

17 October 2013

H.E. Pehin Dato Dr. Awang Hj. Ahmad bin Hj. Jumat

Chairperson, ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR)

ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta, Indonesia

Fax: +62 21-7398234, 7243504, 7200848

Re: Statement of the 6th Regional Consultation on ASEAN and Human Rights held on October 1-2, Jakarta, Indonesia

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Solidarity for Asian People's Advocacy-Task Force on ASEAN and Human Rights (SAPA TF-AHR), which convened the 6th Regional Consultation on ASEAN and Human Rights in Jakarta from 1-2 October 2013, we respectfully submit to you the outcome documents of said Consultation. This Consultation was attended by more than 70 representatives of international, regional and national human rights organizations in the region, including resource persons from the ASEAN Inter-Governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR), ASEAN Commission for the Protection of Women and Children (ACWC), ASEAN Foundation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, Komnasham-Indonesia and from the diplomatic community in Jakarta. Discussions during the Consultation focused mainly on the upcoming review of the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the AICHR and human rights and business in ASEAN.

We would like also to acknowledge receipt of your reply to our invitation to attend the 6th Regional Consultation on ASEAN and Human Rights. We regret the fact that four years after its establishment, the AICHR has yet to establish procedures for engagement with civil society. Nevertheless, we would like to thank you for your response. We sincerely hope that the AICHR will soon finalize guidelines for engagement with civil society and that these guidelines will ensure meaningful engagement based on mutual respect.

With this letter is our submission for your consideration: **Statement Issued by the 6th Regional Consultation on ASEAN and Human Rights**. We also submit two reports published by FORUM-ASIA regarding the work of the AICHR through the ASEAN Secretariat, namely:

- The Performance Report on the 3rd year of the AICHR - Still Window-dressing (link: <http://www.forum-asia.org/?p=16296>)
- The Corporate Accountability in ASEAN: A Human Rights-Based Approach (link: <http://www.forum-asia.org/?p=16404>)

We look forward to contributing and engaging in the work of the AICHR in strengthening human rights in ASEAN. Should you have any further inquiries, please feel free to contact **Ms. Atnike Nova Sigiro**, ASEAN Advocacy Program Manager of FORUM-ASIA (Mobile: +62-8129401766, E-mail: atnike@forum-asia.org, asean@forum-asia.org).

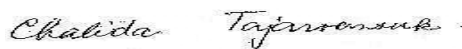
Thank you and warm regards.

Sincerely yours,



Evelyn Balais Serrano

Executive Director of FORUM-ASIA
Convener of SAPA TF-AHR



Chalida Tajaroensuk

Executive Director of People's Empowerment Foundation
Co-convener of SAPA TFAHR

Cc:

- **H.E. Le Luong Minh** (Secretary General of ASEAN)
- **H.E. Srun Thirith** (Cambodia Representative to the AICHR)
- **H.E Rafendi Djamin** (Indonesia Representative to the AICHR)
- **H.E. Phoukhong Sisoulath** (Lao PDR Representative to the AICHR)
- **Hon. Dr. Muhammad Shafee Abdullah** (Malaysia Representative to the AICHR)
- **H.E. Kyaw Tint Swe** (Myanmar Representative to the AICHR)
- **H.E. Rosario G. Manalo** (Philippines Representative to the AICHR)
- **Amb. Chan Heng Chee** (Singapore Representative to the AICHR)
- **H.E Dr. Seree Nonthasoot** (Thailand Representative to the AICHR)
- **Amb. Le Thi Thu** (Viet Nam Representative to the AICHR)
- **MS. Leena Ghosh** (ASEAN Secretariat)