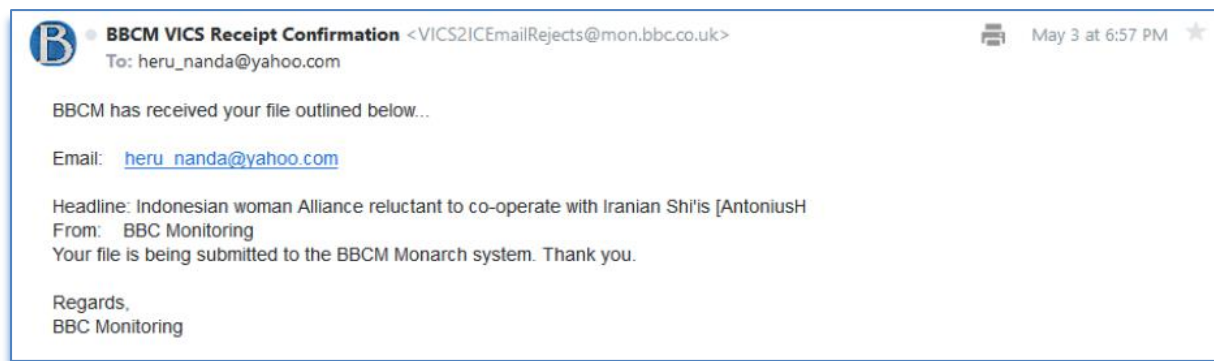


# Indonesian Woman Alliance Reluctant To Co-operate with Iranian Shi'is



[Antonius Herujiyanto AH02\_020518]

The chairwoman of the Indonesian Family Love Alliance or AILA, Rita Soebagio, has demanded that the Minister of PPPA or Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, Yohana Susana Yembise, consult with MUI or the Indonesian Ulema Council before deciding to sign an MoU [Memorandum of Understanding] or to have a co-operation with the Iranian Minister or Secretary of Women and Family Affairs, Masoumeh Ebtekar.

[It was reported earlier that Minister Yohana who is a Christian from Papua province had an intensive meeting with Masoumeh Ebtekar in Jakarta.]

Mentioning that it was only logical for two sovereign countries to establish a co-operation, Rita said that the issues that the two ministries would sign an MoU were also fine, provided that the Ministry of PPPA had already considered many different aspects especially in dealing with the cultural, socio-political, and religious differences of the two countries, Indonesia and Iran.

She also said Wednesday (on 2 May) that Yohana seemed to be interested in learning further about some issues on the tenacity and strength of character of women and families in Iran.

According to Rita, however, such a character would be based on many different variables and indicators including those of religious background. Iranian people with their Shi'a perspectives would not be the same as those of Indonesian Sunnis.

The chairwoman of AILA seems to disagree that Minister Yohana would learn further about the tenacity and strength of character of women and families in Iran.

Source: Q/IS, <https://www.kiblat.net/2018/05/02/aila-sarankan-menteri-pppa-bertanya-ulama-sebelum-kerjasama-dengan-iran/>, "AILA Sarankan Menteri PPPA Bertanya Ulama Sebelum Kerjasama dengan Iran (AILA recommends that Minister PPPA consult with MUI before signing MoU with Iranian Secretary of Women and Family Affairs)", in Indonesian, 2 May 18.

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