



PRESS STATEMENT

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MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND ACTING MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

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It has been 73 days since MH370 went missing. As we enter the tenth week of the search operations, we have now started moving into a new phase, which involves deep-sea search requiring specialized expertise and assets. As deliberated in the Tripartite meeting in Canberra, a team of hydrographic experts from Malaysia, China and Australia, met over the weekend and agreed that an extensive bathymetric survey of the areas provided by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau will be carried out in the Southern Indian Ocean. This survey will be conducted by the Chinese navy vessel, Zhu Kezhen (872). The vessel is scheduled to sail for the survey area on Wednesday, 21 May 2014, weather permitting.

On a similar note, a team of technical experts had convened in Canberra to discuss and refine the satellite data, calculations and analysis which have been made available by Inmarsat.

In light of the recent demands by the Next of Kin (NOK) for the Inmarsat "raw data", I have instructed the Malaysian Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) to discuss with Inmarsat on the release of the aforementioned data for public consumption. This is consistent with our stand for greater transparency and prioritizing the interests of the family members of those on board MH370.

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