



Australian Government

**Australian Commission for
Law Enforcement Integrity**

Signing of the

***Memorandum of Understanding for
International Cooperation on Combating Corruption***

**between ACLEI and the
Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK)
of the Republic of Indonesia**

**Address by the Integrity Commissioner,
Mr Philip Moss**

27 July 2009, Canberra, Australia.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Introduction

Your Excellency [H.E. Primo Alui Joelianto, Indonesian Ambassador to Australia], Deputy Secretary [Mr Miles Jordana, Attorney-General's Department], KPK Commissioner [Mr Moch. Jasin], Deputy Public Service Commissioner [Ms Carmel McGregor], distinguished guests.

Indonesia and Australia have much in common, not least our commitment to building integrity systems in order to counter corruption.

I recognise the impressive work of the Indonesian Corruption Eradication Commission, or the KPK, which has an ambitious work plan and an extensive reach to institutions and regions across Indonesia.

Common cause

In a broader context, I acknowledge the significant developments that have taken place in Indonesia in recent years in building a pluralistic society which embraces the rule of law.

I note also that, in January 2008, in Bali, Indonesia hosted the successful Second Conference of States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. The Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity, or ACLEI, attended that conference.

As Deputy Secretary, Mr Miles Jordana, has stated, corruption is a global phenomenon. It does not respect nations or boundaries. Like organised crime, to which it is often linked, corruption changes and adapts to avoid detection. Corruption rapidly takes advantage of new opportunities.

The Indonesian system is significant because it acknowledges openly the difficulty of the problem of eradicating corruption.

The challenge that Australia faces in this respect is to understand the continuing risk that corruption poses to good governance in Australia and other Western democracies.

Australia's integrity system

In contrast to my counterparts from the KPK, whose mandate is across the entire Indonesian public service, my agency's attention is targeted to two law enforcement agencies, namely the Australian Crime Commission and the Australian Federal Police.

ACLEI was not established in response to a crisis or loss of confidence in the Australian Crime Commission or in the Australian Federal Police, but is a preventative and a precautionary measure. ACLEI has had gentle beginnings, although it is likely that ACLEI's designers did not anticipate that we would become so busy, so soon!

ACLEI is only one part of Australia's broad and diverse approach to addressing corruption, although we are the only Federal agency whose sole purpose is, in fact, the eradication of corruption.

Other agencies also help the Australian Public Service to maintain and support its high standards of ethics and conduct. These agencies include the Australian Public Service Commission (also represented here), the Commonwealth Ombudsman, the Australian National Audit Office and the Australian Federal Police.

Australia's States and Territories also have their own integrity bodies, with which ACLEI works closely.

Strengthening ties

I am pleased that this broad and diverse approach now extends to a cooperative relationship with the KPK. ACLEI is a relatively new agency and I look forward to learning from the Indonesian perspective.

Our two countries already cooperate in law enforcement, security issues and in border control. These reciprocal arrangements are important in the fight against serious and organised crime, which is a priority of our Prime Minister.

Cooperative anti-corruption arrangements are essential if we are to achieve these aims. Accordingly, as of today, the Australian-Indonesian relationship is further strengthened by the linking of our respective integrity agencies.

I am very pleased to be entering into a memorandum of understanding with the Indonesian Corruption Eradication Commission, and I hope for a long partnership between our two agencies.