



PRESS RELEASE

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DND hosts Defense and Security Cooperation Committee Meeting with Indonesia

Source: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Strategic Assessment

The Department of National Defense of the Republic of the Philippines hosted the Philippines-Indonesia Joint Defense Cooperation Committee (JDSCC) Meeting on 14 December 2010 in Makati City.

By virtue of the Agreement on Cooperative Activities in the Field of Defense and Security between the Philippines and Indonesia that was signed in 1997, the JDSCC was mandated to meet annually to implement, manage, and monitor defense cooperation between the two countries. Defense cooperation between the Philippines and Indonesia covers military training, joint military activities, exchange of personnel and information, and exchange of visits.

The Philippine delegation was led by Defense Undersecretary Pio Lorenzo F. Batino while Indonesia's Director for Defense Strategy MGen Puguh Santoso headed the Indonesian delegation.

During the Meeting, the two sides exchanged views on the initiatives to enhance cooperation among Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Militaries and maritime security cooperation in ASEAN. The Philippines presented an update on the GRP-MILF Peace Process and the GRP-MNLF Final Peace Agreement. Indonesia expressed its support to the Philippine government in its efforts to achieve a just and peaceful resolution on the conflict in Mindanao.

The Philippine and Indonesian delegations also talked about updates on the Philippines-Indonesia Defense Cooperation, specifically on the pursuit of the AFP's border patrol operations, furtherance of Intelligence Exchange (INTELEX), and training activities and educational exchanges between the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Tentara Nasional Indonesia (TNI).

In the end, the two delegations expressed their continued commitment to strengthen the defense cooperation between the Philippines and Indonesia. The Philippines expressed its support to Indonesia's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2011 and committed to participate in the events lined up by the host country.

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