

# BOARD OF CHURCHES IN PAPUA<sup>1</sup>

## His Excellency

Chair of the Provincial of House of Representatives of Papua  
JAYAPURA

Re: considerations of the churches' leaders to the establishment of an investigation team of the Mulia case.

Dear Mr Chair,

With regard to the violent incidents that have occurred in Mulia since 17 August 2004, the church leaders of the Board of Churches in Papua (*Persekutuan Gereja-gereja di Papua/ PGGP*) held an internal special consultation on 29 October 2004 in the Jayapura Diocese office. PGGP expresses its deep concern to the incidents that contradict human values and that have become a serious threat to our efforts to build Papua as a Land of Peace.

PGGP supports the Papuan people appeal to accurately and comprehensively reveal the truth so that justice could be upheld. Therefore, we fully support the proposal to establish an investigation team for Mulia.

However, bearing in mind the purpose to fulfil the appeal of justice of the people as well as the victims' family, PGGP has some serious considerations with regard to the substance and composition of the team.

*First*, given the fact that the Mulia case requires a high-standard investigative expertise (including a possible forensic investigation) and a clear jurisdiction, we propose to the Indonesian Human Rights Commission (*Komnas HAM*) to establish an Inquiry Commission into the alleged human rights abuses (*Komisi Penyelidik Pelanggaran HAM/ KPP HAM*) to launch a judicial investigation into the case.

*Secondly*, given that the proposed investigation team contains a large number (33 members) representing 16 components of the society but it lacks a legal authority, a professional expertise and effectiveness, we are afraid that its performance and its result might contribute to the complication of the Mulia case while the victim interests might not be handled properly due to many vested-interests playing around within the team. Therefore, we recommend that various components of the society which are supposed to be part of team, need to be separated from the team to play role as a public control. This function is highly necessary to ensure that the prosecution of the case will be dealt with according to the Law and the human rights standard.

*Thirdly*, considering the fearful, worrying and uncertain situation in Mulia in particular and in the whole range of the Central Highlands, we believe that it deems

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<sup>1</sup> An unofficial translation by the Office of Justice and Peace of the Catholic Diocese of Jayapura  
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necessary to establish a Pastoral Team for Peace that only contains the religious leaders. This team should visit Mulia and Wamena to listen carefully to the concerns, hope and the whole situation of the people. We believe that our people desperately need a pastoral care so that these spiritual leaders could serve this need.

*Finally*, taking seriously the fact that the victims both in Mulia and Wamena need serious attentions, we propose to the Provincial Government to establish a medical and humanitarian team that has full access to the victims in Wamena and Mulia regardless their backgrounds, including race, religion, social status and political ideology.

These are all our considerations. We thank you for your attention. May the Lord give you peace!

Issued in Jayapura  
3 November 2004

Hardus Desa  
Secretary of PGGP

**Copies:**

1. All members of PGGP
2. Other churches in Papua
3. Religious Leaders in Papua
4. Governor of Papua
5. Chief of Police of Papua
6. Territorial Military Commander of XVII/ Trikora