



PARTAI KEBANGKITAN BANGSA

Membela Yang Benar

12 November 2018

Mr. Antonio López-Istúriz White
Secretary General of the IDC-CDI
Rue de Commerce 10, Brussels, B-1000
Belgium

Regarding: Partai Kebangkitan Bangsa (PKB, or the National Awakening Party)

Dear Mr López-Istúriz,

I am sending you this letter to request PKB's accession into the IDC-CDI. Partai Kebangkitan Bangsa (PKB) is a prominent political party in Indonesia, and has been a member of that nation's governing coalition since 2009, under two successive presidential administrations—i.e., President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's second term (2009 – 2014) and President Joko Widodo's first term (2014 – present).

Three (3) PKB officials serve as cabinet ministers in the government of current Indonesian President Joko Widodo, holding portfolios for the Ministries for Manpower; Villages, Underdeveloped Regions and Transmigration; and Youth and Sports Affairs; as well as one of the nine slots on the cabinet-level Presidential Advisory Council. The immediate past Minister of Social Affairs resigned her position in January of 2018, to successfully run for the governorship of East Java (population: 39 million), a position she currently occupies. PKB also plays a prominent role in Indonesia's national, provincial and regional legislatures, holding 47 out of 560 seats in the People's Representative Council, or DPR, which is Indonesia's primary legislative body. This makes PKB the 6th-strongest party in the DPR, out of 10 political parties that control seats in the national legislature.

PKB was established in 1998 by leading religious scholars of the Nahdlatul Ulama (NU), the world's largest Muslim organization. In 1999, NU Chairman and PKB co-founder Kyai Haji Abdurrahman Wahid became Indonesia's fourth President (1999 – 2001), and led our nation's transition from authoritarian rule to become what is arguably the most successful democracy in the Islamic world.

PKB's primary achievements during the past twenty years (the "reform era") include: the establishment of press freedom by eliminating the Suharto-era Ministry of Information; restoration of civil and political liberties to Indonesia's ethnic Chinese population; restoring civilian control of the military; eliminating the military's role in politics after 32 years of dictatorship; implementing regional autonomy and the establishment of Indonesia's anti-corruption agency; and preserving the political foundation of Indonesia as a multi-religious and pluralistic nation state, in the face of serious challenges posed by extremist political parties and their opportunistic allies.

PKB is closely affiliated with the Nahdlatul Ulama, which has over 50 million followers, and with the NU's 5-million-member young adults movement, Gerakan Pemuda Ansor, whose General Chairman H. Yaqut Cholil Qoumas is a PKB member and represents the party in Indonesia's national legislature (DPR). PKB has a women's division that works closely with the party as a whole to advance the cause of women's equality.

DEWAN PENGURUS PUSAT PARTAI KEBANGKITAN BANGSA



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The Chairman of PKB, H. A. Muhaimin Iskandar, served as Deputy Speaker of the People's Representative Council (DPR) from 1999 – 2004, and served as Minister of Labor and Transmigration from 2009 – 2014 under President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. H. A. Muhaimin Iskandar currently serves as Deputy Speaker of the People's Consultative Council (MPR), the upper body of Indonesia's national legislature, and is a member of the DPR. President Joko Widodo's Vice Presidential running mate in the 2019 national election is the former Chairman of the Nahdlatul Ulama Supreme Council Kyai Haji Ma'ruf Amin, who served as a PKB legislator in the DPR from 1999 - 2004.

Indonesia is the world's largest Muslim-majority nation and democracy, with a population of approximately 264 million. It is a multi-religious and pluralistic nation state, built upon the rule of law and with a successful multi-party democracy. Christians (both Catholic and Protestant) constitute a significant religious minority (over 23 million), with Hindu and Buddhist populations as well. Indonesia is unique among Muslim-majority nations in that the majority of its Muslim population regard the Indonesian nation state as theologically legitimate, and reject the idea of a caliphate, due to the Republic of Indonesia having been established and consistently supported by the religious scholars of the Nahdlatul Ulama, which gave birth to the PKB itself. Indonesia's economy is the 16th largest in the world, and our nation has the third largest number of Facebook users, as well as a swiftly growing digital economy.

On November 2, 2018, our Executive Committee decided to place PKB's accession into the IDC-CDI at the center of its international strategy. We have read and agree with all of your principles, for these are congruent with our own. We commit to actively contribute to the IDC-CDI's goals in Southeast Asia and worldwide.

As part of PKB's application for membership of the IDC-CDI, please find the most current version of our Articles of Association and Bylaws attached to this email. This document explains the legal basis upon which PKB functions, as well as the aims of our party, which are consistent with and compliment those of IDC-CDI. Every five years, Indonesian political parties are legally required to submit their Articles of Association and Bylaws to the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, and this document was submitted in 2014.

Yours sincerely,

H. A. Muhaimin Iskandar
Chairman of PKB



M. Hanif Dhakiri
Secretary General of PKB

Attachments:

- PKB Articles of Association and Bylaws (Indonesian and English)

Cc: Mr. Andrés Pastrana, President of the IDC-CDI
Mr. César Rosselló, Asia Pacific Regional Coordinator of the IDC-CDI

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DEWAN PENGURUS PUSAT PARTAI KEBANGKITAN BANGSA

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Brussels, 28 November 2018

Mr. Muhaimin Iskandar

Chairman
Partai Kebangkitan Bangsa (PKB)
Republic of Indonesia

Dear Mr. Chairman,



I am honoured to inform you that the CDI Executive Committee Meeting held in Island of Sal (Cape Verde) on November 26th unanimously approved your party's membership application granting it a Full Member status.

Please, Mr. Chairman, receive together with the leaders and members of your party our recognition for all your efforts to provide a brighter future to the people of Indonesia, always under the inspiration of our shared values and principles.

We are convinced that your active participation in our activities will enrich and strengthen our permanent endeavor to consolidate democracy around the world, creating fairer and more prosperous societies.

I look forward to personally welcoming you in our next CDI meeting scheduled for April 2019.

With kind regards,



Antonio López Istúriz

