22 July 2014

H.E. Joko Widodo  
President-Elect  
Republic of Indonesia

Your Excellency:

On behalf of the Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats (CALD), of which the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P) is a valued member, let me extend our warmest congratulations to you on your election as President of the Republic of Indonesia. Your fellow democrats from all over Asia are very proud of your victory, which we believe is a triumph of democracy in Indonesia and in the Asian region.

We were privileged to witness first-hand the recent presidential elections when CALD assembled an election observation mission to Jakarta on 8-11 July 2014. The delegation was impressed with the people-driven campaign by the PDI-P and its coalition partners, as well as with the Indonesian people’s trust and confidence in the democratic process. While we are aware that the elections were bitterly and passionately fought, and were marked by a smear campaign and other dirty tricks, we also note the relatively peaceful and orderly conduct of the polls, and the remarkable commitment of everyone to make the process work. Without a doubt, this is a testament to the consolidation of democracy in Indonesia, which we hope will be a model for other countries in the region.

We are confident that under your leadership, Indonesia will reach greater heights in protecting individual liberties, safeguarding democracy, and empowering the citizenry. We wish you the best, and we look forward to having the honour of meeting you on a future occasion.

Sincerely yours,

Oyun Sanjaasuren, MP  
Chairperson