

November 13, 2006

To all news editors

**PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

THE National Union of Journalists Malaysia (NUJ) deeply regrets the recent incident of the closed-circuit television (CCTV) camera on Friday 10 November 2006 at the Penang City Hall and the statement made by Penang Municipal Council president Datuk Abu Bakar Hassan.

The NUJ regards the comment utterly baseless and questions how the president can blame the female journalists' attire when it was abundantly clear that the CCTV operator has abused the monitoring equipment at his disposal, which was meant for surveillance purposes only and not for anything else.

NUJ feels that the action of the operator and the statement made were embarrassing to journalists as a whole because Malaysia is a liberal society and females are free to dress modestly. Despite that, we face this kind of abusive and unethical action.

We call upon the CCTV management to take immediate disciplinary action against the CCTV operator(s) to avoid further abuse.

We also regret the statement of the Municipal Council president blaming the incident on the female journalists' code of dressing for the cause of the camera zooming in on their thighs instead of focusing on Friday's council proceedings.

On behalf of the Executive Committee.



NORILA MOHD DAUD  
President