



PRESS STATEMENT

On the outcome of the meeting of the Commission on Security Arrangements (COSA) Banda Aceh, 4 November 2006

The 43rd meeting of the Commission on Security Arrangements (COSA) was held on Saturday 4 November 2006 under the chairmanship of the Head of Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM), Mr. 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 Zakaria Saman. Representatives of the acting Governor of Aceh, Mustafa Abubakar, were also present.

The AMM and GAM noted the GoI's fulfilment of the implementation of MoU article 4.9 on the decommissioning of all illegal arms, ammunition and explosives held by any possible illegal groups and parties.

The parties had a discussion on the timeframe for the implementing regulations for the Law on the Governing of Aceh (LoGA), including for local political parties and the Presidential Regulation on consent/consultation under article 8 in the LoGA. It was emphasised that the latter should be given priority and that it would be most helpful if this regulation could be issued before AMM's departure.

The meeting expressed its firm support for the agreement reached by the parties on the disbursement of reintegration funds to ex-GAM combatants. This technical solution includes the handing over of a list of names of the 3000 ex-combatants to AMM, a process that has already started, and the subsequent payment of funds. The parties confirmed their respective appointments to the joint Claims Settlement Commission and it was further noted that initial input has been provided by both sides and that a meeting is planned for next week.

The parties agreed in principle on a temporary increase of 2.433 police officers, subject to modalities to be discussed. The purpose is to further ensure a secure and peaceful environment during the election period. All additional officers will be Aceh cadets who have undergone training in Aceh and received human rights training. Upon termination of this temporary increase, the maximum number of organic police forces in Aceh will be determined by the Governor, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the MoU. As the MoU continues to remain valid, the signatories will be consulted and eventual disputes will be dealt with in accordance with Article 6 of the MoU.

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All parties looked forward to the visit of Panglima TNI, Air Marshal Djoko Suyanto, to Banda Aceh on Monday 6 November. A town hall meeting will be organised at Pendopo where the Panglima TNI will have the opportunity to clarify the TNI's future mission in Aceh.

The final COSA meeting will be held on Saturday 2 December 2006 at 14.00.

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