



Hon John Key

Prime Minister

Parliament Buildings

Private Bag 18041

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New Zealand

Dear Prime Minister John Key,

West Papuan political prisoner, **Filep Karma** - now almost sixty years old - was sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment in May 2005 after peacefully expressing his political views. Karma has suffered serious health problems during incarceration but was not permitted a urological operation until July 2010. Vital health treatment has been made more difficult since December 2010 when he and some other political prisoners were transferred to provincial Police headquarters.

In 2007, President Yudhoyono's administration issued Regulation 77 which prohibited the display of the Morning Star flag, although earlier this was permitted under Special Autonomy legislation.

West Papuan political prisoners and some in the nearby province of Maluku now number more than 130 persons - all imprisoned for displaying their flag! In December 2010, Human Rights Watch called for legal reform to protect such freedom of expression.

We ask you as Prime Minister that the New Zealand Government continues to request the Indonesian Government to allow the re-opening of the ICRC office in West Papua, to request the release of all political prisoners of conscience and, until such time, to ensure their health and humanitarian needs are met. There also remains the need for the Indonesian Government to acknowledge that one of the tenets of democratic rule is the peaceful expression of political views.

The New Zealand Government should encourage the Indonesian Government to open a dialogue with Papuans and resolve outstanding issues on the basis of democratic values.

Name: _____

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