1. How did the State evaluate the situation of LGBT persons vis-à-vis the pandemic and potential specific vulnerabilities?

As of June 18, 2020, as many as 42,762 cases have been confirmed in Indonesia with 2,339 deaths and 16,798 recoveries have been recorded thus far. The Indonesian government has taken numerous measures to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Such as Social Distancing policies, Large Scale Social Restrictions (PSBB), and restrictions on the amount of public transport. However, there are no policies that touch human rights, or focus on vulnerable groups. In another sense, the Government does not pay attention to vulnerable groups affected by Covid-19. In a rapid assessment conducted by the CRM Coalition (Crisis Response Mechanism), there were 640 transwomen affected due to the Covid-19 pandemic in Jabodetabek (Jakarta, Bogor, Depok, Tangerang, and Bekasi) area.

Transwomen groups in Indonesia usually after Coming Out in their families, frequently they did not get acceptance and were expelled from their homes when they were still young. Most of transwomen have been kicked out from home since a really young age, without having their identity, diploma, and so on. The essential things that they must have in order to obtain government programs during this pandemic are impossible.

1. What measures were adopted by the State to ensure that LGBT persons would not be subjected to discrimination in the implementation of COVID-19 related interventions?

Indonesia is still very far from accepting LGBT groups. At present, each year the violence, stigma and expressions of hate speech by the State are increasing every year (Research conducted by the Community Legal Aid Institute and Arus Pelangi). Regardless of whether Indonesia is in a pandemic condition or not. In the pandemic Covid-19 condition, the Indonesian state did not take any protection. Instead, during the Covid-19 period community received many cases of criminalization of the transwomen group, the case of Mira burned alive, one transwomen stabbed, some transwomen that have been pranked only for YouTube content.

1. Did LGBT civil society participate in the design of measures taken to respond to the pandemic? If no, why not?

Government involvement in the community in handling the Covid-19 pandemic is very small. There is no a need to involving the LGBT community to participate in handling the pandemic for the Indonesian Government, it is also applies to the other vulnerable groups. Vulnerable groups in Indonesia are becoming increasingly vulnerable. For example, the deaf group, there is an everyday news about a pandemic on TV, it is an important news, but the government does not seems want to provides the translators.

1. What is the information available to the State as to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the general situation of LGBT persons and their access to education, housing, health and employment and on their living conditions?

In situations outside the pandemic, schools and safe places are very luxurious and are rarely owned by LGBT groups, especially the transgender community. The inherent stigma causes the welfare of LGBT life in Indonesia to be very low. Causing no access to school, no access to health, decent work, decent housing, etc. Simply because of someone orientation and gender.

The CRM Coalition has been raising funds from March until today, and there have been more than 1880 people who has received benefited from this. The assistance we receive is channeled to purchase basic goods such as food and to help pay for their accommodation. Because the social distancing implications caused LGBT groups, especially transwomen, to lose their livelihoods.

1. Can you identify good practices in the State interventions in relation to COVID-19 and LGBT persons? Can you identify good practices stemming from civil society actions? Have lessons be learned from the pandemic on how not to leave LGBT persons behind in emergency situations?

The CRM Coalition by building public donations to participate in helping vulnerable groups, especially transwomen who lose their jobs to get access to food, essential equipment such as soap, and assistance for housing when the community fail to make payments.

Recently, the CRM Coalition is used to voice the needs of basic supplies and sanitation facilities of transwomen in greater Jakarta area and another region in Indonesia who lost their livelihood due to Covid-19. The CRM carries out an open donation for transwomen from 27 March until now. The amount raised until 13th May 2020 is Rp 191,432,814 - Euro 1,055,25 , and AUD 167,55. We also have received 100kg Rice, 10Pcs Soap, 100pax Rice Box and 76pax Groceries. We have distributed the support for 1778 person in a form of cash donation and foods. This is an example of how the alliance we build under the CRM Coalition can help identifying the needs of LGBT communities and distributing the helps through reliable channels.