



Aktionsbündnis Menschenrechte – Philippinen
c/o philippinenbüro e.V., Bullmannau 11, D-45327 Essen

Secretary Leila de Lima
Department of Justice (DOJ)
DOJ Bldg., Padre Faura
1004 Manila
PHILIPPINES

Action Network Human Rights - Philippines

Coordination Office

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Essen, 20. March 2012

Killing of human rights defender and indigenous leader Mr. Jimmy Liguyon

Honorable Leila de Lima,

The Action Network Human Rights-Philippines wants to express utmost concern at the killing of human rights defender Jimmy Liguyon, who was shot dead outside his home in Barangay Dao, reportedly by a leader of a paramilitary group, trained by the police.

Jimmy Liguyon was a lay leader of the UCCP and the Vice Chairperson of Kasilo, an organisation of indigenous peoples from the southern municipalities of Bukidnon. Jimmy Liguyon was also the Barangay Captain of Dao and in this capacity had refused to allow mining companies to operate on the local land.

UCCP is a partner organization of our member United Evangelical Mission (VEM). They have credible information about witnesses having testified that he was shot by Aldy "Butsoy" Salusad, whose father, Ben Salusad, is head of the armed defense group of the SANMATRIDA (San Fernando Matigsalug Tribal Datus), a group which holds a Certificate of Ancestral Domain and have been welcoming mining companies into their domain since 2009.

Reportedly he admitted that he had killed the human rights defender because of his refusal to sign any agreements with SANMATRIDA and he warned that anyone else who will stand in their way would also be killed. As of 14 March, the local police had made no arrest nor charged any individual with the killing.

Jimmy Liguyon had been subjected to threats from members of SANMATRIDA since he became Barangay Captain and death threats against him had increased over the past year.

We strongly condemn the killing of Mr. Jimmy Liguyon. His senseless death reveals that extrajudicial killings of human rights defenders continue in the Philippines. Mr. Liguyon is the third member of the UCCP killed since June 2010.

We call on you to ensure an immediate, impartial and thorough investigation of the murder of Mr. Liguyo, including the protection of available witnesses and the issue of a warrant of arrest against the identified suspect, Aldy "Butsoy" Salusad.

Members: Amnesty International, Brot für die Welt, Diakonie, Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst, Misereor, Missio, philippinenbüro e.V., Vereinte Evangelische Mission



We are confident that you will take this issue very serious and we are looking forward to receive information about the action you will take in this case.

Yours Sincerely,



Michael Schirmer
(Chair)



Maïke Grabowski
(Coordinator)

A Letter with nearly the same content was also send to the PNP.

Copy to:

Chief Senior Superint. Clarence
Guinto
PNP HRO

Loretta Ann P. Rosales
Chair
Commission on Human Rights
Philippines

Bischof Rev. Reuel Normal O.
Marigza
General Secretary
UCCP

H.E. J. Heidorn
Ambassador
German Embassy Manila

H.E. M.C.R. Natividad
Ambassador

Philippine Embassy Berlin

Markus Löning
German Federal Government
Commissioner for Human Rights
Policy and Humanitarian Aid
Federal Foreign Office of Germany

Philipp Woschitz
Political and Human Rights Officer
Delegation of the European Union
to the Philippines

Melanie Moltmann
Desk Officer Philippines, Federal
Foreign Office of Germany

Marek Repovsky
Desk Officer Philippines
European External Action Service

About the Action Network Human Rights - Philippines

The Action Network Human Rights - Philippines was formed in August 2007 to promote lobby- and information work in Germany regarding the human rights situation in the Philippines. Through its office, the network coordinates publications, events and lobby activities. Target groups are political decision makers, human rights defenders and social activists as well as the media in Germany and Europe.

Member organizations are Amnesty International Germany, Diakonie Human Rights Desk / Bread for the World, Church Development Service (EED), Misereor, Missio, philippinenbüro and United Evangelical Mission (JEM). The main focuses of the network are extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances.

Members: Amnesty International, Brot für die Welt, Diakonie, Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst, Misereor, Missio, philippinenbüro e.V., Vereinte Evangelische Mission

