

## *Australia - Safe Refuge for Christians*

PO Box 5539  
Hughes, ACT 2605  
Telephone : 0400 484 212

Mr James Rees  
Secretary,  
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties (JSCOT)  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

February 22 2007

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed our six page submission, together with a one page summary, re the "Agreement between Australia and the Republic of Indonesia on the Framework for Security Co-operation" (Treaty of Lombok) and an electronic version on disk.

Also enclosed are copies of two letters as supporting documents

1. Letter to the Prime Minister, November 8, 2006
2. Response from the Department of Foreign Affairs January 15 2007.

As we are living in Canberra we would expect to be readily available for giving oral evidence at a hearing should it be required.

Yours sincerely,

David and Jan Wauchope

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### **Summary page of Submission** From David and Jan Wauchope

#### **AGREEMENT BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA ON THE FRAMEWORK FOR SECURITY COOPERATION** (Treaty of Lombok)

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1. That the name West Papua be used in preference to the name Papua  
2. That Australia and Indonesia recognise that many West Papuan Christians are not members of the Free Papua Movement - OPM  
3. That Australia inform Indonesia that this nation regards as reprehensible the attacks on Christians in West Papua and elsewhere in Indonesia.
- Page 5.     4. That Australia opposes the intimidation practices of Indonesian police in West Papua and elsewhere in Indonesia  
5. That Australia's promised aid to Indonesia of \$350million for 2007 be withheld until the horrific genocide of Christians in West Papua and attacks elsewhere in Indonesia cease.
- Page 6.     6. That Australia be recognised by Indonesia as a safe refuge for Christians fleeing persecution in Indonesia.  
7. That at the Third Interfaith Dialogue in New Zealand, May 2007, Australia insist that Indonesia provide Christians safety from persecution in the same way that Muslims are granted protection in Australia.
- Supporting documents.**  
1. Copy of the personal letter of November 8, 2007 emailed to the Prime Minister, the Hon. John Howard MP from David and Jan Wauchope.  
2. Copy of letter of January 15, 2007 from Dept of Foreign Affairs responding to the above letter. Writer - Mr Paul Wojciechowski, Director - Indonesia, Political & Strategic Section.

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Dear Sir

### **Submission on the**

### **AGREEMENT BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA ON THE FRAMEWORK FOR SECURITY COOPERATION (Treaty of Lombok)**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

On November 8, 2006, we emailed a letter to the Prime Minister and copied other Parliamentarians to express our concerns about the "Agreement between Australia and The Republic of Indonesia on the Framework for Security Cooperation".

On January 15 2007 we received a response from the Dept of Foreign Affairs, written by Paul Wojciechowski, Director - Indonesia, Political and Strategic Section. This reply has failed to address our five questions in the letter of November 8, concerning the long standing suppression and persecution of Christians in West Papua by Indonesia.

#### **1. We appeal to this Committee (JSCOT) for answers to the questions in our letter of November 8, 2006.**

1.1. Does signing this treaty mean that Australia endorses a continuation of the jihad against West Papuan Christians - not all of whom are members of the West Papua Independence movement?

1.2. Does the treaty also commit Australian personnel to assist the Indonesian army in these crackdowns in Papua?

1.3. And to stop Christians who are being persecuted and tortured for their faith from fleeing to safety?

1.4. Under this proposed treaty, will we and many other Christians in Australia, lobbying and praying for an end to the genocidal attacks on our brothers and sisters in West Papua, be classified as anti-Indonesian activists, and be subject to suppression by our Australian Government - sometimes proud of its Christian heritage?

1.5. If so, would it be possible at some time in the future that Australia would have to involve Indonesian personnel to assist it in its crackdowns on anti-Indonesian activists?

## 2. GENERAL COMMENTS CONCERNING THE TREATY OF LOMBOK

We consider the Lombok Treaty faces many difficulties in implementation, for the following reasons.

### 2.1. Some Legal differences between the two nations.

Indonesia is predominantly a Muslim nation and Islam is both a religious and political ideology, not just a religion. There is no separation between religion and state in Islam.

Pancasila Law was devised to give freedom of religion and keep harmony between people of different faiths and there are Christians in the Indonesian Parliament, but Islamic pressure has over-ruled Pancasila lately in some legal cases, and Sharia is strongly advocated by devout Muslims currently.

In contrast, Australia enjoys the benefits of separation of church and state with freedom of religion and most laws based on Judeo-Christian ethics.

