Dr Rizal Sukma

Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia

30 Great Peter Street

London

SW1P 2BU

Your Excellency,

**Persecution of Ahmadis in Indonesia**

I am writing to express my concern at the treatment of Ahmadi citizens in Indonesia.

Earlier this year, the Amnesty International AGM overwhelmingly passed a motion on the freedom of the Ahmadiyya to manifest their religion in teaching, practise, worship and observance, which, inter alia,

\* asserts the right of the Ahmadiyya, as guaranteed by Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to practise their religion,

\* urges the Government of Indonesia to provide adequate protection to the Ahamdiyya community as well as investigate harassment that the community faces

An example of this discrimination was, in 2016, at least 12 members of the Ahmadiyya being displaced in Bangka island, with 9 others also facing discrimination. This followed the district government requesting that the community converts to Sunni Islam. More information can be found here: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa21/3409/2016/en/>.

The right to freedom of religion is guaranteed in the Indonesian Constitution. Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), to which Indonesia is a state party, states that “this right shall include freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of his choice” and that “no one shall be subject to coercion which would impair his freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of his choice”. In May 2012, during its Universal Periodic Review at the Human Rights Council, the Indonesian government reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring the protection of freedom of religion and to address cases of religious intolerance. However, those who commit acts of violence against religious minorities are rarely punished and communities have been displaced by attacks.

Therefore, the treatment of the Ahmadi is in direct contradiction to the constitution as well as Indonesia's international commitments. I request that you urge the Indonesian government to take action to ensure that Indonesia meets it international obligations on protecting the Ahmadi community and ensuring their freedom of religion.

Yours respectfully