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AS PER 16 JANUARY 2015 22:00 HRS LT (GMT+7)

**SURABAYA, 16TH JANUARY 2015** -AirAsia Indonesia wishes to update on the latest developments on the search and rescue (SAR) operations led by the National Search and Rescue Agency (BASARNAS) Republic of Indonesia.

SAR vessels and sea divers were deployed to the primary search area where the main fuselage was located in order to observe the wreckage on the Java Sea floor this morning. However, the recovery mission had to be suspended this afternoon due to weather conditions and the strong underwater current.

BASARNAS confirmed to have recovered an additional passenger, which was located in the sea near Sembilan Island, South Borneo - approximately 650 kms from the aircraft lost contact point 20 days ago. The passenger's remain is now on the SAR vessel, on its way to Kota Baru, South Borneo.

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

To date, BASARNAS has confirmed to have recovered a total of 51 remains of which 40 have been identified by DVI POLRI, 8 are still being identified and 3 have not 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](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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