

Sent: Thursday, 17 July 2008 11:13 AM

To: Committee, JCPAA (REPS)

Subject: Cutbacks in the NLA's Indonesian Acquisitions Project

To the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit,

I have recently learned that one of the effects of the "efficiency dividend" may be that the National Library will no longer have a representative in Jakarta buying Indonesian-language books on behalf of the library. I would like to register my deep concerns about such a step. I visit the NLA at least once a year to use their wonderful collection of Indonesian-language books. My current ARC project would be impossible without the Indonesian books that the NLA has collected over the decades. Many other scholars visit the library regularly to make use of this collection. In my view it makes little sense to force the library to reduce its ability to collect materials in Indonesia at a time when it is as important as ever to develop informed knowledge of Indonesia. I would very much hope that the Committee would consider every way possible to prevent these cuts to the NLA.

Yours faithfully,

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