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SURABAYA, 29TH JANUARY 2015 – The main search and rescue (SAR) operations led by the National Search and Rescue Agency (BASARNAS) Republic of Indonesia has yet to resume but a smaller SAR operation was carried out today by Makassar's SAR team in the vicinity of Majene, West Sulawesi.

Today's SAR operation was supported by 1 SAR vessel from Makassar, 1 CASA C-212 owned by the National Air Force based in Makassar. Local fishermen were also deployed to the sea in order to locate more passengers around the area.

Earlier today, a local fisherman located remains in the sea near Majene, West Sulawesi that are suspected to be that of a QZ 8501 passenger. The remains are on its way to Makassar and will be flown to Surabaya for identification purposes.

The Disaster Victim Identification Police Department Republic of Indonesia (DVI POLRI) today announced that one passenger was identified as: Jimmy Sentosa Winata Oei (male). DVI POLRI also received two additional remains which were recovered yesterday (28/01) in Mamuju, West Sulawesi at Bhayangkara Hospital, Surabaya.

To date, BASARNAS has confirmed to have recovered a total of 73 remains of which 57 remains have been identified by DVI POLRI, 15 remains are still being identified and 1 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: 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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