Christian Conference of Asia

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17 February 2014

To: East Java Christian Church (GKJW)
Communion of Churches in Indonesia

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Christian Conference of Asia is deeply shocked and sad on hearing the news of the explosive volcanic eruption from Mount Kelud on Java Islands, Indonesia, forcing authorities to evacuate more than 100,000 people and closing seven airports. We are also greatly disturbed to hear that the volcanic ash has covered an area of 310 miles (500 kilometers) in diameter, covering roughly a third of Java, from Malang to Yogyakarta in central Java, putting a stop to all normal activities and forcing people to remain in evacuation centers. It is distressing and painful for all of us to see the plight of our brothers and sisters, who have been uprooted almost overnight and whose homes have been destroyed or damaged. We also hear that the ash and fine dust in the atmosphere is making even breathing very difficult.

We pray for the safety of the 200,000 people who have their homes within the 10 km radius of Mt. Kelud and are the most affected, and hope that they can return to their homes and normalcy soon. We pray that the hand of God will be on them as their comfort and refuge.

We pray especially for the ministry of the East Java Christian Church (GKJW) and other churches in the areas affected by this volcanic eruption. We uphold the Communion of Churches in Indonesia in our prayers. May God strengthen the churches in Indonesia to respond in faith to the many calamities that have occurred recently in different parts of Indonesia.

May I take this opportunity to appeal to all CCA member churches and councils to uphold the churches in Indonesia in our prayers, and to support and donate to the CCA Emergency Fund. This fund, details of which are given below, is intended to respond in the quickest way to emergency needs that may arise. This is also our way of expressing our unity in Christ as we show solidarity and care for each other in times of such calamities.

May our compassionate and caring God continue to intervene in our suffering and worries, as we extend compassion and care especially to the most afflicted.

With love in Christ,

Henriette Hutabarat Lebang
General Secretary

cc. CCA Member Churches and Councils
Officers, Members of General Committee and Program Area Committees
Ecumenical Partners

Post Office : P.O. Box 183 Chiang Mai, Muang, Chiang Mai 50000 Thailand

Details of CCA Emergency Fund

Account Name:	Christian Conference of Asia
Bank and address:	Hang Seng Bank, Hankow Road Branch, 4 Hankow Road, Tsimahatsui, Kowloon, Hongkong
Account Number:	295-4-709594 (Multi-currency Account)
Swift Code:	HASEHKHH