



PERSEKUTUAN GEREJA-GEREJA DI INDONESIA (PGI)
COMMUNION OF CHURCHES IN INDONESIA (CCI)

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PRESS RELEASE
THE COMMUNIUN OF CHURCHES IN INDONESIA

STOP THE VIOLENCE AND
IMMEDIATE SET UP JAKARTA-PAPUA DIALOGUE

As we know, the escalation of violence in Papua has risen up in the past few weeks, particularly with regards to the various action of civilians expressing dissatisfaction over condition they experienced, both a rally by worker unions at PT Freeport, Timika either the peaceful action of the Third Papuan Congress, in Abepura, Jayapura, 16-19 October 2011.

Although the two actions are not related to each other, yet the Communion of Churches in Indonesia (PGI) sees that this is a result of the failure of development strategy implemented by the Indonesian government toward its citizens in Papua and West Papua. PGI considers that the Government has failed to bring a welfare of entire indigenous Papuans. Implementation of the Law no.21/th.2001 on the Papua Special Autonomy was not consistently implemented by the Government of Indonesia

As a result, indigenous Papuans still feel unfairly treated by the Government and felt their independence is ripped in their own land, even treated unhumanely by the security forces for allegedly doing treason. Meanwhile, the Government allow the Papua natural resources to be exploited without fairly sharing the result with the people of Papua. That's why they conduct a demonstrations to draw the attention of the Government of Indonesia for injustices they have experienced so far.

Regrettably, however, the Indonesian Government, through police and military institutions, face the rally by excessive deployment of military forces, especially over the Papuan Congress III participants, which resulted in three people died and dozens were injured. Not long ago, on October 24, again there was a killing of Papuan people, AKP Dominggus Awes, Mulia police chief by two unknown perpetrator. On 2 November 2011, the Battalion 759 military force of Kurukulu, Jayawijaya conducting sweeping and torture local civilians.

Based on the said various incident, PGI expressed regret for the violence and expressed condolences to the families of the died victims.

Through this statement, the Communion of Churches in Indonesia called for:

1. That all parties cease all forms of violence in Papua and West Papua, as acts of violence will never solve the problem but it will only lead to new problems;
2. Ask Mr. President, Dr. H. Susilo B. Yudhoyono to halt all military operations, including sweeping and refrain from committing violence to Papuan people after the violence toward the third Papuan People's Congress;
3. Ask for a appropriate action as stated by the President, Dr. H. Susilo B. Yudhoyono, to conduct a peaceful approach and constructive communication to build Papua;
4. To set up immediately Jakarta-Papua dialogue as a commitment to resolve the acts of violence in Papua;
5. Urge the President to push the Unit to Accelerate Development in Papua and West Papua (UP4B) to soonest possible implementing strategic effort for solving the problems in Papua peacefully.

Jakarta, 7 November 2011

On behalf of
Executive Board
The Communion of Churches in Indonesia




Rev. Gdmar Gultom
Secretary-General