedung Serbaguna' of the Balikpapan University.

This public lecture was attended by Deputy Rector I of the Balikpapan University, Deputy Dean I of the Faculty of Law of Balikpapan University, lecturers of business law subjects as well as the law students of the Balikpapan University. The theme adopted for this public lecture was "The Role of the Antitrust Commission (KPPU) Amidst the Tussle Between Modern Retailers and Traditional Marketplaces in Indonesia."

The event was opened with an opening speech by the Organizing Committee of the *Studium Generale* of the Faculty of Law of Balikpapan University, which was then followed by the *Studium Generale*. Speaking before the audience was Mr. Ahmad Ramadhan Siregar, a KPPU Commissioner, with Mr. Bruce Anzward from the Faculty of Law of Balikpapan University as the moderator.

The main issue brought by Mr. Ahmad Ramadhan was relating to "Status of Law Enforcement on Indonesia's Competition Law" and with "Report on Evaluation of Policies in Retail Industry." He reiterated the underlying background to the creation of Indonesia's Antitrust Law No. 5 of 1999 and the creation of the KPPU, as well as the role of KPPU in supervising the competition between modern retailers and traditional retailers and marketplaces.

During the question-answer session, there were heated arguments between the audience and the speaker. Some member of the audience questioned the role of the KPPU relating to the zoning policy vis-à-vis modern retailers and traditional retailers and marketplaces; the competition between state-owned universities and private universities, the monopolistic practice of State-Owned Enterprises (BUMN) and the collusive practice in tenders conducted in Balikpapan.

The event was concluded with the exchange of gifts with the Faculty of Law of Balikpapan University through its Deputy Dean I handed over a plaque to Mr. Ahmad Ramadhan Siregar. The event was the wrapped with a photo session with the speaker and the academic community of the Faculty.