

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

Water is one of vital element that serves to sustaining human life. The United Nations has been declared that the right to water and sanitation as essential for the full enjoyment of the right to life through the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). World Water Day is commemorated every year on 22nd March. But, there are still many people have not access to clean water.

Indonesia is a country with the fifth largest of water wealth in the world, after Brazil, Russia, China, and Canada. Based on data from the Ministry of Public Works in 2006 stated that the availability of water in Indonesia reached 15,500 cubic meters per capita per year. The amount is much higher than the level of availability of the world average is only 8,000 cubic meters per year. Although Indonesia has much water, it is not offset by the ability to manage water resources properly.

In 1998, in the era of Suharto government, the government transferred the control of water resources management in Jakarta toward private companies Thames Water (UK) and Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux (France). The 25-year cooperation contract has resulted in suffering for the poor people. Water turned into goods that have economic value. This is evidence of the practice of privatization.

Water privatization in Indonesia is protected by Water Law No. 7/2004. This law provides for the privatization of the water supply sector and the control of water resources by private sector and individuals. This is not in accordance with what has been mandated by the United Nations that water and sanitation as essential for the full enjoyment of the right to life. This agreement creates an obligation for the state to respect, to protect, and to fulfill the realization of the right to water.

As coalition of people who want to promote and protect the right to water in Indonesia, KRuHA strongly refused the water privatization. They believe that water is public good, could not be treated as an economic good. KRuHA fight for people to get safe, clean, accessible and affordable drinking water and sanitation for all.

The advocacy process of KRuHA in promoting and protecting people right to water in Indonesia have been done in the following ways:

1. Providing information to the people about the dangers of water privatization by private companies.

KRuHA primary mission is to spread the idea that water is a public good. KRuHA informed the public about the dangers of privatization through discussions with local community leaders. From these discussions, KRuHA hopes that public awareness will increase to fight for everyone right to get water.

2. Developing cooperation with global water justice movement.

KRuHA strengthens their advocacy base by forming alliances and working with several cross border non-governmental organization. They exchanged information, sharing, and have discussions related to the right to water, including environmental issues, the dangers of water crisis, water privatization and water policy.

3. Giving pressure to the national authorities to renew the Water Law in Indonesia.

KRuHA advocacy process upholds the values of humanity produced by the United Nations. KRuHA uses the norm of United Nations as a tool to pressure the government and parliament to change the Water Law in Indonesia which is considered to support water privatization by private companies.

Water Law no. 7/2004 is not in accordance with Article 33 of the 1945 Constitution and has violated the water norms declared by the United Nations. KRuHA wants the government to immediately terminate the cooperation contract with the private sector. KRuHA also wants the government and parliament to renew the Water Law in Indonesia.