



3 February 2015

HE Mr Najib Riphat Kesoema  
Ambassador  
8, Darwin Avenue, Yarralumla  
PO Box 616  
Canberra ACT 2600

Your Excellency,

### **Seeking mercy for prisoners facing imminent execution in Indonesia**

We are writing to convey our grave concerns about Indonesia's resumption of the death penalty and to respectfully ask that the Indonesian Government show mercy to prisoners now facing imminent execution.

We were deeply troubled to learn of the executions by firing squad of Indonesian Rani Andriani (Melisa Aprilia), Daniel Enemu (Nigerian), Ang Kiem Soei (Dutch), Tran Thi Bich Hanh (Vietnamese), Namaona Denis (Nigerian) and Marco Archer Cardoso Moreira (Brazilian) just after midnight on 18 January 2015.

We now hold grave concerns for at least nine people facing imminent execution after rejection of their clemency applications by President Joko Widodo, including two Australian citizens Myuran Sukamarn and Andrew Chan.

We understand Indonesia's need to punish and deter criminal acts that have a detrimental impact on the Indonesian population, including drug related offences. Nevertheless there is no convincing evidence that the death penalty deters crime more effectively than other punishments. We are concerned that the decision to resume executions has set Indonesia

against the global trend towards abolition of the death penalty and the country's own progress in this area.

The death penalty is the ultimate cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment, and a violation of the right to life as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Article 6(6) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), to which Indonesia is a State Party, provides that "Nothing in this article shall be invoked to delay or to prevent the abolition of capital punishment by any State Party to the present Covenant".

We implore Indonesia to show mercy to all prisoners facing imminent execution. We ask that Indonesia halts these executions and commutes their death sentences to terms of imprisonment. We further urge Indonesia to establish a moratorium on all executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty.

We respectfully ask that you convey our messages to President Joko Widodo and Attorney-General HM Prasetyo.

For any enquiries relating to this letter please contact Stephanie Cousins, Government Relations Manager at Amnesty International on [Stephanie.Cousins@Amnesty.org.au](mailto:Stephanie.Cousins@Amnesty.org.au) or on +61 434 672 242.

Yours sincerely,

Alistair Gee, Executive Director, Act for Peace NCCA

Rev. Prof. Andrew Dutney, President, Uniting Church in Australia

Andrew Stone, National President Australian Lawyers Alliance

Archie Law, Executive Director, ActionAid Australia

Bill Rowlings, CEO, Civil Liberties Australia

Claire Mallinson, National Director, Amnesty International Australia

Don Sinnamon, President, Australians Against Capital Punishment

Elaine Pearson, Australia Director, Human Rights Watch

Lachlan Murdoch, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors

Marc Purcell, Executive Director, Australian Council for International Development

Nathan Kennedy, President, Australian Lawyers for Human Rights

Stephen Blanks, President, New South Wales Council for Civil Liberties

The Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma

Ursula Noye, Vice President, Reprieve Australia Inc