



AMM supports Peace and Reconciliation Celebration in Aceh Barat Daya

Media Advisory – 11 November 2005

Aceh, Indonesia: On Sunday, 13 November 2005, the people of Aceh Barat Daya (ABDYA) will unite at the Ujung Serangga beach, in Susoh sub-district, to celebrate the steady implementation of the Aceh peace agreement in the ABDYA district. This Peace and Reconciliation Celebration brings together the local government, GAM, the National Police, TNI, religious organisations and Ulama, civil society members, including local youth, cultural and sports groups.

The Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM) and its Blangpidie District Office is proud to support ABDYA's full-day popular celebration of peace, which will culminate in a free evening concert by Acehnese singer Rafly and his Kande team at the Pante Perak field in Blangpidie. High-ranking Government, GAM, Polri, TNI and AMM guests will honour the celebration with their presence.

"It is heartening to witness how all parties in ABDYA work hard to make this event happen – we even got help from TNI Aceh Military Command, and Rafly will sing his new Peace Song," says ABDYA District Head H.T. Burhanuddin Sampe. *"This celebration, and its joint Government/GAM organising committee, shows people that the road to peace is irreversible - everybody supports the MoU"*, added Tgk. Yong, GAM Information Officer in Blangpidie.

Mr. Léon Bruin, Head of AMM Blangpidie Office, welcomes the initiative: *"This celebration will further help consolidate the positive, pro-peace atmosphere already witnessed at the frequent meetings between the parties of the MoU - just ahead of the third stage of GAM decommissioning and TNI relocation."*

The program, which starts at 09:00 hrs and is open to the public, offers a series of sports events, music and Acehnese culture. Welcoming speeches by the Government and GAM will open the evening celebration at 19:50 hrs at the Pante Perak field to be followed by a free concert by Rafly and his Kande team.

Local, national and international media are invited to participate in the celebration, which will offer various press opportunities (see attached program). A **press conference** will be held at 17:30-17:50 hrs outside the premises of the AMM Blangpidie District Office (Jl. Iskandar Muda No. 37, opposite PLN, Blangpidie).

For further information, please contact:

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PROGRAM PEACE AND RECONCILIATION CELEBRATION

Ujung Serangga Beach, Kedai Susoh village, Kec. Susoh, 8:30-16:00

Pante Perak field, Kec. Susoh, 19:50-22:30

Sunday, 13 November 2005

- 08:30 Registration of players at Ujung Serangga Beach
- 09:00 First sports games being (played concurrently) – Other popular events
- Beach Volley Cup, Football Cup, Paddling Race, Fishing competition
 - Karaoke competition
 - Joint beach-side family picnic, sales of local delicacies
- 12:00 Break in sports events
- 12:30-14:00 Prayers and rest
- 14:00-16:00 Regional dances – Rapa-i Geleng
- 16:00 Prize-giving Ceremony
- 17:30-17:50 Press conference outside AMM Blangpidie District Office
(Jl. Iskandar Muda No. 37, opposite PLN, Blangpide)
- 18:15 Maghrib prayers
- 19:50 Grand Evening Celebration – Arrival of VIPs
- 20:00 Reciting Al-Quran and prayer
- 20:05 Welcome speeches
- AMM Team Leader Blangpidie Léon Bruin
 - GAM representative T.R. Kamaluddin
 - District Head Drs H.T. Burhanuddin Sampe MM
- 20:30 Free concert by Rafly and his Kande team

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