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**Javier SOLANA,
EU High Representative for the CFSP,
welcomes the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding
between the Government of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement**

Javier SOLANA, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) made today the following statement on the signature, in Helsinki, Finland, of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Indonesia and the *Free Aceh Movement*.

"I warmly welcome the signature today of this Memorandum of Understanding. It marks an end to 30 years of fighting in the Aceh province. Our hope and expectation is that this crucial step will pave the way for a return of peace in Aceh and facilitate the effective rebuilding of Aceh after the tsunami disaster.

I also welcome the readiness of the Government of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement to immediately show restraint, to halt hostilities in Aceh and to fully implement the agreements contained in the Memorandum of Understanding.

Following an official invitation addressed to the European Union by the Government of Indonesia and fully supported by the Free Aceh Movement, the European Union now envisages, together with five ASEAN States, the deployment of a monitoring mission in Aceh on 15 September. Other third countries will be providing contributions. An initial presence composed of EU and ASEAN officials has already been deployed in Aceh and is conducting preparatory work for the Mission.

This Mission is of great importance and significance to those in the region and to the European Union. It also marks an important new phase in the co-operation between the EU and ASEAN. I wish great success to the parties involved and would like to extend my deepest gratitude to those generously providing assistance."

FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

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EU COUNCIL SECRETARIAT

~FACTSHEET~

ACH/00 (initial)

August 05

MONITORING MISSION IN ACEH (Indonesia)

The European Union (EU), together with five contributing countries from ASEAN, as well as with Norway and Switzerland, is preparing the deployment of a monitoring mission in Aceh (Indonesia) - **the Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM)**. This monitoring mission is designed 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**.

The Peace Process

The peace negotiations were initiated in Helsinki between the GoI and the GAM under the auspices of the **Crisis Management Initiative (CMI)**, a non-governmental organisation chaired by former Finnish President Martti AHTISAARI.

Since January 2005, peace talks have progressed through **five sets of negotiations**, the latest of which was completed in Helsinki on 17 July 2005. Upon conclusion of the fifth round of talks, the Parties agreed on a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on 15 August 2005.

The EU has supported the peace process negotiations by providing direct support to CMI through the **EC Rapid Reaction Mechanism**.

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Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

The GoI and the GAM commit themselves in the MoU to achieve a peaceful, comprehensive and sustainable solution to the conflict in Aceh.

The MoU details the agreement and the principles that will guide the **political process** in Aceh, covering the following topics *inter alia*:

- **political reforms** in Aceh (including a law on the governing of Aceh, political participation, economy, and rule of law),
- **human rights**,
- **amnesty and re-integration** of GAM members into society,
- appropriate **security arrangements** for the implementation of the MoU provisions,
- **establishment of the *Aceh Monitoring Mission***, and
- agreement on a **dispute settlement mechanism**.

Aceh Monitoring Mission (AMM)

The EU together with five ASEAN contributing countries (Brunei, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand) and Norway and Switzerland, will deploy a monitoring mission in Aceh (Indonesia).

The Monitoring Mission will be of a **civilian nature** and will be EU-led.

The deployment of the AMM follows an official invitation addressed to the EU and the five ASEAN contributing countries by the GoI. The GAM leadership has also stated its full support for such a mission.

The Mission will be **launched on 15 September 2005**.

Aims and Scope of the Monitoring Mission

The objective of the AMM is to support the GoI and the GAM in their implementation of the Peace Agreement. This includes the following tasks:

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- to monitor **respect for the end of hostilities** between the parties;
- to monitor the **demobilisation of GAM fighters** and to **decommission their armaments**;
- to monitor the relocation of **non-organic Indonesian military forces** and **non-organic police troops**;
- to monitor the **re-integration of active GAM members** into civil society;
- to monitor the **human rights situation** in the context of the **disarmament and demobilisation** of active GAM members;
- to fulfil certain responsibilities in **ruling on disputed amnesty cases** in line with agreed dispute settlement procedures agreed in the MoU;
- to investigate and fulfil responsibility in **ruling on complaints and alleged violations of the MoU** in line with agreed dispute settlement procedures.

The AMM will not take on a facilitation or 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 Crisis Management Initiative (CMI).

Size and Structure of the Mission

The AMM will be a civilian mission within the framework of the **European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP)**. The EU's Political and Security Committee (PSC) will exercise the political control and the strategic guidance of the AMM under the responsibility of the Council of the EU. Its costs will be financed from the EU's CFSP budget line and by contributions of participating countries.

It will number approximately 200 unarmed personnel.

The AMM will comprise personnel with appropriate expertise in the range of competencies needed to fulfil the tasks of the mission.

The Headquarters and monitoring teams will comprise personnel from the EU, ASEAN contributing countries and Norway and Switzerland.

Monitors will wear recognizable civilian Mission attire with clear Mission identification markings.

The Mission will establish a monitoring capability with 10 geographically distributed District Offices to demonstrate EU-ASEAN contributing countries' support and engagement throughout

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Aceh. Monitors will conduct their monitoring tasks by patrolling and communicating with both parties, and by carrying out inspections and investigations as required.

The Head of the Mission (HoM) will be appointed by the Council of the EU. The HoM will be supported by a senior deputy HoM from an ASEAN contributing country, and two deputies – one EU and one from ASEAN.

Initial Phase

Given that both the GoI and the GAM have indicated that they would like to see a monitoring presence in Aceh immediately after the signature of the MoU, an initial monitoring presence (IMP) will be deployed by 15 August 2005. The IMP, which will consist of about 50 monitors from EU and ASEAN countries, will cover the period between the signing of the MoU (15 August 2005) and the full deployment of the AMM (15 September 2005).

The IMP will provide an early demonstration of the EU and ASEAN contributing countries' commitment to monitoring the peace process while contributing to confidence-building amongst the population of Aceh during the early stage of the implementation of the MoU.

Reporting

The Head of the Mission (HoM) will report to Javier Solana, Secretary General/High Representative of the Council of the EU on matters related to the AMM, and will inform the parties, the CMI, the PSC and the contributing countries from ASEAN and Europe on possible violations of the MoU.

The EU and Indonesia

The EU has supported the rehabilitation and reconstruction needs in the countries affected by the tsunami. EUR 200 million were committed for the rehabilitation and reconstruction needs of Indonesia alone for 2005-6. Planned EU Member State contributions amount to an additional EUR 391 million. The European Commission Humanitarian Co-ordination Office (ECHO) has channeled

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EUR 40 million worth of relief assistance to tsunami victims.

Excluding tsunami assistance, total EU aid (EC+25) amounts to EUR 200 million per annum. In addition, the European Commission's "*Country Strategy Paper*" for Indonesia (2002-2006 period) foresees commitments for over EUR 215 million covering different development sectors. Finally, the disbursements foreseen in 2005 for Indonesia are in the order of EUR 75 million.

The European Commission will further support the Aceh peace process through flanking measures including support to re-integration of former GAM combattants into civil society and democratic political life; support to persons displaced by the conflict and to returnees from third countries; EU observation of local elections in 2006; technical assistance and capacity-building in public safety, local governance, human rights and municipal elections.

The EU has confirmed its attachment to a united, democratic, stable and prosperous Indonesia. It has reiterated its respect for the territorial integrity of the Republic of Indonesia and recognition of its importance as a major partner.

Further reference: http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/indonesia/intro/index.htm

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