



World Council of Churches

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Geneva, March 8, 2017

H.E Najib Abdul Razak
Prime Minister of Malaysia
Office of the Prime Minister of Malaysia
Main Block, Perdana Putra Building
Federal Government Administrative
Centre
62502, Putrajaya
MALAYSIA

Your Excellency,

I write to you on behalf of the World Council of Churches, a global fellowship of over 348 member churches in more than 110 countries and territories throughout the world, representing over 560 million people of faith.

I am gravely concerned for the safety and well-being of Pastor Raymond Koh who was abducted from his car on Jalan SS4B/10, Petaling Jaya, during the morning of 13 February. According to the information I have received the abduction of Pastor Koh was conducted in a cruel and organized manner and has been equated to an act of terror. Since his abduction, no information concerning the safety or whereabouts of Pastor Koh has been given to his family, and no ransom has been demanded.

Pastor Koh is well known in his community for the work he has done to help the most marginalised people, including through setting up and nurturing a community centre to assist single mothers, drug addicts and people living with HIV/AIDS. However, he has been accused of proselytizing and has received threats on several occasions.

It is highly appreciated that freedom of religion is enshrined in the Malaysian Constitution and the majority of people live in peace and harmony in your multicultural and multi-religious country. But this disturbing incident, which is causing deep anxiety and concern for the life and wellbeing of Pastor Koh, is also promoting fear and mistrust among the religious minorities.

I therefore respectfully ask you to order an intensification of the investigation into the abduction of Pastor Koh to ascertain his whereabouts, and ensure his immediate release and return to his family.

Please give this appeal your personal urgent consideration.

Yours most sincerely,

Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit
WCC General Secretary