

PT Foundation concerned by the ban on Seksualiti Merdeka

Kuala Lumpur – November 4, 2011

PT Foundation is concerned with the negative effect that the police's blanket ban on Seksualiti Merdeka will have on the HIV prevention, care and support work it does with the communities most affected by HIV in Malaysia.

The communities we work with are often marginalised and difficult to reach and we at PT Foundation work with a wide variety of organisations that allow us to better access these communities - one of these organisations is Seksualiti Merdeka. HIV is a significant problem here in Malaysia. The Ministry of Health AIDS Registry registered more than 91,000 Malaysians living with HIV. In 2010, for the first time in Malaysia, HIV infection through sexual transmission has over taken injecting drug use as the main source of infection. Therefore it is more important than ever that effective and targeted HIV interventions to all communities happen.

We call on all Malaysians to exercise compassion and wisdom in dealing with the issues brought up by Seksualiti Merdeka. We also call on the authorities to ensure the safety and security of all those involved in this, especially Seksualiti Merdeka's organisers, volunteers and supporters.

For further information please contact PT Foundation on +603 4044 4611.