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AS PER 24 JANUARY 2015 20:00 HRS LT (GMT+7)

SURABAYA, 24TH JANUARY 2015 – The search and rescue (SAR) operations continued this morning with good weather and the SAR vessels were mobilized to observe the focus search area and SAR divers were deployed into the sea in order to prepare the floating mission by attaching the lifting bags on the wreckage.

Earlier today, SAR teams were able to recover 4 additional passengers from inside the fuselage wreckage. The four passengers along with the two remaining remains that were recovered yesterday (23/01) have arrived in Surabaya this afternoon for further identification purposes.

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 ante-mortem data toward the remaining passengers that are being identified at Bhayangkara Hospital.

To date, BASARNAS has confirmed to have recovered a total of 69 remains of which 50 remains have been identified by DVI POLRI, 19 remains are still being identified.

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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