### 2.2. Jihadists are active in Indonesia

Islamic Sharia Law is regarded by Muslims as over-riding all other laws and agreements. Any evident weakness in not giving preference to Sharia law can cause the person or persons concerned to be threatened.

This happened in the genocide in the Maluku Islands, approx. eight years ago when moderate Muslims argued against the jihadists plans to attack their Christian neighbours with whom they had lived peacefully for many years. The moderate Muslims were threatened with death if they did not join the jihadists.

The result was that 500,000 Christians were displaced from their homes and villages and they fled to the mountains. 10,000 people were killed - some Muslims, but mainly Christians.

### 2.3. The doctrine of "Taqiya"

The doctrine of "Taqiya" allows adherents to Islam to lie when making agreements with non-Muslims, if it is in the cause of Islam to do so. With respect, is this not sufficient cause to caution Australia against committing its security plans and purposes for the nation, its defence, its intelligence, its counter terrorism to a neighbour that has the potential to not always tell the truth? Such a treaty is normally confined to those one is sure are allies.

On the other hand there can be worthwhile common objectives for Australia and Indonesia in some aspects of police co-operation.

### 2.4. Indonesia's attitude to Human Rights

We are extremely disturbed lest this Treaty of Lombok be ratified as it stands at some time in the future. There are great differences in thinking between the two nations, such as in Human Rights. For example, see the incidents below.

Islamic jihadists have displaced and murdered many Christians and have not been punished for these crimes. And according to the Sharia law which over-rides other laws in devout Muslim thinking, the death penalty does not apply to Muslims who kill non-Muslims. See e.g. 2.2 above - the slaughter in the Maluku Islands.

Meanwhile, innocent Christians have been accused of crimes that would not be considered crimes in this country, or of crimes they did not commit, and they have been punished for those crimes.

*Example 1.* Three Catholic men in Sulawesi - namely Fabianus Tibo, Dominggus Da Silva and Marianus Riwa - were recently executed after being unjustly used as scapegoats and accused of masterminding an attack on a Muslim boarding school in Kayamanya in 2000.

*Example 2.* Three Christian Sunday School teachers, Mrs Ratna Bangun, Dr Rebekka Loanita Zakaria and Mrs Eti Pangesti have been imprisoned for three years for allegedly enticing Muslim children to convert to Christianity.

### 3. COMMENTS ON THE ARTICLES

#### Article 1. Purposes

Australia should be extremely cautious in enacting Objectives 1 and 2 for the reasons given in 2.1., 2.2., 2.3., and 2.4. under the heading “General Comments on the Treaty of Lombok”,

#### Article 2. Principles

##### Article 2. Principle 3.

This particular Principle can be applied between allies with common ideals - but may prove problematical with Indonesia.

One reason is that Indonesia treats many Christians in West Papua as if they are part of the Free Papua Movement - OPM or “separatists” when they are not so.

In practice, it would seem that Indonesia finds it more convenient to treat many of them the same way, with indiscriminate attacks on persons and their property under the claim that they are ‘separatists’.

It has been reported for several years that boatloads of Indonesians from Java have been transported to West Papua. These people, including troops and jihadists, have driven many of the indigenous West Papuans from their homes around the fertile coast into the higher land and mountains. At one stage it was reported that six boatloads per week arrived in West Papua.

Many of these Christians simply wish to live and practice their faith without interference from the Indonesian authorities and jihadists. In contrast, people of Muslim faith in Australia are not discriminated against by Australian authorities on the basis of their faith.

We believe that Australia has a responsibility to convince Indonesia that it cannot brand all West Papuan Christians as being separatists, because many are not so. Therefore, they should not be allowed to hunt, displace, torture or kill under this pretext.

As Christians, these people are our brothers and sisters in Christ and also of many people in Australia and around the world and are classified as “My people” by our Father in heaven.

#### Article 3. Areas and Forms of Co-operation

##### Defence co-operation

Australia’s security must be a prime consideration. This surely limits very much the amount of information which can be given to another country which has a much greater number of armed forces and has a dominant religion, Islam, with a world-wide agenda which threatens our national security.

##### Counter Terrorism Co-operation

In this area, we understand that the two countries work together but would point out that Indonesia is already finding it difficult to administer it’s own civil law and judgements e.g. on the Bali Bomber murderers.

The reason there seems to be little likelihood of the death sentences being carried out is the claim that the bombing was against non-Muslims.

