

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 20/95 (ASA 21/08/95, 25 January 1995) - Prisoners of conscience / Medical concern

INDONESIA Mughtar Pakpahan and Amosi Telaumbanua, labour rights activists

Mughtar Pakpahan has now been visited by a doctor and is receiving medical attention. Network participants are therefore asked to stop sending appeals asking for him to receive medical treatment.

However, appeals expressing concern at the increased prison sentences handed down by the High Court to Mughtar Pakpahan and Amosi Telaumbanua and demanding their immediate and unconditional release can continue.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Mughtar Pakpahan is National Chairman of the independent labour union *Serikat Buruh Sejahtera Indonesia* (SBSI) and Amosi Telaumbanua is Chairman of SBSI in Medan. They were among more than 100 workers arrested in Medan in April 1994 during a week of strikes and demonstrations. Mughtar Pakpahan and Amosi Telaumbanua were charged under Articles 160 and 161 of Indonesia's Criminal Code, which prohibit public criticism of the government. These articles are often used by the government against alleged political opponents.

Amnesty International is concerned that the authorities may have used the unrest in Medan as a pretext for a broader crackdown on peaceful labour activism and to silence the advocates of workers' rights.

In January 1995, the High Court in Medan, Norther Sumatra, increased the jail sentences of Mughtar Pakpahan and Amosi Telaumbanua from three to four years, and from fifteen months to three years, respectively. Amnesty International believes the two are prisoners of conscience.

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

- welcoming reports that Mughtar Pakpahan has received medical attention;
- reiterating concern at the increased sentences of Mughtar Pakpahan and Amosi Telaumbanua;
- continue to press for their immediate and unconditional release.

APPEALS TO:

Minister of Justice
Haji Utoyo Usman S.H.
Menteri Kehakiman
Jl. H.R. Rasuna Said Kav. 6-7
Kuningan
Jakarta Selatan
Indonesia

Faxes: +62 21 525 3095

Telegrams: Minister of Justice, Jakarta Selatan, Indonesia

Salutation: Dear Minister Utoyo Usman

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Chairman, National Commission on Human Rights

Lt. Gen. (ret.) Ali Said

Ketua, Komisi Nasional Hak Azasi Manusia

Departemen Kehakiman RI

Directorat Jenderal Pemasyarakatan

Jl. Veteran No. 11

Jakarta Pusat

Indonesia

Faxes: +62 21 525 3095 (c/o Ministry of Justice)

Minister of Manpower

Drs Abdul Latief

Menteri Tenaga Kerja

Jalan Jenderal Gatot Subroto

Jakarta

Indonesia

Faxes: +62 21 840 2746

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 14 March 1994.