

**PRESS CONFERENCE : MH 370**  
**22 MARCH 2014, SATURDAY, 5.30 PM**

**SPOKESPERSON:**  
**DATO' SERI HISHAMMUDDIN TUN HUSSEIN**  
**ACTING MINISTER OF TRANSPORT**

**ATTENDED BY :**

**DATO' AZHARUDDIN ABDUL RAHMAN, DIRECTOR GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (DCA)**

**AHMAD JAUHARI YAHYA, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF MAS**

**MH370 PRESS BRIEFING BY HISHAMMUDDIN HUSSEIN,**  
**MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND ACTING MINISTER OF TRANSPORT**

### **Introductory statement**

Diplomatic, logistical and technical efforts continue in the search for MH370. As we intensify the search and rescue operations, the overall emphasis remains the same: using all available means to narrow the search areas in both corridors.

### **Operational update**

In the northern corridor, in response to diplomatic notes, we can confirm that China, India, Pakistan, Myanmar, Laos, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan have verbally informed the search and rescue operation that, based on preliminary analysis, there have been no sightings of the aircraft on their radar.

With respect to the southern corridor, today two Chinese Ilyushin IL-76s will arrive in Perth to begin operations. The Shaanxi Y-8 which arrived yesterday will be operating from Subang air base in Malaysia. China is also sending an additional two ships from the Andaman Sea to join the five Chinese ships already in the southern corridor.

Two Indian aircraft, a P-8 Poseidon and C-130 Hercules, arrived in Malaysia at 18:00 last night to assist with the search.

HMS Echo is currently in the Persian Gulf and is en route to the southern corridor. The ship is equipped with advanced sensors that allow it to search effectively underwater.

### **Australian search area**

Five aircraft and two merchant ships were involved in the search and rescue operations in the vicinity of the objects identified by the Australian authorities, which are approximately 2,500km southwest of Perth. Despite improved visual search conditions yesterday, there were no sightings of the objects of interest.

Operations continue, and today they plan to search an area of approximately 10,500 square nautical miles.

The Rescue Co-ordination Centre Australia anticipates that 6 aircraft, 4 military and 2 civilian, will be visually searching the area. Two merchant vessels will also be present during search operations, and HMAS Success was due to reach the search area at 14:30 today.

Generally, conditions in the southern corridor are very challenging. The ocean varies between 1,150 metres and 7,000 metres in depth. In the area where the possible objects were identified by the Australian authorities there are strong currents and rough seas.

A cyclone warning has been declared for Tropical Cyclone Gillian, which is located in the southern corridor. Very strong winds and rough seas are expected there today.

### **Family briefings**

The briefing for families in KL yesterday went well. The briefing in Beijing, however, was less productive. Despite the best intentions, I understand there were tense scenes.

I have received a report from the Malaysian high-level team, as well as a copy of the declaration from the Chinese families. I have asked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, together with the authorities in China, to investigate what happened.

We will continue to engage with the families. We are working hard with Chinese authorities and the Chinese working group to create a more conducive environment for the briefings. I have instructed my technical team to do a review of both briefings so that we can improve them.

We appeal to all parties to be understanding during this extraordinary and difficult time. My pledge to all the families, wherever they are, is the same: we will do everything in our power to keep you informed.

## **Transcript**

The original transcript of the conversation between MH370 and Malaysian air traffic control is with the investigations team, where it is being analysed.

As is standard practice in investigations of this sort, the transcript cannot be publicly released at this stage. I can however confirm that the transcript does not indicate anything abnormal.

## **Cargo manifest**

On the matter of MH370's cargo, the cargo manifest is with the investigations team, and will be released in due course.

Preliminary investigation of the cargo manifest has not shown any link to anything that might have contributed to MH370's disappearance.

As was stated yesterday, all cargo carried on MH370 was in compliance with International Civil Aviation Organisation and International Air Transport Association standards.

## **Concluding remarks**

Over the past two weeks, the search for MH370 has taken many twists and turns. From satellite images to eyewitness accounts, we have followed every lead and investigated every possibility.

Today we are focused on leads from the satellite images announced by the Australian authorities on Thursday. We continue to be updated by the Australian authorities on an

hourly basis.

