

DR. CAROLINE LUCAS

Green Party
for the South East of England

Commissioner Ferrero Waldner
DG External Relations
The European Commission
200 Rue de la Loi
B1049 Brussels
Belgium

January 21st 2009

Dear Commissioner,

As you know from previous correspondence, I work closely with campaigners for human rights in West Papua and have regularly called on the EU to put pressure on the Indonesian authorities to uphold international law. A constituent has just returned from West Papua and advised me about the detention of two individuals, Buchtar Tabuni (Committee chairman of the International Parliamentarians for West Papua in Papua) and Sebby Sambom.

I understand that both were arrested in December and are being held in Abepura prison on charges of subversion related to expressing support for International Parliamentarians for West Papua (IPWP), which was launched at the Houses of Parliament in London on the 15th of October 2008. Buchtar and Sebby's access to water is being severely restricted - at times they are allowed none for several days at a time - and there is no sanitation. Buchtar has been beaten and was interrogated by an Indonesian military general who is reported as threatening him with torture.

I have also received reports from the Central Highlands that, in recent days, Indonesian security forces have attacked the villages in Tingginambut, burning houses and killing two people.

I trust the EU will do its utmost to stop the arbitrary arrest and mistreatment of peaceful activists by Indonesian police and look forward to hearing what action has been taken.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Lucas - Green Party MEP for South East England.