

Supplementary to submission 12

Dear Secretariat and Committee Members,

Three weeks ago I submitted comments to you on the issue of the Agreement between Australia and the Republic of Indonesia on the Framework for Security Cooperation (Mataram, Lombok, 13 November 2006). (Ref Submission #12 <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jsct/6december2006/subs.htm> ).

I am concerned that the Australian government has not yet requested the United Nations General Assembly to seek the opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the territorial status of the territory of West New Guinea.

As the United Nations ICJ is the only definitive authority on the application of the United Nations General Assembly resolutions (in this case 1541 and 1514) and the United Nations Charter, and is the most suitable international court to give its opinion on this issue; I ask you to please confirm if you are preparing a request for the Australian government to seek the ICJ opinion whether West New Guinea is a Non Self-governing territory subject to Article 73e of the Charter and General Assembly Resolutions 1514 and 1541.

I am sure the good people of Indonesia would join me in urging your urgent attention to redressing this issue by seeking this ICJ opinion which should have been requested by the United Nations in 1969. A similar request should also have been made after the 10th August 1962 public rally in Hollandia West Papua calling for the United Nations itself as a colonial power (Oct/1962-1/May/1963) to allow a Self-determination vote instead of, or before deciding to trade the territory to Indonesian administration under Article 12 of the New York Agreement which had total disregard of the Papuan people's wishes and of the advice of the New Guinea Council "Advisory Note Concerning the use of the right to self-determination" given on 16th February 1962.

It should also be noted, that ever since NNGPM on behalf of Shell, Mobil, and Chevron discovered Ertzberg in 1936; that West Papua's vast mineral wealth has caused considerable disruption to the de-colonization efforts. And that while other nations have made many billions of dollars both directly and in-directly from the mining of West New Guinea's mineral wealth; that the West Papuan people now enjoy less civil freedom and quality of life than they did in 1962.

I look forward to hearing your immediate response to this.

Best Regards,  
Andrew Johnson.