



An interview with Matius Murib Komnas HAM Papua

The process of fostering a dialogue between Jakarta and Papua has already started. The article below which has been written by Matius Murib from Komnas HAM Papua (Komisi Nasional Hak Asasi Manusia Papua, National Commission for Human Rights Papua) gives an overview of developments that have occurred in the process of developing a dialogue between Jakarta and Papua from three perspectives. One of these perspectives relates to Komnas HAM and its role as an institution. It gives information regarding activities Komnas HAM is involved in/ has implemented at both the central (Jakarta) and regional (Papua) level. The article also elaborates upon the potential role that Joseph Kalla could play in a Jakarta - Papua dialogue. The final piece in the article gives some personal observations and views from Matius Murib.

A possible mediator?

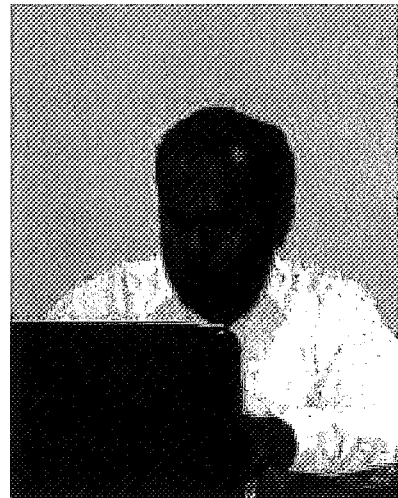
As a potential mediator in the process Jusuf Kalla had planned to

meet Papuan leaders who are promoting the initiative for dialogue. With the exception of Neles Tebay none of those

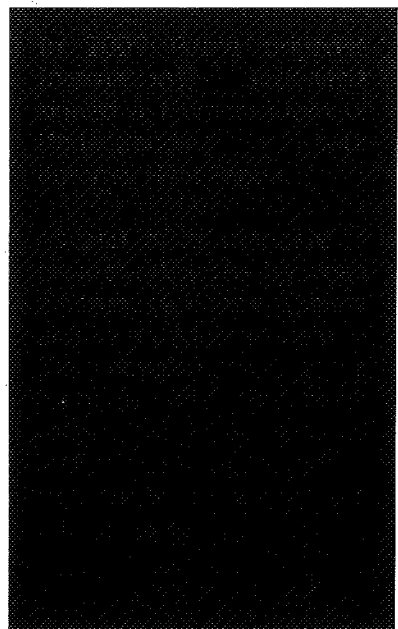
Komnas HAM meets Kalla

In the meeting Komnas HAM was asked to take on the role of negotiator, and find answers to the following 5 questions:

1. How many firearms are in the possession of OPM?
2. Can they hold a meeting with the leader of OPM?
3. Does OPM have a unified opinion and position concerning the dialogue?
4. Identify if all native Papuans have a shared view concerning the content of a future dialogue.
5. Can a dialogue be implemented without discussing the option of Papuan independence from Indonesia?



Matius Murib



asked to attend had any objections to joining the meeting.

When asked by the Komnas HAM team to attend the meeting with Kalla on Feb. 19, 2010, Father Neles Tebay stressed, that Kalla had to first be officially appointed by President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono before he would see him since Kalla no longer held an official position with the Government of Indonesia.

Developing a strategy

The dialogue between Jakarta and Papua has entered the first phase, marked by three meetings between Komnas HAM and Jusuf Kalla. These meetings were convened to ask for his

Jusuf Kalla's Hopes

1. The history of Papua [and its integration in the Republic of Indonesia following the 1969 act of free choice] is consistent with its future [in the Republic]
2. Reparations to Papuan society of 3-6 trillion rupiah.
3. An MOU, revising the Special Autonomy legislation to be made a Papuan Government Law
4. The start of a formal process of dialogue within a period of six months.

advice on developing a dialogue and to see if he was willing to participate as a mediator in the proposed dialogue because of his previous experiences in Aceh.

As a starting point and in support the Jakarta - Papua dialogue, the Secretary General of Komnas HAM issued a decree for Komnas HAM commissioners to work with a special team focusing upon helping to develop the necessary tools and identify actors to make any future dialogue between Jakarta and Papua viable.

In order for this to be effective it will be necessary to establish if the more radical, extreme and militant sectors of OPM hold the same perspective as the more moderate sectors of the organisation.

Several activities that [Komnas HAM perceives] are a prerequisite for dialogue have already been undertaken.

A large part of the process for developing the ground work for dialogue in Papua is being implemented by a team [which is] undertaking public consultations in Wamena, Timika, Manokwari, Biak, Paniai, etc.

