

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Internships are training activities or courses conducted by students to improve their soft skills competencies. Internships carried out by students can not only provide benefits to students who take part in internship programs, but with internship activities companies can also receive many benefits, one of which can improve the company's image in the eyes of many people (Lutfia & Rahadi, 2020). In the context of growing globalization, it is important for individuals interested in diplomacy and international affairs to gain practical experience in a relevant environment. One effective way to gain an in-depth understanding of the diplomatic process and consular services is through an internship at a diplomatic institution.

The Consulate General Republic Indonesia in Davao, as part of the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs network, provides an ideal environment for internships in protocol and consular functions. Davao, as one of the largest cities in the Philippines with a booming economy, offers many opportunities to learn about the dynamics of international relations and the challenges faced by Indonesian citizens abroad. An internship at the Consulate General Republic Indonesia in Davao provides interns with the opportunity to be directly involved in various protocol activities, including the organization of diplomatic events, handling state guests, and coordination with local government and private agencies. In addition, interns can also be involved in consular services, such as passport issuance, emergency assistance, and protection of the interests of Indonesian citizens.

Figure 1. 1 Courtesy Visit with the Consul General



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With this background, this internship report will reflect the practical experience and learning gained during the time at the Consulate General Republic Indonesia in Davao, as well as provide a deeper understanding of the roles and responsibilities in protocol and consular functions in a diplomatic environment.

1.2 Internship Purposes

Internship activities can help students to prepare themselves before entering the real world of work. Internships are also part of the learning that cannot be obtained in the classroom. The following internship objectives:

1. To provide hands-on experience of the working world.
2. Develop skills such as communication, teamwork, leadership, problem-solving, and decision-making.
3. To explore various fields to be able to determine a career that matches interests.
4. Increase opportunities for employment.
5. Broaden understanding of the world of work.

1.3 Internship Benefits

Internships provide various benefits for students in gaining direct experience in the work field in accordance with the field of study. Not only for students, but this internship activity also has benefits for the university and the internship agency. Some of the benefits obtained from this three-month internship at the Consulate General Republic of Indonesia in Davao are elaborated below:

1. The author will gain hands-on work experience in a professional work environment in the field of diplomacy and consular affairs. This will give the author a better understanding of the duties and responsibilities of a diplomat. Students can also develop practical skills needed by a diplomat, such as communication skills, negotiation, and diplomatic manners.
2. Through internship programs, universities can establish partnerships with internship agencies and can also strengthen relationships with the world of work. In addition, internship activities can also help universities in adjusting the curriculum to be more relevant to industry needs.
3. By providing a good internship experience, the internship agency can add a positive image in the eyes of students, universities, and the general public. In addition, through internship activities, agencies can also identify and later recruit potential people for the agency.