

H.E. Mr Eddi Hariyadi
Ambassador
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia
Rue de Saint-Jean 16
C.P. 2271
1211 Genève 2

18 June 2004

Yours Excellency,

Dear Mr Ambassador,

I write on behalf of Franciscans International, the UN voice of 1.2 million Franciscan men and women worldwide.

Since 2001, our organization has been monitoring the situation of human rights in Papua. The important first case of the Permanent Human Rights Court, which is currently hearing the *Abepura Case of 2000*, is being monitored by our organization.

In the letter drafted by your mission on 28 December 2001 and sent to our office, it was expressed that:

“With regard to the subject of “crimes against humanity”...the Inquiry team on Human Rights Abuses (KKP HAM Papua) did produce evidence that such crimes had indeed been committed in Irian Jaya, however, the term was used solely to describe the Abepura incident of last December. The government is doing everything in its power to investigate the event and bring those responsible to justice.”

After three years, Brigadier-General Johny Wainal Usman and Commissioner Daud Sihombing are finally being tried for these crimes.

We are encouraged that some apparent progress on this case has occurred, in light of the reports submitted by the Special Rapporteur on the Question of Torture (*E/CN.4/2003/68/Add. 1*, para. 654) and the Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions (*E/CN.4/2003/3/Add.1*, para. 313) to the 59th Session of the Commission on Human Rights, which mention this particular case.

The true account of events surrounding this heinous incident, especially infamous in the memory of the Papuan people, must be brought to the surface in order to contribute towards genuine reconciliation, peace and trust between the Indonesian State and the Papuan people.

Franciscans International urges the Indonesian authorities to ensure that the Permanent Human Rights Court in Makassar, South Sulawesi, which is currently hearing the *Abepura Case of 2000*, abide by international legal norms and standards and bring those culpable to justice.

Franciscans International urges the Indonesian authorities to ensure security for lawyers, witnesses, victims and human rights defenders who have been working on the case.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this issue further, your representative can contact Mr Chris Duckett, FI Advocacy Officer, who is handling our work on Indonesia.

Sincerely,

Fr John Quigley OFM
Director
Franciscans International, Geneva