I know this rollercoaster has been incredibly hard for everyone, especially for the families. We hope and pray this difficult search will be resolved, and bring closure to those whose relatives were on board.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all 26 countries who are with us in this effort; from ordinary people to the highest levels of government.

I would also like to pay special tribute to the men and women from all countries who are putting themselves in harm's way in the search for MH370.

As we speak, people are sailing through a cyclone to help find the missing plane. We are immensely grateful to all our partners for their efforts.

### **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

Q : Kenapa bateri litium dibawa sekali bersama kargo penumpang, dan walaupun ia dapat kelulusan ICAO, tapi FAA dah sahkan sebanyak 141 insiden udara melibatkan bateri ini sejak 91 sampai Februari baru ni, and Boeing guna untuk MH370, bateri apa yang digunakan?

A : Bateri sebagai kargo adalah satu kargo yang di apa in term as non-hazardous. That's despite whatever it considers that FAA has supported. So, ini adalah sebenarnya as far as you concerned non-hazardous cargo, as long as you handle the cargo in accordance to very specific, very strict guidelines and compliance by both ICAO dan IATA. Ok. This is done by in fact every airline 777.

No. 2, bateri bukan..... (not clear)

Q : First, jika tidak berjaya dalam misi di Perth, ke mana pula hala tuju misi ini seterusnya. Kedua, laporan seorang penumpang yang disiarkan di Star itu, adakah, kenapakah lambat disiasat?

A : Soalan tadi kedua apa, repeat?

Q : Laporan polis yang dibuat oleh seorang penumpang yang dilaporkan di dalam The Star semalam, mengapa lambat. Seorang penumpang yang balik daripada Mekah, dia nampak ada ekor pesawat di laut dan dia dah informed dengan pilot. So, dia dah buat laporan polis pada hari yang sama, jadi kenapa lambat ambil tindakan?

A : Itu saya akan check dengan pihak polis, tetapi saya rasa bahawa laporan tadi yang disebut tu disenaraikan sebagai satu lagi lead yang perlu disiasat, tetapi yang penting seperti yang saya tekankan pada hari ini ialah lead yang incredible di mana dalam keadaan yang cukup sukar, beberapa negara dah gembeng tenaga untuk ke kawasan di mana images satellite telah pun dikenal pasti itu merupakan tumpuan kita pada hari ini. Soalan pertama tadi apa?

Q : Not clear...(tak guna mic)

A : Sebenarnya tumpuan kita kepada kedua-dua koridor dan saya rasa tumpuan itu berterusan, hanya hari ini orang ramai nak tahu sama ada kita mermpunyai maklumat yang lebih positif daripada pencarian yang dibuat oleh pihak-pihak berkenaan berhubung kait dengan images-images daripada satelit daripada Australia. Itu menjadi tumpuan orang ramai hari ini dan sama-samalah kita mendoakan kalau sekiranya dengan kapal-kapal yang sedang ke sana hari ini dapat kembali dengan maklumat yang lebih positif.

Q : Hari ini dah masuk hari ketiga pencarian dilakukan di kawasan yang dipercayai terdapat objek tersebut, dan masih belum ada petunjuk positif lagi, dan semalam Dato' Seri ada menjelaskan bahawa usaha tersebut untuk mengecilkan kawasan pencarian. Dan seperti apa yang kita difahamkan kebanyakan pakar oceanology berkata bahawa pergerakan arus bawah lautan akan mengakibatkan lokasi objek tersebut berubah, dan adakah situasi ini diambil kira dan jika ya bagaimana pula struktur pencarian yang dilakukan sehingga kini?

Dan soalan kedua, The Telegraph UK telah menyiarkan transkrip komunikasi antara juruterbang pesawat MH370 54 minit sebelum pesawat tersebut dilaporkan hilang. Adakah transkrip tersebut sahih, dan jika ya, bagaimana pula maklumat tersebut boleh bocor?

