



PRESS STATEMENT

On the outcome of the meeting of the Commission on Security Arrangements (COSA) Banda Aceh, 25 February 2006

The 30th meeting of the Commission on Security Arrangements (COSA) under the chairmanship of the Head of Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM) Pieter Feith was held today Saturday 25 February 2006. 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. Irwandi Yusuf. The Governor of Aceh, Mustafa Abubakar, also participated.

The AMM Head of Mission informed the parties about his recent meetings with vice President Kalla, Justice and Human Rights Minister, Awaluddin and Minister for Information and Communication, Djalil in Jakarta earlier this week. He urged the parties to intensify their direct dialogue as a sign of confidence building. He further asked the Governor to more actively participate in the process, in particular in what concerns the reintegration issues.

The GoI gave an overview of its continued reintegration programme. The parties agreed on the need for a new joint structure and coordination mechanism for implementing the presented plan.

The GoI presented a list of 13 individuals to be granted amnesty and released shortly. Both parties committed themselves to keep up the momentum with a view to resolve the remaining pending cases by 15 June. The AMM Head of Mission (HoM) declared his intention to hire legal expertise to assist the process.

Moreover, the parties discussed preparations for the issuance of ID- cards in time for the local elections.

The parties addressed the recent incident in Blang Pidie. The AMM is currently investigating what appears to be a serious incident. The AMM HoM will inform the parties of its findings, including if a violation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has occurred.

The AMM HoM further expressed his intention to ensure that SIRA will make a positive contribution to the peace process.

The AMM informed about the now finalised verification process of organic TNI and Police personnel. The GoI is in compliance with the MoU.

The next COSA meeting will take place on March 2006 at 10.00 a.m.

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