Under Sharia law the Q’uran encourages jihad killing of Christians, Jews and other non-Muslims, and for this there is no penalty. Devout Muslims, including terrorists who are the most devout, will continue to pressure the authorities to not carry out the death sentences.

##### Intelligence Co-operation

12. A necessary fact - but much wisdom will be required by Australia in this area.

##### Maritime Security

Does this include Australia refusing to help persecuted Christians fleeing from murderous attempts by Indonesian jihadists or army, navy and air force? If so, Australia would be party to the murder of these people.

#### 4. RECOMMENDATIONS

We believe that the following recommendations should be implemented.

##### Recommendation 1.

**That the name West Papua be used in preference to the name Papua**

In the letter of January 15, 2007 from the Department of Foreign Affairs, the name for the province of West Papua (formerly Irian Jaya) used by the writer is Papua. This is confusing for those Australians who regard Papua New Guinea as Papua.

We recommend that the name "West Papua" be used by Australia, rather than adopting the Indonesian name of "Papua" in order to clearly distinguish it from the independent country of Papua New Guinea.

Otherwise it may seem that Indonesia is adjusting us to accept a long term concept of the total island being Papua and all of it as Indonesian.

##### Recommendation 2.

**That Australia and Indonesia recognise that many West Papuan Christians are not members of the Free Papua Movement - OPM**

As referred to in our comments on Article 2. Principle 3.

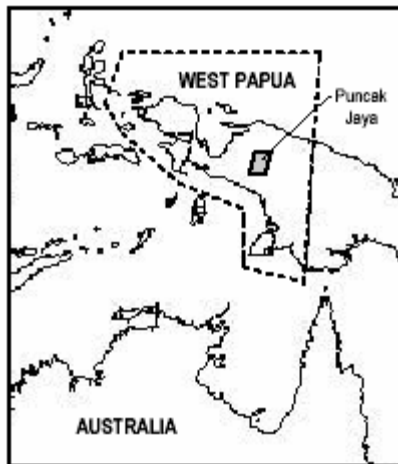
We believe that Australia has a responsibility to convince Indonesia that it cannot brand all West Papuan Christians as separatists, because many are not so. Therefore, Indonesian troops and jihadists must not be allowed to hunt, displace, torture or kill under this pretext.

##### Recommendation 3.

**That Australia inform Indonesia that this nation regards as reprehensible the attacks on Christians in West Papua and elsewhere in Indonesia.**

A recent example, is as follows :

*(from Tears of the Oppressed news and analysis  
February 2007)*



"5,000 members of Catholic, Kingmi, and Baptist churches have been displaced by post-Christmas military operations conducted in Papua's Yamu district in the administrative region of Puncak Jaya. The villagers have fled to the jungles where they are at risk of starvation and disease. One civilian, Lenus Murib, has reportedly been shot dead by soldiers.

"According to local sources, there are some 3,000 troops occupying the main town area. Human rights workers report that many civilian houses have been burned and government buildings have been taken over by the military. Additional paramilitary police, known as BRIMOB, are conducting operations just outside the town.

"In a display of unity, church leaders met with the Papuan organisation Els-ham (Human Rights Institute for Study and Advocacy) to try and resolve the crisis. They fear a repeat of military operations in 2004 and 2005, when 6,000 people were displaced and many famine-related deaths were reported. "

These reprehensible actions of the Indonesian military (above), and the police (below), should be known to those Indonesians responsible for drawing up this Treaty of Lombok.

These actions occurred since the signing of the treaty.

One questions whether the timing of these attacks is intended to test whether Australia will or will not react to them!

#### **Recommendation 4.**

#### **That Australia opposes the intimidation practices of Indonesian police in West Papua and elsewhere in Indonesia**

A recent incident was the police attack on the office of Gereja Kingmi church synod. *(from Tears of the Oppressed news and analysis - February 2007)*

“Clergy have demanded the right to run church affairs without intimidation and government interference, after Indonesian police stormed the office of the Gereja Kingmi church synod office in Jayapura on December 28 last year. Two pastors were injured in the incident.

After the intrusion, 400 members of the church gathered outside the office in a peaceful protest. This resulted in the withdrawal of police after 24 hours. Rev. Benny Giay, the Chair of the Kingmi Church Bureau, says the occupation was an unprecedented action by police and amounted to an attack on religious freedom.

“This attack by police is not just against church activists working to defend human rights,” he said. “It is an attack on the institution of the Church itself.”

