



MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT MALAYSIA
LEVEL 10, NO 26, JALAN TUN HUSSEIN,
PRECINT 4, 62100
PUTRAJAYA, MALAYSIA



April 13, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS STATEMENT
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Liow: No Effort Spared in the Search for MH370

As part of the on-going search efforts for MH370 and following through from the Officials Tripartite Meeting held in Perth, Australia on 24 and 25 March 2015 as well as the Ministerial Tripartite Meeting held in Canberra in August last year, Malaysia is honoured to welcome the Honourable Warren Truss MP, Deputy Prime Minister of Australia and the Honourable Yang Chuantang, Minister of Transport of the People's Republic of China for a Ministerial Tripartite Meeting in Kuala Lumpur later this week on Thursday, 16 April 2015.

The Ministerial Tripartite Meeting will see our three nations reviewing the search efforts to date and collectively deciding on next steps based on advice by the experts from the search strategy working group (SSWG).

We recently commemorated the first anniversary of the disappearance of MH370. While it was a challenging time for us as a nation, we cannot begin to fathom how deeply this tragedy has affected the families and loved ones of those on board MH370.

Since that fateful day in March of last year, no effort has been spared in the search for MH370. The SSWG team, led by the Joint Agency Coordination Centre and the Australian Transport Safety Bureau comprising experts from various international

organisations from the National Transportation Safety Board of the United States of America, Boeing, Thales UK, Civil Aviation Administration of China, the UK Air Accidents Investigation Branch, the Department of Civil Aviation Malaysia, amongst others, have collaborated to independently review and refine all available data which clearly indicates a highly probable search area close to a long but narrow arc of the southern Indian Ocean. What is crucial to note is that the handshake from the SATCOM data they analysed was specific to MH370.

Malaysia and our partners, the People's Republic of China and Australia are wholeheartedly committed to completing the underwater search of the 60,000 square kilometre priority zone. Malaysia has committed more than AUD60 million for the search and recovery efforts along with the Australian government, which clearly demonstrates our commitment to finding MH370.

Over 37,000 square kilometres or 61% of the priority area has been searched to date. This is a remote location with adverse sea and weather conditions and known depths of more than 6,000 metres. Waves have been known to reach heights of 15 to 18 metres. Hence, by no small measure, it has been a challenge for the search and recovery team.

The unprecedented level of support, collaboration and cooperation given by the Governments of Australia and China has been instrumental during what has been a trying time for our nation.

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