

Joint statement
International NGO Forum on Indonesian Development (INFID) & Pax Romana
Under Item 6 - Universal Periodic Review

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Mr. President,

INFID and Pax Romana appreciate the working group (WG) process of the UPR over Indonesia, which had shown significant positive commitment from some members of the WG to give objective and constructive dialogue on human rights situation in Indonesia. Despite the continuing practice of political block views presented by some member of the working group, several important issues of human rights had been raised during the session, namely by questioning and also recommending several issues regarding human rights situation in Indonesia. Some of those issues are: the issue of impunity, migrant workers, indigenous people and minorities, independence judiciary, torture, freedom of religion, and also issue about human rights situation in Papua. However to our regret, during the WG process, there were several important questions which were not adequately addressed by Indonesian Government delegation.

With regard to the voluntary commitment of the government of Indonesia, there was only one commitment, that the government of Indonesia will continue the socialisation of the UPR in cooperation with civil society and Komnas HAM, Indonesian National Human Rights Commission. Whereas, we strongly hope for stronger commitment which may influence real progress to human rights situation in Indonesia. Moreover, we welcome the recommendations which had been made during the WG process to be also implemented by the GOI in advancing the future of human rights protection in Indonesia.

We would like to express our appreciation to Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for accepting the request to facilitate a dialog between Coalition of Indonesian human rights NGO and various states agencies on the report of UPR working group on Indonesia last 26th May 2008 in Jakarta. We also welcome the fact that the dialog in Jakarta has resulted in agreement to put 2 additional voluntary commitments for the coming 4 years. We therefore hope that these additional voluntary commitments will be adopted during this plenary session.

The proposed additional voluntary commitments are:

1. GOI shall take action, without delay, the incorporation of torture as a gross violation of human rights into Indonesian Criminal Code as in accordance with the Convention against Torture by means of an amendment
2. GOI shall take concrete action to combat impunity by improving the legal and institutional framework in order to have a credible human rights court and truth and Reconciliation Commission that able to stop the cycle of impunity and will bring justice to the victims of human rights violations

Thank you.

