Bogor (28/11). Approaching the Plenary Meeting of MWA that would elect IPB Rector on Thursday (29/11), the three Rector candidates declared a commitment to a mutual effort of synergy in a Forum of meeting with the leaders of MWA Tuesday (27/11) in Bogor.

"The three are the best candidates who are eligible to lead IPB, the result of the selection by the Academic Senate and the previous screening of aspirations. This forum was to share ideas for the promotion of IPB on the foundation of common wisdom" says Chairman of MWA, Prof. Chozin.

"The synergy of the Rector candidates is in the form of commitment to share ideas, networking and programs, whoever will be elected as the next Rector. The three will continue to communicate and share views on the progress of IPB," Chozin said.

The meeting was initiated by Chairman of MWA as a forum for exchanging ideas among the Rector candidates, including exploring valuable ideas of the Rector candidates who did not pass the three major stages of the selection by the Academic Senate (SA) on 6 November 2012.

The meeting was attended by MWA Chairman, Prof. Muhammad Chozin; Vice Chairman, Dr. Ahmad Mukhlis Yusuf; Secretary of MWA, Prof. Rizal Syarief; Chairman of the Joint Team of IPB Statutes Drafter, Prof. Roedhy Poerwanto and the three Rector candidates.

The three Rector candidates to attend the Plenary Meeting of MWA are the current Rector, Prof. Herry Suhardiyanto, Dr. Asep Saefudin, and Prof. Zairin Junior.

"The scope of academic services is so vast, for the agricultural sciences in which the IPB lecturers and students are deeply engaged are very strategic IPB. IPB is a collection of academicians who wish to do their best for their institution and the nation. The position of Rector is a trust and responsibility that must be implemented to the best possible way," said IPB Rector, Prof. Herry Suhardiyanto.

"The three of us are ready to work together in the agenda of advancing IPB, because the issues of food, energy, environment, economic development, and poverty alleviation which are the challenges for this nation are so relevant to the core competence of IPB as the growing means of science, technology, and innovation as well as entrepreneurship-based graduates to answer the challenges of the nation,"s Herry added.

In the same place, Dr. Asep Saefudin said that IPB’s pioneering in educational innovations should be continued, including promoting the academic culture, the major characteristic of campus community.

"A strong leadership to strengthen the academic culture must occur at all levels" said Asep.
"For example, IPB was a pioneer of educational model that recruited prospective students without a test, but by examining the track record of candidates. After being proven successful nationally, it is followed by many other campuses," Asep added.

Prof. Junior Zairin, who has successfully led the IPB Diploma program, is also ready to work together for further development of IPB.

"Entrepreneurship in the process of higher education is not solely for the development of new businesses that are far from the field of tropical agriculture, but rather the creation of added values by the campus to the role of agriculture and the supporting sciences for the stakeholders being served," said Zairin.

"It takes leadership and opportunities for academic communities to develop internal potentials together," said Zairin.

The three candidates declared to be prepared whether or not they are elected as Rector. They said that the structural and functional pathways in the institution are optional in the devotion as an academician, which must be carried out with integrity, trust, and professional manner.

Strengthening of academic competencies that provide added value to the stakeholders of agricultural development is one of the spirits in IPB’s draft statute IPB, which has been submitted by MWA and IPB Rector to the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia.

"A joint team of MWA, Professors Council, the Academic Senate and Rector has completed the final draft of the statute that refers to Act No. 12/2012, said Prof. Roedhy Poerwanto, the team leader.

IPB Rector Election is immediately entering the final stage; MWA Plenary Meeting will begin on Thursday (29/11) to select the next Rector of IPB.

An open session will begin early morning on Darmaga campus, involving questions and answers of MWA members and a panel of experts consisting of former Rectors.

The Ministry of Education and Culture with the voting rights of 35% delegates its attendance to the Director General of Higher Education in the Open Session. Then, all members of the MWA and Rector candidates will attend a Closed Session the following night, which will be directly attended by the Minister of Education and Culture, Prof. Muhammad Nuh, in Jakarta.

MWA Chairman, Prof. Chozin expressed appreciation to the Rector Election Committee led by Prof. Toto Toharmat IPB and the academic communities who have been involved in the Rector election, which has run dynamically and constructively.

"Most important in this Rector election is an increased awareness of the importance of all elements of the academic communities to unite and take a role in restoring IPB’s role in solving various problems of development in agriculture and marine in this country" said Chozin.