



## **Third Phase of Decommissioning on 14th - 17th November 2005**

### **Media Advisory**

The third phase of decommissioning of GAM armaments is planned to take place from 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> November 2005. Weapons, ammunition and explosives will be collected and destroyed in five different areas:

14<sup>th</sup> November: Aceh Jaya (area near Calang)

15<sup>th</sup> November: Aceh Barat and Nagan Raya

16<sup>th</sup> November: Aceh Barat Daya

17<sup>th</sup> November: Aceh Selatan

All the weapon collections sites are on the Western coast of Aceh. The plan may be subject to changes for operational purposes.

In accordance with established procedures agreed in the Commission of Security Arrangements (COSA), the exact locations in each area will be communicated by GAM to the AMM closer to the start of the decommissioning. The decommissioning takes place in full transparency and press is welcome to cover the events.

The decommissioning of GAM armaments started on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2005 and will be executed in four stages. The agreement stipulates that at least 210 weapons should be collected in each phase.

The fourth and last phase of decommissioning is expected to take place in December. According to the MoU signed in Finland in August, GAM has to hand over a total of 840 arms during the four phases.

Successful completion of the monthly weapon collections triggers monthly withdrawal of non-organic military and police forces from Aceh. The withdrawal of non-organic military and police forces in November is planned to start immediately after the final day of decommissioning.

In connection with the decommissioning, the tasks of AMM include:

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- Ensuring the implementation of Corridors of Free Movement are implemented.
- Liaising with the parties.
- Preparing weapons collection sites
- Collecting and decommissioning weapons and ammunition as handed over by GAM.
- Ensuring transparency through comprehensive documentation and having representatives from both GAM and the Government of Indonesia as witnesses.

Four Mobile Decommissioning Teams consisting of monitors from the EU and five ASEAN countries will collect and decommission the weapons. Chief of Decommissioning is Kalle Liesinen and Deputy Chief Decommissioning is Tham Chong Yeon.

The next COSA meeting will be held on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 10.00 am at the Pendopo in Banda Aceh.

### Background

The AMM is officially invited by the Government of Indonesia and it is working in Aceh with the full support of the leadership of GAM. The monitoring mission is expected to last six months, from September 15, 2005, to March 15, 2006.

The AMM is a fully civilian mission. The EU and ASEAN fully respect the territorial integrity of Indonesia. The AMM wants to contribute to the creation of lasting peace in Aceh within the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia.

The AMM is lead by Head of Mission Mr. Pieter Feith from the EU and Principal Deputy Head of Mission Mr. Nipat Thonglek from Thailand.

During the first two phases of decommissioning a total of 570 weapons were handed over by GAM. Of these, 424 were accepted by both AMM and the Government of Indonesia. A further 52 weapons were accepted by AMM but are still disputed by the Government of Indonesia. The rest were disqualified by both AMM and Government of Indonesia.