A : Perubahan di dalam lautan dalam memang diambil kira dan ianya pun diambil kira oleh pihak-pihak yang sekarang ini sedang mencari di kawasan berkenaan. Saya nak tekankan di sini bahawa kawasan-kawasan tertentu kuadran telah pun ditentukan pihak-pihak dan juga negara-negara tertentu mengambil kepimpinan. Dan dalam hal ini, kepimpinan di kuadran berkenaan diketuai oleh negara Australia dan images yang datangnya daripada pihak Australia dan apa jua pertimbangan mereka, saya percaya bahawa alat-alat yang paling sophisticated sedang digunakan termasuklah kepada kawasan lautan dalam. Keduanya, saya sempat berbincang dengan Secretary Hagel malam semalam berhubung kait dengan apa, apa lagi aset-aset yang boleh membantu kita dalam kawasan koridor selatan tadi. Itu merupakan usaha kita yang terkini yang kita nak maklumkan kepada pihak media setiap hari sebenarnya. Berhubung kait dengan soalan kedua tadi,

(AR) Transkrip yang dilaporkan di dalam Daily Telegraph adalah tidak sahih, tidak tepat and I have to inform that the transcript between the aircraft and controllers as reported in the Daily Telegraph is not accurate.

Q : Untuk misi mencari dan menyelamatkan di Southern Corridor, apakah time frame yang ditetapkan. Sehingga manakah untuk mencari dua objek berkenaan dan seterusnya soalan kedua, bolehkah Datuk Seri berkongsi apakah isi msyuarat bersama dengan Secretary Hagel pada malam semalam?

A : Pertamanya, di koridor selatan tadi, dua Negara telah pun dikenal pasti untuk memimpin usaha untuk mencari dan menyelamatkan iaitu Indonesia dan juga Australia. Dan apa jua aset lain seperti yang saya umumkan tadi daripada China, dan juga semalam bila saya bincangkan bersama Secretary Hagel, perkara-perkara yang dan aset-aset yang terancang kalau sekiranya ada dan boleh digunakan saya telahpun dimaklum oleh mereka bahawa mereka tidak teragak-agak untuk membantu.

Q : There has been a claim that Malaysia has not been imparting enough information to the Chinese authorities with regards to the search and rescue mission. And they claimed that this has been making their mission very impossible as they have deployed a lot of assets for their part. Could you comment on this?

A : This not true. I think the Chinese task force was here from practically day one and I would like to know who is making that claim so that I can check with them what that they require. More information for, and this is something that I need to stress their cooperation that we have received and the information we have share especially with the major countries and the countries with the passengers belong to, we have made special emphasis to corporate and I need more detail on any allegation to the contrary.

Q : There's a report on the Sydney Morning Herald two days ago about claims that if MAS has subscribe to a par and upgrade to its satellite service, I believed it costs 10 dollar a flight, then it would have been able to receive more data that would useful even if the air cast and other systems turn off. Could you comment on that, perhaps explain what the system is.

A : I think the system is something to do with increasing the ..... (not clear) for the use of satellite communication. We believed the current system that we have, we do know that actually fulfill all the requirement. So that just an update, we just need more info, but we don't think it's something that you know, even we have the system would help in our current situation.

Q : Saya Saiful dari Utusan Malaysia. Soalan yang pertama, saya nak repeat dari soalan Bernama tadi, adakah kita ada satu tempoh masa tumpuan kita di Koridor Selatan itu yang pertama. Sebab sekarang ini tinjauan diperluaskan dari 10 km nautika, sorry 10 batu nautika, dan yang kedua bagaimana peraan Datuk Sri sekarang. Dalam tempoh 15 hari ini ada tak Datuk Sriu give up, frust dan sebagainya.

A : Tak pernah nputus asa, dalam hal ini dan iutu merupakan satu tuntutan khususnya daripada keluarga. I have never give up and the thoughts of the family members always been close to me. And this is something I can give an assurance to all family membeers out there. As long as there's hope we will continue with search. Those are my immediate impressions and that is some commitments that I personally, because that question was personal to me. I will give to all the family member out there , Berhubung kait dengan kawasan tumpuan tadi, saya tengok ianya banyak bergantung kepada pengembelian dan penglibatan dari pihak-pihak yang ketiga. Seperti yang kita sedia maklum, sumbangan dan sokongan daripada pelbagai pihak merupakan. Ini satu SAR yang terbesar dalam sejarah. Saya percaya dan jumlah aset yang ada ini dan



