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**AS PER 2 FEBRUARY 2015 18:30 HRS LT (GMT+7)**

SURABAYA, 2ND FEBRUARY 2015 – AirAsia Indonesia wishes to update on the latest developments on the search and rescue (SAR) operations of QZ 8501 led by the National Search and Rescue Agency (BASARNAS) Republic of Indonesia.

The SAR operation in the primary focus area around Karimata Strait and Java Sea is still underway. SAR vessels and sea divers were deployed in order to locate more passengers and plane debris around the area.

Earlier today, BASARNAS confirmed to have recovered a total of seven additional remains that are suspected to be that of QZ 8501 passengers; remains of one of the passengers were recovered yesterday (01/02) and the remaining six today. The remains were found on the Java Sea floor near the area where the fuselage wreckage was located. The seven remains are currently on their way to Pangkalan Bun, Central Borneo and will be flown to Surabaya for identification purposes.

Meanwhile, SAR operation in Makassar Strait continued with SAR vessels, sea riders, and inflatable boats being mobilized to observe the vicinity of Mamuju, West Sulawesi and Selayar Island, South Sulawesi. However, no additional recoveries were reported from Makassar Strait today.

The Disaster Victim Identification Police Department Republic of Indonesia (DVI POLRI) announced that there is no identification release today. DVI POLRI team is currently gathering additional DNA data towards the remaining passengers who are currently being identified at Bhayangkara Hospital, Surabaya. Earlier this morning, DVI POLRI also received additional remains that were recovered yesterday (01/02) in Majene, West Sulawesi at Bhayangkara Hospital, Surabaya.

To date, BASARNAS has confirmed to have recovered a total of 84 remains of which 64 remains have been identified by DVI POLRI, 13 remains are still being identified and 7 remains have yet to arrive at Bhayangkara Hospital, Surabaya.

AirAsia Indonesia would like to take this opportunity to urge the public seeking progress on the search and evacuation and identification process of QZ 8501 passengers to refer solely to official information from BASARNAS and DVI POLRI.

You may also obtain substantiated information only from authorised AirAsia social media accounts: ([www.facebook.com/AirAsia](http://www.facebook.com/AirAsia)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/AirAsia](http://www.twitter.com/AirAsia))

Our thoughts and prayers remain with the families and friends of our passengers and colleagues on board QZ 8501.

Note to Editors: We ask that members of the news media do not call the AirAsia Emergency Call Centre, as this line is reserved for family members seeking information about those who may have been on board.

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