

## **Hope that UN rights monitor visit will internationalise Munir case**

Monday 16 July 2007, by [SUARDANA Gede](#) (Date first published: 10 July 2007).

Gede Suardana, Jakarta — The United Nations is being asked to support Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in efforts to solve the murder of human rights activist Munir. This support will give Yudhoyono more confidence.

This was conveyed by the coordinator of the Committee for Missing Persons and Victims of Violence (Kontras), Usman Hamid during break in the 14<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Regional Cooperation Workshop for the advancement and protection of human rights at the Ayodhya Hotel in Nusa Dua, Bali, on Tuesday July 10.

Hamid explained that it is hoped that this support will come from the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Louise Arbour, who will meet with Yudhoyono in the next few days. During the meeting it is hoped that Arbour will make a serious commitment to the Munir murder case.

“We hope that the UN will stop seeing the Munir case as a domestic issue, but as an international [one]. After returning to the UN [in New York], I hope that Louise will make an official report on the Munir case for the next hearing”, said Hamid.

Arbour also plans to meet with Indonesian Legal Aid and Human Rights Association activist Hendardi, the wife of the late Munir, Suciwati and Hamid himself. According to Hamid, the meeting will discuss the investigations into unsolved gross human rights violations in Indonesia.

“Such as the case of human right violations in East Timor, Tanjung Priok and the Trisakti tragedy”, said Hamid. (djo/nrl)

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## **Government should refuse entry to foreign rights monitors if necessary**

Ken Yunita, Jakarta — The government is being asked to be on guard against the arrival in Indonesia of human rights representatives from foreign institutions. This is related to the reemergence of separatist movements in various parts of the country.

“We must be on guard against those who arrive. Such as the US Congressperson [Eni Faleomavaega] the other day”, said the governor of the National Resilience Institute (Lemhannas), Muladi, after joining Vice President Jusuf Kalla in receiving the Lemhannas class of XV graduates at the Vice Presidential Palace on Jl. Medan Merdeka Selatan in Central Jakarta on Tuesday July 10.

If necessary explained Muladi, it would be better for the government to refuse entry guests who could have a bad influence on Indonesia. “We don’t need to be courteous if it will cause us confusion. If necessary just refuse [them entry]”, he said in an outburst of emotion.

In relation to the illegal cakalele dancers that unfurled the South Maluku Republic (RMS) flag during a commemoration of National Family Day on June 29, Muladi said that there is no need to be concerned about the RMS. “I don’t think the RMS is of any significance”, he said.

Conversely continued Muladi, Aceh and West Papua represent two regions that the government must continue to pay attention to. “The RMS doesn’t have a strong human resource base. Aceh and Papua meanwhile, they have a strong human resource base, are rich in natural resources, and have international connections”, he said. (bal/sss)

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