sokongan daripada negara-negara yang tampil ke hadapan akan menentukan sejauh mana kita dapat memperluaskan carian kita, dan dengan memperluaskan carian itu, kita boleh mengurangkan kawasan tumpuan untuk mencari pesawat berkenaan. Itu penting kerana pihak keluarga mahu melihat kepada satu docure dan keduanya itu npenting untuk kita juga mendapat maklumat yang paling tepat supaya tidak ada spekulasi berhubung kait dengan apa yang kita dengar dan baca di luar sana. Jadi itulah daripada hari pertama menjadi focus saya dan saya tak berganjak daripada pendirian itu.

Q : You mentioned the cyclone there, have much... the search effort. Can be where the area located, spotted?

A : The cyclone, as the latest report said, it hit category are and hit area of Christmas Island.

Q : Where is it spotted? Or

A1 : Not Yet. It mays go.

A2 : That I said earlier, there are vessels that are heading into that direction. Some are have to go through the cyclone to get to area affected.

Q : ICV news, all that specific rules and protocols, how long will you continue searching? Is there any point, where you have to stop searching?

A : At the moment we continue the search and I do not want to indicate when and it we are going to stop. But I think that the news that hold the families now. I think there's still hope.

Q : How you feeling personally. How long will it take?

A : It's exactly what has been asked just now. I give the answer that I will not give up hope. I will continue as for day one and I am given more hope to get closure to this by the support that we are receiving from so many countries, and the more

assets that we deploy, and the more countries that came on-board. I think that will more hope to continue but personally I am not looking back.

Q : Department of Defense of US they are saying that US 4 million dollar funding for SAR ops with come to an email this end of April. When the funding ends, will you also stop SAR operation also how much you have spent do for the rescue.

A : That the best part, of this whole operation. Nobody, not the Malaysian government or our partners have talked about dollars and cents. It's all about trying to find out the aircraft.

Q : Question is not clear.

A : It didn't even cross our mind.

Q : I am the.... Business Press and... Dato' Seri, Malaysia authority has been working with France authority , in terms of the case of the Air France 447 as you know, they found the first place that the.... And then it took two years to get back black box. In fact the plane that they found that is totally apposite site from the one that found in first plane. If this...is confirmed for the MH370 how you describe that situation for this moment. Is this the breakthrough massive search for the MH370 or this just the beginning of the hard part of the story. It also I would drag your opinion and comment that also how does France authority has analyzing this situation through experience, because I saw a..... (not clear) leader David Galore was mentioning the more, David Galore is the ....for the Air France 447. Through the experience, he said the move information he got, the more complicated the difficult situation has begin. Thanks.

A : I was with the Mr Jean Paul Troadec,... who was the former Director General from the DEA, who headed the investigation team for the Air France 447, and that proves that the possibilities that you indicated just now is already on going. But I do not even want to consider that have, in this PC for respect of the families

wherever there is still hope that the passengers are still alive, we must continue to find that aircraft.

Q : Just wanted to ask you, so far the search is going on and you are the Defense Minister of Malaysia . Wanted to know if Malaysia..... (not clear)

A : Sorry I just get some breaking news. What the question again?

Q : The question is about the Malaysian Defense said that they have been diploid to the search including the scorpion submarine and my other question is, is there any lead so far on the police investigations that has been going on?

A : Our submarines do not have the ability especially sonar passive of active, and the ships is something that I discussed with my countries part. For example secretary Hagel, on... only Malaysia we don't have it. So the sonar capability and the deep sea surveillance, search and rescue is also something that we asking France to assist and that has been a tremendous boost to us, because nobody has already said, no to our request at any stage whether it is about satellite, radar, primary secondary, military, civil whether it is expertise as in the France case., and now we taking about deep sea searching and rescue. So those are the sort of the think that I don't encounter. But the news that I received is that, the Chinese Ambassador , receive satellite image of floating object in the southern corridors, and they will sending ships to verify. The Beijing government announcement this in two couple of hours. This floating object is 22 metres long and 30 metres wide.

**Session ends**