



PRESS STATEMENT

On the outcome of the meeting of the Commission on Security Arrangements (COSA) Banda Aceh, 12 March 2006

The 31st meeting of the Commission on Security Arrangements (COSA) was held on Sunday 12 March 2006 under the chairmanship of the Head of Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM), Pieter Feith. The delegation from the Government of Indonesia (GoI) was headed by Major General Bambang Darmono. The Free Aceh Movement (GAM) delegation was led by Mr. Bakhtiar Abdullah. The Acting Governor of Aceh, Mustafa Abubakar, also attended the meeting.

The Acting Governor of Aceh presented an outline, covering the coming four months, of the reintegration programme. The parties supported the plan and encouraged its swift implementation.

The GoI reported back on its investigations regarding the incidents in Blangpidie (17/2) and Alue Leuhob (sub district Cot Girek) Lhokseumawe (24/2). The investigations show that there is no link between the GoI and these incidents. The AMM appreciates the thoroughness with which the investigations have been conducted and accepts the outcome. The AMM requested a letter from the GoI, by 15 June 2006, confirming its full implementation of the disbandment of any illegal groups or parties, in accordance with article 4.9 of the MoU. The AMM HoM informed the parties about his initial contacts with SIRA, which were held in order to ensure that SIRA is fully compliant with the MoU.

The parties discussed the fatal assault by Police in Peudawa, Aceh Timur, on 6 March 2006. All parties condemned the disproportional use of force by a police officer leading to an unnecessary fatality. GoI was requested to take disciplinary measures towards police officers involved in the incident and to address the overall climate of excessive use of force.

Regarding pending amnesty cases, the parties noted that work has progressed through meetings held in Jakarta between GoI and GAM last week. The examination of remaining pending cases will continue.

The COSA agreed to revert to the issue of GAM sub-district offices in its next meeting.

The next COSA meeting will take place on Monday 27 March 2006 at 10.00 hrs.

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