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Oral Statement by Nord-Sud XXI

on the UPR Report of Indonesia

(19 September 2012)

Nord-Sud XXI welcomes the UPR Report on Indonesia.

We are encouraged by Indonesia's willingness to consider ratifying a broad number of human rights instruments. As an NGO whose work is based on encouraging respect for the rule of international law we welcome the seriousness with which Indonesia has reacted to undertaking international obligations that is reflected in its efforts to ensure that it is in a position to implement human rights treaties before it ratifies them.

Nord-Sud XXI also welcomes Indonesia's willingness to enhance its engagement with civil society and in this regards we welcome the opportunity to cooperate with civil society in Indonesia, especially to assist them in activities within the United Nations system.

Nord-Sud XXI notes that, as an archipelago State that has increasingly been subject to natural disasters, Indonesia is among the countries most affected by climate change. We therefore urge Indonesia to support the effort to create a Special Rapporteur on human rights and climate change who can act to increase awareness of the potential harm to human rights that is resulting from the international community's failure to take action based on the existing science and principles of international law.

Finally, we note concerns expressed by some States about the death penalty and the extent of freedom of expression. We urge Indonesia, as it has agreed to do, to seriously study the possibility of a moratorium on the death penalty. We also urge Indonesia to study how it can best balance the responsibilities and rights inherent in the freedom of expression so as to ensure that this freedom makes a significant contribution to the development of Indonesia.

For further information please contact [nordsudxxi21@gmail.com](mailto:nordsudxxi21@gmail.com)

By Gala Maric