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Communion of Churches in Indonesia

Rev. Gultom Gomar General Secretary

Geneva, 7 August 2018 Sent by e-mail to:

gomar gultom@yahoo.com

Dear Rev. Gomar,

It was with great sadness that we received the news of the strong earthquake that has struck the island of Lombok, killing at least 98 people, on 5 August, one week after another quake on Lombok which killed more than a dozen.

On behalf of the World Council of Churches and our many member churches around the world I offer our heartfelt condolences to the people who lost family members and friends.

We are saddened by the images of the devastation and the stories of families displaced after their homes were destroyed.

As many among the Indonesian people and tourists from abroad mourn for loved ones they lost, we thank God for all those who come to help and continue to search for those who might be still alive.

We kindly ask you to share our message of condolence with our member churches in Indonesia.

Be assured that you and your people are in our prayers in this time of sorrow. May the words of the Psalmist comfort you and remind you of God's endless mercy:

"For he has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help."

Psalm 22:24

Yours in Christ,

Prof. Dr Isabel Apawo Phiri Acting General Secretary World Council of Churches