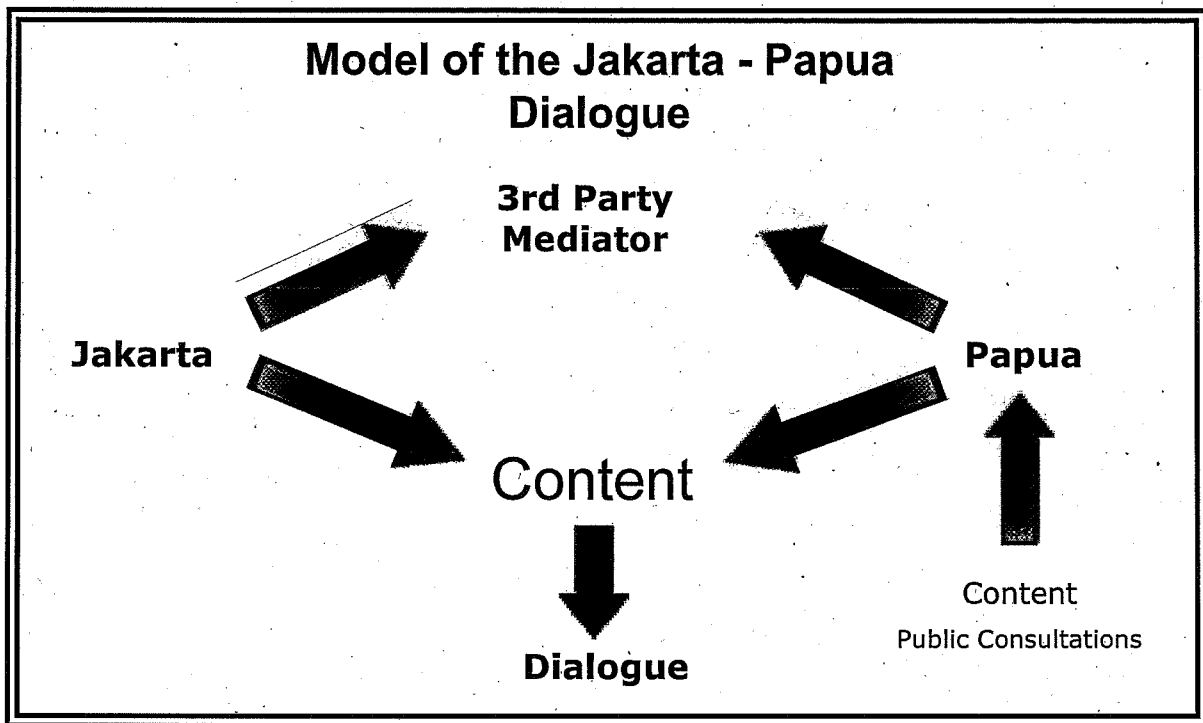
By doing this it is hoped that a consensed view from all of the different elements involved in dialogue will be reached in Papua so that Papuans will be prepared once the time of the actual dialogue arrives.

Pre-requisites for the implementation of a successful dialogue as perceived by Komnas HAM

1. Developing support and reaching a common understanding of what dialogue would entail for the central government in Jakarta.
2. Developing support and reaching a common understanding of dialogue for all members of the population of the two provinces of Papua.
3. [Informal dialogue between] Jakarta and Papua
4. [Informal dialogue between] Papua and Jakarta

How Komnas HAM proposes to aid the development of a future dialogue

1. Creating a Geo-demographic map of the population of the two provinces on the island of Papua.
2. A mapping of Papuan strategic groups (Papua Customary Council, religious groups, student groups, Papua People's Assembly, women organisations, etc.)
3. Identifying the position of the various different factions of OPM in relation to the idea of dialogue.



Additionally, a process of public consultations has been started abroad with the Papuan diaspora community to elicit their views on dialogue, such as a meeting in Singapore several months earlier. It is through developing such systems that Komnas HAM can help to ensure that the dialogue will be honest, open and democratic. Not a process that is under the shadow of military and civil forces.

It is within this context that Komnas HAM acting as a mediator has decided to actively monitor the process of dialogue until the initiation of formal discussions.

The position of Matius Murib

I fear that the Jakarta - Papua dialogue, if not attended by the international community with an interest in human rights,

will only become a sharing forum for the victims [of violence and exploitation]. The actors most responsible for many of the problems that the people of Papua have will not be held accountable. Without a responsible resolution which seeks to address the root causes of violence and social conflict then there is little hope of real progress.

An example of a cause of social conflict in Papua is the operations of extractive industries. In the past there have been allegations that not only have local land rights not been respected, but that indigenous lands have been expropriated. These feelings of injustice have resulted in significant social tensions. It could be assumed that if local land rights are respected and companies operate in a socially responsible manner this has the potential to significantly reduce local tensions. The benefits of such operating

practices are significant. This has the potential to reduce social tensions in Papua which by default results in a more stable and secure environment for businesses to operate in. Such initiatives as these would not only be beneficial for Papua, but also for Indonesia as a whole.

Another of the pressing issues that the dialogue needs to consider addressing relates to iconography, specifically the future of the use of the Morning Star and the Indonesian flags in the two provinces.

I hope that from the dialogue, we will discover the true desire of the Papuans, their political stance, whether they still want to be integrated with Indonesia or stand independently as a free country.

WiFi

Coax?