General allegation

111th session (6-10 February 2017)

Indonesia

- 13. The Working Group received information from credible sources concerning reported obstacles encountered in the implementation of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance in Indonesia.
- 14. The sources report that no case of enforced disappearances has been solved by the government since former President Suharto stepped down in 1998. According to the sources, current President Joko Widodo's administration has yet to show seriousness and willingness to tackle the problem. On the contrary, the sources argue that President Widodo is seeking the support of Retired Army Lieutenant General Prabowo Subianto, who was dismissed from military service due to his alleged involvement in the abduction and enforced disappearances of 23 student activists in 1997-1998.
- 15. According to the sources, out of the 23 activists kidnapped, nine persons resurfaced, one activist was found dead, and 13 activists are still missing. However, no criminal prosecution has taken place against Prabowo Subianto and other high commanders. Prosecution that was carried out against 11 members of the special armed forces, Team Mawar, was only concerning the abduction of the nine student activists, who returned alive. No trial has been initiated concerning the enforced disappearances of the 13 student activists. Furthermore, the sources report that of the 11 members of Team Mawar who were convicted in the military court, some of them were promoted to higher positions and rank after a few years. Additionally, the sources inform that the President has not implemented the legally binding recommendations on the case of enforced disappearances of the student activists in 1997-1998 that the Parliament issued in 2009.
- 16. The source further reports the case of enforced disappearance of Dedek Khairudin to illustrate the insufficient efforts of the Government in this area. Mr. Khairudin was forcibly taken by Navy personnel from his home on 28 November 2013. The sources informed that only six Navy personnel have been prosecuted and convicted with light sentences, and none of the higher commanders has been indicted. The sources argue that the Government has not demonstrated a serious commitment in locating him. No adequate compensation has been provided for the victim's family either.