



# STRENGTHEN POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY IN INDONESIA

**AMNESTY**  
INTERNATIONAL



## Dear Chairperson,

On 27 January 2009, demonstrators calling for local elections to be held in Nabire, Papua province set up a 24-hour camp in front of the General Elections Commissions building. Two days later, as the demonstrators slept, police violently dispersed them by shooting rubber bullets, and kicking and beating them with rattan sticks and rifle butts.

Seven protesters, and a human rights defender who was monitoring the demonstration, were arrested. During their one-day detention they were denied access to food, water and medical care.

I urge the National Human Rights Commission to:

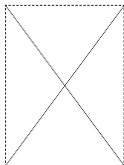
- Conduct a prompt and impartial inquiry into the reports of excessive use of force by police during the demonstration.
- Call for a review of police tactics and weapons in the policing of demonstrations.
- Call on the police to implement measures to ensure that all policing operations conform to international standards.
- Call for an independent police complaints mechanism to strengthen police accountability and legitimacy.

Yours sincerely,

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Country:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Ifdhal Kasim**

**Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission  
(Komnas HAM)**

**Jln. Latuharhari 4B, Menteng  
Jakarta Pusat 10310  
Indonesia**

Index: ASA 21/003/2009

*Image:* Indonesian police anniversary display, Monas Square, Jakarta, July 2008.

© Amnesty International

Amnesty International, International Secretariat, Peter Benenson House,  
1 Easton Street, London WC1X 0DW, United Kingdom. [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org)