

# **Yogyakarta-Alliance Established in Germany<sup>1</sup>**

**German civil society organisations are demanding greater involvement for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender and intersex (LGBTI\*) in their Government's foreign policy and overseas development policy.**

(Draft – as at 4 January 2013)

Together with Dreilinden gGmbH and TransInterQueer(TriqQ), Hirschfeld-Eddy-Foundation has called for a network for encouraging the development of LGBTI\*-Inclusion policies by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

To this end, the ' Yogyakarta Alliance' - an alliance of individuals and LGBTI\* organisations - was founded in November 2012. It intends to formulate specific proposals and demands concerned with the collation, documentation and publication of knowledge of sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) as a specific component of the government's foreign and development policy.

## **Background**

The Alliance regards itself as an initiative of 'civil society' – the informal network of interested organisations and individuals - which places demands upon the government, its executive organisations, and others responsible for German development policy such as religious agencies and NGOs. It will formulate a citizen-led development policy which is SOGI-inclusive, make suggestions as to how this can be done and intends to raise awareness and explain the issues to a wider audience.

## **Objective**

The basic objective of the Alliance is the adoption of policy documents and a list of specific demands. It is open to all contributions and will regularly comment on topical and other questions concerning foreign and development policy as far as it is relevant to LGBTI\* issues. In the longer term the Alliance wishes to play a part in the introduction of any consultation processes initiated by the German Government or at international level.

## **Networking**

The Alliance intends to approach all relevant target groups such as government departments, religious organisations, agencies, immigration and refugee support groups, anti-discrimination organisations, embassies and development and aid organisations (eg. Brot für die Welt, Misereor etc). Attempts will also be made to involve the operational and specialist departments of these organisations. Every NGO is encouraged to become affiliated with the alliance.

## **Timescale and Launching**

Publication of the results and suggestions in the context of an LGBTI\*-Inclusion concept for foreign policy and development work is planned for the fifth 'Rainbow Philanthropy' conference to be organised by the Hirschfeld-Eddy-Foundation / Heinrich-Böll-Foundation , and to be held in Berlin on September 16th 2013. The Alliance is anxious to be open to other groups who are already

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active in this field. The Alliance and/or participating organisations can, simultaneously, and independently of this, formulate demands for LGBTI inclusion in foreign and development policy.

For more information **or** if you wish to make a contribution **or** if you have any comments we will happy to hear from you.

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