



Committee Secretary
Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA

By e-mail: pjicis@aph.gov.au

23 January 2006

Dear Secretary,

Re: Review of the listing of PKK as a terrorist organisation

The Australian Muslim Civil Rights Advocacy Network (AMCRAN) is dedicated to preventing the erosion of the civil rights of all Australians, and, by drawing on the rich civil rights heritage of the Islamic faith, provides a Muslim perspective in the civil rights arena. It does this through political lobbying, contributions to legislative reform through submissions to government bodies, grassroots community education, and communication with and through the media. It actively collaborates with both Muslim and non-Muslim organisations to achieve its goals.

We have had the benefit of reading a draft submission being prepared by the Federation of Community Legal Centres (Vic) and we are in full support of the arguments put forward by the Federation.

In particular, AMCRAN is concerned that the present prescription once again highlights the arbitrary nature of the proscription regime due to the expansive and vague criteria for listing, rendering it liable to discriminatory application and susceptible to political motivations.

Further, we are concerned that the listing of an organisation with seemingly no security threat to Australia illustrates a proscription regime that is primarily dictated by foreign policy considerations rather than for the more appropriate ends of protecting Australian citizens from the threat of terrorism.

We urge the committee to recommend against the listing of the organisation.

Yours sincerely,

Dr M. Waleed Kadous
Co-convenor
Australian Muslim Civil Rights Advocacy Network