



EU COUNCIL SECRETARIAT ~FACTSHEET~

EU MONITORING MISSION IN ACEH (Indonesia)

ACEH/06
7 September 2006

The **Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM)** has been established to monitor the implementation of various aspects of the peace agreement set out in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by the Government of Indonesia (GoI) and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) on 15 August 2005 in Helsinki, Finland. The European Union, together with five contributing countries from ASEAN (Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei, Philippines and Singapore), Norway and Switzerland, are providing monitors for the peace process in Aceh (Indonesia). The Head of Mission of the AMM since the beginning is Pieter Feith (EU).

Following a brief interim presence (IMP) since the signing of the MoU, the AMM was officially launched on 15 September 2005, covering an initial period of 6 months. It has thereafter been extended until 15 December 2006. The presence of AMM is based on an official invitation from the GoI and with the full support of the leadership of the GAM.

The objective of the AMM is to contribute to a peaceful, comprehensive and sustainable solution to the conflict in Aceh. This has been made all the more important by the terrible tsunami disaster of 26 December 2004 and the suffering it inflicted on the Acehnese people. The EU and ASEAN fully respect the territorial integrity of Indonesia and see the future of Aceh as being within the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia. AMM is completely impartial by nature and does not represent or favour any of the parties.

The aim of the AMM is to assist the GoI and the GAM in their implementation of the MoU. The AMM will not take on a negotiation role. Should this be needed during the implementation process, it will be the responsibility of the two parties and the original facilitator, i.e. the Chairman of the Crisis Management Initiative (CMI). For the final period of its mandate from 15 September 2006 to 15 December 2006 this will include the following tasks:

- investigate and rule on complaints and alleged violations of the MoU;
- establish and maintain liaison and good cooperation with the parties.

P R E S S

As part of the AMM's tasks the decommissioning of GAM armaments and the relocation of non-organic military and police forces was fully completed on 5 January 2006. In accordance with the MoU the GAM handed over all of its 840 weapons to AMM and on 27 December 2005 it officially disbanded its military wing (TNA). Equally the GoI has fulfilled its commitments by relocating its non-organic military and police. The number of police and military (TNI) forces remaining in Aceh are within the maximum strength of 14.700 for the TNI and 9100 for the police, in accordance with the MoU.

The AMM has also monitored the human rights situation, the process of legislative change and the reintegration of GAM members. The Law on the Governing of Aceh was enacted by the National Parliament (DPR) on 11 July 2006 and signed by the President of Indonesia on 1 August 2006. Through discussions facilitated by AMM, the parties to the peace process have consensually agreed that there are no disputed amnesty cases under the MoU.

As a response to the positive progress of the peace process and the firm commitment by the parties the AMM will reduce its number of monitors in Aceh. From 15 September 2006 the mission will function in a configuration of 36 monitors (the AMM initially comprised approximately 80 international unarmed personnel). The AMM district offices will be closed down on 11 September 2006. Thereafter, mobile monitoring from Banda Aceh will be available for deployment throughout Aceh as necessary.

The mission comprises personnel with expertise in the whole range of competencies needed to fulfil the tasks of the mission. AMM is a civilian and not a military mission. Its members do not carry weapons. Some monitors will have a military background as this is necessary to perform certain technical tasks required by the mission. All monitors wear recognisable white shirts with AMM logo. Monitors will conduct their monitoring tasks by patrolling and communicating with both parties, and by carrying out inspections and investigations as required.

The costs of the mission are financed from the EU budget (EUR 9.3 million) and by contributions of EU Member States and participating countries (EUR 6 million).

Further reference:

http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/indonesia/intro/index.htm

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/aceh>

<http://www.aceh-mm.org>
