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AS PER 15 JANUARY 2015 21:00 HRS LT (GMT+7)

SURABAYA, 15TH JANUARY 2015 - The search and rescue (SAR) operations led by The National Search and Rescue Agency (BASARNAS) Republic of Indonesia resumed search and recovery operations in the primary search area today.

SAR vessels, helicopters and sea divers were mobilized around the primary focus area today to observe the seafloor prior to the passengers and wreckage recovery as it was suspected that more passengers are likely trapped under the wreckage. However, there are no additional recoveries reported today.

The two passengers remains which were recovered yesterday (14/01) are still in Kota Baru, South Borneo and will be flown to Surabaya (Bhayangkara Hospital) for identification purposes.

The Disaster Victim Identification Police Department Republic of Indonesia (DVI POLRI) announced that one passenger has been identified as: Cindy Clarissa Soetjpto (female). AirAsia Indonesia officially handed over the passenger remains to the family this afternoon.

To date, BASARNAS has confirmed to have recovered a total of 50 remains of which 39 remains have been identified by DVI POLRI, 9 remains are still being identified and 2 remains have yet arrived at Bhayangkara Hospital.

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: Facebook (www.facebook.com/AirAsia) and Twitter (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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