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**IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 60/251
OF 15 MARCH 2006 ENTITLED “HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL”**

**Written statement* submitted by the International NGO Forum on Indonesian
Development (INFID), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is
circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[31 May 2007]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the
submitting non-governmental organization(s).

The Government of Indonesia does not fulfill its obligations to fulfill the rights of the people to Adequate Housing

Indonesia has ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966). By ratifying the Covenants the Government of Indonesia is obliged to respect and ensure the fulfillment of the rights and the freedoms stipulated in the Covenants.

The Government of Indonesia up to now has not fully fulfilled the rights of the people to adequate housing, and even there are facts that indicate to the violation of the rights of the people to adequate housing.

The number of people living in slums in urban areas and in poor housing in rural areas tends to increase. The people live in houses that are distant from the access to clean water, health services, appropriate sanitation facilities and are inaccessible to electricity services. The official data shows that around 17.2 million households are living in houses with very bad quality (Ministry of Housing, 2005). From this total, 13.5 million households are living in urban areas, and the rests are in rural areas. The condition has not been improved, even tends to become worse. These people are susceptible to forced eviction conducted by the government's security and order apparatuses, police and in certain areas by military with force and intimidation of violence.

The latest official data (The Coordinating Ministry for Social Welfare, 2007) shows that the slum areas in Indonesia reach up to 56,000 hectares spread in 110 cities. The poverty in urban areas spread in 2,389 sub-districts and 3,581 villages. In rural areas, the total of poor villages reach up to 66,000 villages, of which 42,000 are categorized as the poorest. Housing is one of the important indicators in the poverty measurement. Despite the availability of the updated data, the systematic and determined measures and policies to solve the problems are not operational.

The violation of the rights to adequate housing is also caused by the construction of big projects such as dams, toll roads funded by foreign debts and mining industry. More than 10,400 houses in Sidoarjo, East Java were flooded and covered by mud volcano as a result of negligence of the multinational and national gas and oil mining companies. More than 3,500 households in 11 villages in Lebak, Banten, are under the threats of forced eviction as a result of the construction of Karian Dam that will be developed in 2007. 2,085 households (7,846 people) were victims of eviction for the development of Bili-bili Dam in South Sulawesi. The construction of Lau Renun Dam in North Sumatra evicted 31,300 ha rice fields and houses of the people from Pak Pak and Batak Toba indigenous groups. The evictions have contributed to the impoverishment process in the areas.

The violation and the negligence of the fulfillment of the victims of natural disasters, such as earthquake and tsunami are also obvious. Although the government of Indonesia reported that 80% of the victims of tsunami and earthquake in Aceh and Nias have been provided with new houses, the rights of the people to the houses and the lands have not been established and might trigger conflicts among the people. In Yogyakarta, about 20% (40,000) of the people whose houses were totally damaged have not been provided with adequate houses by the government. About 99,000 with fair damages and 106 houses with light damage because of the earthquake in May 2006 until now have not been repaired. The

government's commitments and promises to support the victims of earthquake in Yogyakarta and Central Java have not been actualized. One of the main causes of the negligence is corruption. Meanwhile most of the people who were affected by tsunami in West Java, floods in NTT and earthquake in West Sumatra are still living in tents and temporary housing with bad conditions.

The rights to housing for women, particularly women in rural areas and indigenous women, in Indonesia have not been fulfilled. Besides the bad environmental sanitation and housing facilities such as sanitation, electricity and clean water, other accesses to public services such as health services, market places and education services are very limited. The rights of women to land are not yet recognized.

The rights of children to housing and good environment are not fulfilled yet. Safe environment, facilities for developing talents and playing grounds for the children are less available. The street children in most urban areas get less attention from the government services. These children even become the targets of security and order operation that to larger extent become the objects of violence of the government apparatuses. These children become vulnerable to the child trafficking, used for narcotics trade and the objects of sexual abuse and violence.

The government of Indonesia pushes the poor people, particularly women, to take parts in the accumulation of foreign exchanges through promoting the numbers of migrant workers. But these measures are not accompanied by the policies to protect the migrant workers. The rights of the Indonesian migrant workers to adequate housing in the recipient countries are not included in the cooperation agreements between the government of Indonesia and the recipient countries. The government of Indonesia has issued regulations for promoting the housing conditions for migrant workers during their training and preparation before the departure to the recipient countries. These regulations, however, are not well implemented by the Migrant Workers Services Companies, and the government does not monitor its implementation. The migrant workers, particularly women, have to live in accommodation with inhuman condition, limited food supply, bad sanitation and water supply, and are not allowed to leave the accommodations. The migrant workers were put in jail-like accommodations.

Millions of people who are victims of ethnic and religious conflicts, conflicts over natural resources and political conflicts until now are still living in difficult situation, displaced from their original places. The victims of conflicts between Madurese and Dayak ethnic groups in Kalimantan, the so-called inter-religious conflicts in Maluku, Sulawesi and other places in Indonesia, the political conflicts in West Papua until now are still not under serious attention by the government of Indonesia. They are still living in homeless situation with fear and loss of hope for their future.

The International NGO Forum on Indonesian Development (INFID) urges the UN Human Rights Council to push the government of Indonesia to seriously pay attention to the above mentioned problems and issues, both at policy level and operational level.
