



## Media Release

**28 DECEMBER 2014**

**TO: THE NEWS EDITOR**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **SINGAPORE ASSISTS IN SEARCH AND LOCATE EFFORTS FOR MISSING INDONESIA AIRASIA PLANE**

28 December 2014, 8:00pm Local Time:- An Indonesia AirAsia aircraft, QZ8501, scheduled to arrive at 0830 hours local time from Surabaya, lost contact with Jakarta air traffic control at 0724 hours local time today. Singapore air traffic control was informed of this loss of contact at 0754 hours by Jakarta air traffic control. The aircraft was in the Indonesian Flight Information Region (FIR) when contact was lost, more than 200 nautical miles southeast of the Singapore-Jakarta FIR boundary.

The Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) and Changi Airport Group (CAG) Crisis Management Centres were immediately activated and have been working closely with the airline's crisis management team.

The Singapore Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC), managed by CAAS and supported by various agencies, including the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) and the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN), had offered assistance to BASARNAS, the Indonesian National Search and Rescue Agency, at 0930 hours local time, this morning. We offered our planes and ships to assist in the search, and received confirmation from the Indonesian authorities this afternoon at 1430 hours accepting our offer, and launched one C130 aircraft for today's search. Two planes will set off early tomorrow morning to continue with the search.

CAAS will also be sending an officer to the Indonesian National Search and Rescue Agency in Jakarta to assist in the coordination with the Indonesian authorities on the search operations.

The Singapore Ministry of Transport's Air Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) has also offered the Indonesian authorities two teams of specialists and two sets of underwater locator beacon detectors to assist with the search.

A Relatives Holding Area (RHA) at Changi Airport Terminal 2 has been set up to provide assistance to next-of-kin (NOK) of passengers onboard. In response to media queries, we confirm that the Singaporean on board the missing flight is a two-year-old girl. She was travelling with her father, a British national. We had earlier in the day made contact with the girl's mother and grandparents, who were at the RHA, and provided them all necessary support.

Singapore's Minister for Transport Lui Tuck Yew said, "This is a difficult time for the relatives of those on board QZ8501. We are doing our best to offer the necessary help and support to all NOKs at the RHA. The Ministry of Social and Family Development and CAG have provided counsellors and care officers to support the NOKs. Other staff from CAG, AirAsia and airport partners, as well as officials from the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Singapore, are also assisting the NOKs."

Arrangements for local accommodation or for travel to Indonesia have been made for the NOKs.

NOKs can contact Indonesia AirAsia at +62 (21) 2985 0801 for more information.

Further updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

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For any queries, please contact:

Ms Grace Soh  
Assistant Director (Corporate Communications)  
DID : (65) 6375 7074  
Mobile : (65) 9858 2161  
Email : [grace\\_soh@mot.gov.sg](mailto:grace_soh@mot.gov.sg)

Ms Cheryl Chong  
Assistant Director (Corporate Communications)  
DID : (65) 6375 7875  
Mobile : (65) 9618 6306  
Email : [cheryl\\_chong@mot.gov.sg](mailto:cheryl_chong@mot.gov.sg)

Ms Satwinder Kaur  
Assistant Director (Corporate Communications)  
DID : (65) 6541 2912  
Mobile : (65) 9621 1087  
Email : [satwinder\\_kaur@caas.gov.sg](mailto:satwinder_kaur@caas.gov.sg)

Ms. Michelle Teo  
Senior Manager, Corporate Communications  
Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore  
DID: (65) 6541 2086  
Mobile: (65) 9825 0982  
Email : [michelle\\_teo@caas.gov.sg](mailto:michelle_teo@caas.gov.sg)