ABSTRACT

The rapid development of crypto assets in Indonesia has encouraged innovation in Islamic philanthropic practices, including the collection of zakat through crypto assets. Although this practice was previously implemented by a zakat management institution, its legal status remains a subject of debate within Islamic jurisprudence and is not yet supported by regulations that specifically govern the mechanism of crypto asset zakat. This study aims to analyze the mechanism of crypto asset zakat collection previously implemented by Rumah Zakat through its collaboration with the Fasset platform, and to evaluate its conformity with Islamic law and the general regulatory framework applicable in Indonesia. The study is grounded in the theories of contemporary zakat jurisprudence, maqāṣid sharīʿah, the concept of al-māl (wealth), and sharia compliance.

This study employs a qualitative method with a case study approach. Data were collected through semi-structured interviews with Rumah Zakat management, a contemporary Islamic commercial jurisprudence expert, a crypto asset expert with an understanding of sharia principles, and the Chairman of the Indonesian Sharia Fintech Association, supported by documentation and literature review. Data analysis was conducted through data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing, with credibility tested through source triangulation.

The findings reveal three main results. First, the zakat collection mechanism at Rumah Zakat involved the receipt of USDT (Tether), transaction verification, immediate conversion into Indonesian Rupiah, and subsequent distribution to eligible beneficiaries (mustaḥiq); however, the program was later discontinued after Fasset's operating license was revoked by the Financial Services Authority (OJK). Second, from the perspective of Islamic law, the practice is considered consistent with the principles of zakat jurisprudence and maqāṣid sharīʿah through the application of qiyas and the exclusive use of the USDT stablecoin to mitigate volatility risk. Third, from a regulatory perspective, the practice does not contradict the general regulations currently in force, although it remains within a legal gray area due to the absence of regulations or fatwas that specifically govern crypto asset zakat. The study concludes that crypto asset zakat collection has the potential for further development as an innovation in zakat collection, provided it is supported by stronger fatwas, specific regulations, and diversification of platform partners to ensure legal certainty and sustainability.

Keywords: crypto asset zakat; Islamic law; Indonesian regulation; Rumah Zakat; maqasid shariʿah