An animal ethics committee organization must be present in every institution with research activities using animals. This was said by Head of Center for Primate Studies, Dr. drh. Joko Pamungkas when opening the Training on Ethics Animal Care and its Use in Research, Testing and Education.

It was also said that many cases have not proceeded in accordance with the ethics despite the increased number in research and other activities that use laboratory animals in Indonesia.

A simple survey shows that of those organizations using animals for research, only 10 percent have had animal ethics committees.

The Training title on Animal Care and its Use in Research, Testing and Education was held in the Meeting Room of the Center for Primate Studies of the Institute of Research and Community Service, Lodaya campus of IPB Bogor (21/10).

According to Dr. Joko, the perception that the animal ethics committee may complicate research is wrong. With the animal ethics committee, researchers can produce good research without reducing the research results statistically, and can observe the principles of animal welfare.

In addition, institutions that conduct studies using animals without the supervision or approval of the animal ethics committee will get problems when filing for an international accreditation because usually the international accreditation agencies will require the supervision of the animal ethics committee.

Primate Studies Center was established in 1994. The studies it has conducted always use the principles of animal welfare.

Dr Joko hopes with this training, there will be awareness of the participants about the importance of the animal ethics committee in the institutions that use animals in three main activities, namely research, testing, and education. This will add to the agencies that set up the animal ethics committee. Therefore, future studies are expected to always pay attention to the principles of animal welfare.

This training covers several aspects of the animals use focused on the ethical use of laboratory animals, legislation and related rules, alternative use of laboratory animals, worker health and safety programs, animal care and safety, facility inspection and program review, and review of protocols and use of electronic communications in the function of the animal ethics committee.

The training was attended by 20 government and private institutions that always conduct
studies using animals. (Mtd)