



6 March 2012: For immediate release

Indonesia: CLD and ICEL Host Conference on RTI

An international conference on the right to information in Indonesia yesterday highlighted the importance of proper interpretation of exceptions to the right of access, as well as the experiences of public bodies in implementing the Indonesian RTI law. Two significant publications on the same themes were also launched at the conference, *Interpretation of Exceptions to the Right to Information: Experiences in Indonesia and Elsewhere* (CLD and ICEL) and *Implementation of the Right to Information: An Assessment of Three Indonesian Public Authorities* (CLD and Yayasan 28).

The conference was part of an ongoing programme of cooperation between CLD and Indonesian partners, including the Indonesian Center for Environmental Law (ICEL), Yayasan 28, the Alliance of Independent Journalists (AJI), PATTIRO and Yayasan SET which has focused on both the supply and demand sides of implementation.

“These publications represent an important contribution to implementation of the RTI law in Indonesia,” said Toby Mendel, Executive Director of CLD. *“They combine national and international expertise in a way that provides pertinent, relevant information for officials, decision-makers and other stakeholders.”*

“We hope that this conference will help public authorities and oversight bodies interpret exceptions in line with the spirit of openness,” said Henri Subagiyo of ICEL. *“We look forward to building on the success of this conference to create partnerships for implementation of the RTI law with the various commissions, public authorities and other stakeholders.”*

Speakers at the conference included András Jóri, former Hungarian Information Commissioner, Ahmad Alamsyah Saragih, Indonesian Central Information Commission, General Saut Nasution from the Indonesian National Police Headquarters, Professor Takdir Rahmadi, Supreme Court Judge and Tara Hidayat, Indonesian Presidential Task Force.

The publications are available at: <http://www.law-democracy.org/?p=1652>

For further information, please contact:

Toby Mendel
Executive Director
Centre for Law and Democracy
toby@law-democracy.org
+1 902 431-3688
www.law-democracy.org

Henri Subagiyo
Executive Director
Indonesian Center for Environmental Law
henrisubagiyo@yahoo.com
+62 21 7262740
www.icel.or.id