During the incident, police accused Rev. Giay and his associate, Rev. Noakh Nawipa, of being involved in an armed attack in August 2002, which resulted in the deaths of two US teachers and one Indonesian. However, Benny Giay is a well-known peace activist in the Papuan non-violence movement and denies all charges. Other accusations include the church’s involvement as the “religious arm” of the OPM—the Free Papua Movement—which supports an armed struggle for Papuan independence.

Previously, the Kingmi Church had ties with an Indonesian parent church, but gained autonomy for its own synod last year. It is thought that authorities have interpreted this as a “separatist” activity encouraging Papuan independence from Indonesia and have therefore targeted the church leaders. Supporters of human rights in Papua are increasingly concerned that in the current climate of oppression, a number of prominent clergymen—already under constant surveillance—are at risk of assassination.

#### **Recommendation 5**

#### **That Australia’s promised aid to Indonesia of \$350million for 2007 be withheld until the horrific genocide of Christians in West Papua and attacks elsewhere in Indonesia cease.**

Article in Weekend Australian February 10-11, 2007, page 22 ‘Inquirer’, “A Strengthening Bond” by Greg Sheridan, Foreign Editor.

One of Greg Sheridan’s comments is already proving true viz. “Many things could derail the new relationship (Australia / Indonesia), most obviously Papuan separatism.”

This press article earlier states, “The Australian aid program to Indonesia this year approaches \$350 million. Next year there is every chance it could top \$400 million .... A substantial part of the aid program will be devoted to building 2,000 schools. Many of them will have sister school arrangements with Australian schools.

“Something like 400 of the schools Australian money will help build will be Islamic schools which will teach the Indonesian curriculum.”

How will Australia prevent these Islamic schools becoming madrassas as operated by Abu Baku Bashir and Jemaah Islamiah?

Even those Islamic schools which are not madrassas will teach from the Q’uran that Christians, Jews and other non-Muslims, all of them infidels, must submit to Islam in Muslim countries by paying the Jizya tax, which Muslims do not pay. Any inability or refusal to pay will result in increased discrimination, such as no schooling, no admittance to university and possibly even imprisonment, torture and/or death.

Where is the wisdom of Australian taxpayers' money going to Indonesia toward the establishment and/or operation of Indonesian schools? Many Australian taxpayers would certainly not agree with such expenditure. Some teachers in Australia are crying out for more money to be spent on Education.

Therefore we recommend that Australia's promised aid to Indonesia of \$350million for 2007 be withheld until the horrific genocide of Christians in West Papua and attacks elsewhere in Indonesia cease.

**Recommendation 6**

**That Australia be recognised by Indonesia as a safe refuge for Christians fleeing persecution in Indonesia\*.**

Surely this Treaty of Lombok signatories can agree with this recommendation as logical and fair. Both Indonesia and Australia recognise the fact that Indonesia is a predominantly Muslim country, and Australia a predominantly Christian country.

Australia's Christian heritage is evident in many of our laws and regulations, and this will enable Indonesian Christians to assimilate relatively easily and peacefully into Australian society.

\*'Christians fleeing persecution' includes West Papuans who are not members of the OPM.

**Recommendation 7**

**That at the Third Interfaith Dialogue in New Zealand, May 2007, Australia insist that Indonesia provide Christians safety from persecution in the same way that Muslims are granted protection in Australia.**

The two Interfaith Dialogues of 2004 and March 2006 (see letter from Foreign Affairs) seem to have done nothing to halt Indonesian attacks on Christians. Therefore we are asking that the May 2007 dialogue produces a different result.

We repeat that it is totally incorrect and unjust for either Indonesia or Australia to assume that all West Papuan Christians are members of the West Papuan Independence Movement, OPM, because they are not.

We expect Christians in Indonesia to be treated with the same respect for their person, their property and their faith that Muslims in Australia receive. This respect should be enshrined in any treaty made with a neighbouring country.

The worldwide Islamic agenda has been likened to the threat of Nazism in the 1930s. Recently the legitimate question was asked, "Will we be Chamberlains or Churchills?"

Yours respectfully,

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David Wauchope and Jan Wauchope,  
Business partners  
"Australia - Safe Refuge for Christians"  
PO Box 5539  
Hughes ACT 2605

Attachments.

- 1. Copy of letter emailed on November 8, 2006 to the Prime Minister, the Hon John Howard MP by David & Jan Wauchope.
- 2. Copy of letter in reply January 15, 2007 from Mr Paul Wojciechowski, Director - Indonesia, Political & Strategic Section, Dept of Foreign Affairs.