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# IFALPA supports APG position on Garuda Flt 200

Chertsey 12 November: The International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations (IFALPA) notes the press release issued by its Indonesian Member Association the Asosiasi Pilot Garuda (APG), adds its support to the APG statements concerning recent coverage of the Garuda Flt 200 investigation and adds the following observations.

The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) has long determined that inappropriate prosecution can often be an impediment to identifying system failures and has published guidelines to assist States in balancing the needs of the technical investigation with those of the legal system.

As with any other complex, technical profession, errors and event chains in piloting are seldom simple, requiring detailed examination by fully qualified professionals to understand all underlying factors leading to a particular failure. IFALPA agrees with APG that such detailed examination does not appear to have been done in the case of the Garuda accident at Yogyakarta on 7 March of this year.

In his address on Air Safety Reform in Indonesia given to the Safe Skies 2007 Conference on November 2, the Director General Civil Aviation at the Indonesian Ministry of Transportation, Mr Budhi Suyitno said "a key part of our work is to change from a culture of reaction and blame to open reporting and a transparent safety system based on ICAO guidelines"

The Federation salutes Mr. Suyitno's assertions and stands ready to assist in any way it can to improve air safety in Indonesia and reminds the government that a full and complete technical investigation is the only accepted means of isolating and preventing systemic failures, failures which can lead to accidents and that therefore, any prosecution should be suspended until the a full report is published and even then should only proceed in accordance with ICAO guidelines laid out in Attachment E to Annex 13.

## *Notes to Editors*

*The International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations represents in excess of 100,000 pilots in more than 95 countries world-wide. The mission of IFALPA is to be the global voice of airline pilots, promoting the highest level of aviation safety and security world-wide and providing services, support and representation to all of its Member Associations. See the Federation website [www.ifalpa.org](http://www.ifalpa.org)*

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