



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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Re Your letter d.d.August 23, 2019

Dear Mr. De Jager, for your open letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

In your letter you address the situation in the Indonesian provinces Papua and West Papua, expressing your concern about the recent developments, including the deployment of additional security forces. We share your concerns about the recent developments.

The Netherlands government closely follows the developments in Papua. The situation in Papua, including the human rights situation, forms a regular part of the diplomatic dialogue between the Netherlands and Indonesia. The developments in Papua, and more specifically the security situation and equal treatment of the Papuan people are also frequently discussed during high-level meetings. In its contacts with Indonesian authorities, the Dutch government stresses that restraint and dialogue are the best means to come to a sustainable solution in Papua.

We share your view that a visit of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to Papua would be timely and we will convey this message to the UN and Indonesian authorities.

Yours sincerely,

Max Valstar
Head South and Southeast Asia and Oceania Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs