



## **PRESS STATEMENT**

### **On the outcome of the meeting of the Commission on Security Arrangements (COSA) Banda Aceh, 29 April 2006**

The 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Commission on Security Arrangements (COSA) was held on Saturday 29 April 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. Malik Mahmud. The Acting Governor of Aceh, Mustafa Abubakar, also attended the meeting.

AMM expressed its concern about increasing instances of individuals interfering with law and order, intimidation and instigation of demonstrations, and urged the parties to ensure MoU compliance.

The GAM delegation informed the COSA on the issue of SIRA. The parties took note of the presentation and urged the parties to continue to use its influence to ensure that SIRA will only operate in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Indonesia.

All parties reiterated their wish to see the Law on the Governing of Aceh (LoGA) finalised as soon as possible. This would subsequently allow for local elections to be held before the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2006.

Regarding a possible extension of the AMM's mandate, a recommendation will shortly be forwarded to the EU and ASEAN capitals to the effect that AMM is to be present in Aceh until local elections can be held. AMM clarified that it will not monitor the elections, as it is not within its mandate. This will be done by a separate EU election observation mission, following an invitation by the GoI.

The meeting noted the arrival of a senior legal advisor to the AMM tasked to assist the parties in taking forward the resolution of the pending amnesty cases. All parties agreed on this being a priority and expressed their readiness to settle all cases by end June 2006.

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The parties expressed their satisfaction with the agreed solution on the issue of GAM offices throughout the districts in Aceh. The agreement states that until further notice there will be only one authorised office to represent GAM at the district level in those locations where AMM is represented with an AMM district office. The authorised name of these offices will be: *Representative Office of GAM to AMM*. There will be no other GAM offices authorised neither at district level nor at sub-district level.

The next COSA meeting will take place on Monday 15 May 2006 at 13.00 hrs.

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