

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 369/94 (ASA 21/45/94, 6 October 1994) - Imminent arrest as prisoner of conscience

INDONESIA Dr George Aditjondro, academic

Dr George Aditjondro, a prominent Indonesian academic at Satya Wacana University in Salatiga, Central Java, remains at risk of imminent arrest for his peaceful academic and political activities. He was not arrested on 8 October because he was not in the country at the time. He has since returned, and on 12 October, Dr Aditjondro received a second summons on charges of "insulting a government authority or body", under Article 207 of the Indonesian Criminal Code, a charge which carries a maximum penalty of 18 months imprisonment. If detained, Dr Aditjondro would be a prisoner of conscience.

The second summons requires him to report to Yogyakarta police at 10am on 15 October. It does not clarify whether Dr Aditjondro is wanted as a witness or a suspect. If held and questioned as a suspect, Dr Aditjondro could face prosecution and imprisonment.

The pretext for the charge against Dr Aditjondro appears to arise from comments he made during a panel discussion at the *Universitas Islam Indonesia* (UII) in Yogyakarta in August. Amnesty International believes, however, that the authorities are attempting to punish Dr Aditjondro for his past criticism of government policy relating to human rights and environmental concerns in Indonesia and East Timor and, further, that the charge may be intended to prevent him from taking part in peaceful activities prior to and during the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meetings which will be held in Jakarta in mid-November.

Amnesty International is also concerned that, since the issuance of the first summons on 5 October, Dr Aditjondro has been subjected to intensive surveillance by military intelligence officers from the Resort Military Command (KOREM) in Salatiga, both at his home and his place of work. Under Indonesia's Code of Criminal Procedure (KUHAP), the police and not the military, bear sole responsibility for the arrest of suspects. Since military intelligence authorities have no lawful role to play in Dr Aditjondro's case, Amnesty International considers their activities in recent days to be a form of harassment.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The charge against Dr George Aditjondro is symptomatic of a marked escalation in official harassment and intimidation of alleged government critics in recent months. These measures have included prevention or breaking up of meetings and seminars, the arbitrary arrest of human rights activists, and the torture or ill-treatment of some political detainees. Human rights violations against labour activists are a part of this pattern. Muchtar Pakpahan, the chairman of the independent trade union, SBSI, is currently on trial along with at least nine others, accused of "inciting" workers to demonstrate and to strike. Amnesty International believes that use of these measures against alleged government critics has increased in preparation for the APEC meetings in November, which will attract considerable international and domestic media coverage.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express and airmail letters

- expressing concern that Dr George Aditjondro remains in imminent danger of arrest for the peaceful expression of his views;
- urging that the charge against Dr Aditjondro be immediately and unconditionally dropped;
- expressing concern about the current level of intimidation and harassment of alleged government critics, including academics, lawyers, journalists and human rights activists.

APPEALS TO

1. Minister of State

Drs Moerdiono

Menteri Negara

Jl Veteran No 17

Jakarta, Indonesia

Faxes: (c/o - Foreign Ministry) + 62 21 36 0517 or 7781 or 7782

Telegrams: Menteri Negara, Jakarta, Indonesia

Salutation: Dear Minister Moerdiono

2. Military Commander Region IV/Diponegoro

Brig Gen Soerjadi

Pangdam IV/Diponegoro

Markas Besar KODAM IV Diponegoro

Semarang

Jawa Tengah, Indonesia

Telegrams: Pangdam IV/Diponegoro, Jawa Tengah, Indonesia

Salutation: Dear Brig Gen Soerjadi

3. Chief of Police Yogyakarta

Gen (Pol) Drs Madra S Banurusman

Kapolda Yogyakarta

Markas Besar Kepolisian DIY

Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Telegrams: Kapolda Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Salutation: Dear Gen (Pol) Banurusman

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

1. Minister of Foreign Affairs

Ali Alatas SH

Menteri Luar Negeri

Jl Medan Taman Pejambon No 6

Jakarta, Indonesia

Faxes: + 62 21 36 0517 or 7781 or 7782

2. Chair of the National Commission on Human Rights

Ali Said SH

Ketua Komisi Nasional Hak Azasi Manusia

Jalan Veteran No 11

Jakarta, Indonesia

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and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 10 November 1994.