36th session of the Human Rights Council – Item 6 – NGO Oral Statement on UPR intervention for Indonesia Delivered by Yuli Rustinwati on Thursday, 21 September 2017

Mr President,

On behalf of Arus Pelangi Federation and NGOs that work on the subject of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, sex characteristics as well as promotion of human rights for the LGBTI community in Indonesia, we commend the Government of Indonesia on the tremendous improvement in many sectors in recent years. We also thank the Government of Indonesia for positively engaging civil society in the UPR process. Nevertheless, we regret the government of Indonesia only accept several key recommendations provided by the council.

Mr. President,

However, We expressed our deep concern on the alarming situation faced by LGBTI in Indonesia, where risks of discrimination, violence and criminalization in alignment with the rising of fundamentalism persist. We would like to emphasize that LGBTI community are also part of Indonesian society as guaranteed by the Indonesia constitution 1945.

The absence of recognition and protection have made us vulnerable of being abused, bullied, suffer from arbitrary detention, discriminated and being victims of violence, conducted by both State and Non-State actors.

Indonesia as a member of the Human Rights Council should be more proactive, assume its responsibility and uphold its commitment toward International Human Rights mechanisms. However, the government remains reluctant to address these issues.

While welcoming the initiative of the Police of Indonesia that issue a guideline to combat hate speech regarding sexual orientation and gender identity, we observe that hate speech directed to LGBTI community continue to persists and perpetuated by media.

Finally, We urge the government of Indonesia to take all necessary measures to combat, discrimination, criminalization and hate speech against LGBTI persons and to increase tolerance and social inclusion in Indonesian society. We reiterate our commitment to work together with our Government to address this issues and act accordingly.

I thank you, Mr. President.

Co- Signed by COC Netherlands and ILGA World