



Media Release

1:00pm AEST, 30 August 2012

SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATION CONTINUES IN INDONESIA

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) is assisting Indonesia's search and rescue agency, BASARNAS, in a search and rescue operation west of Indonesia.

AMSA has determined an updated search area based on drift modelling and there are four merchant vessels and a Defence aircraft currently on scene.

The APL *Bahrain* has confirmed six survivors have been recovered.

Another Defence P3 Orion aircraft and HMAS *Maitland* are due on scene later this afternoon.

Two Indonesian search vessels, Rescue Boat 201 and Maritime Police Vessel KP *Enggano*, are heading to the area.

The search and rescue operation will continue throughout the day with the focus on recovering survivors.

AMSA's Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC Australia) received a call from a person on board the vessel early Wednesday morning.

Through discussions with the person, RCC Australia was able to obtain the vessel's location to be approximately 8nm south-west of Java, Indonesia. The person also reported there were 150 people on board and the vessel had engine trouble.

BASARNAS coordinated a search for the vessel throughout the day on Wednesday, utilising one rescue helicopter and two surface vessels. A helicopter search did not recover any signs of the vessel in the reported area.

On Wednesday afternoon, RCC Australia provided BASARNAS with an updated likely position based on drift modelling for the vessel and tasked the APL *Bahrain*, which had responded to an earlier broadcast to shipping, to attend the broader search area.

At approximately 3:30am AEST on Thursday, the Master of the APL *Bahrain* reported they had sighted people in the water in the search area.

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