Reconstruction of Aceh Land Administration System Post-Tsunami (Case Study: Aceh, Indonesia)

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Key words: Tsunami Disaster; Reconstruction of Aceh Land Administration System(RALAS)

SUMMARY

Aceh is a special region of Indonesia. The territory is located at the northern end of Sumatra. Its capital is Banda Aceh. It is close to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands of India and separated from them by the Andaman Sea. Aceh was first known as Aceh Darussalam (1511–1959) and then later as the Daerah Istimewa Aceh (1959–2001), Nanggroë Aceh Darussalam (2001–2009) and Aceh (2009–present).

The mountainous province of Aceh consists of the entire northern tip of Sumatra, and guards the entrance to the most important sea-route of Asia: Malacca Strait. Almost all traffic over sea between West and East passes this sea-lane. Aceh is surrounded by water on three sides: the Indian Ocean to the west and north and the Strait of Malacca to the east. Its boundary with the province of North Sumatra to the southeast extends north-south from Salahaji.

Aceh was the closest point of land to the epicenter of the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami, which devastated much of the western coast of the province. Approximately 170,000 Indonesians were killed or went missing in the disaster.

The western coastal areas of Aceh, including the cities of Banda Aceh, Calang, and Meulaboh, were among the areas hardest-hit by the tsunami resulting from the Magnitude 9.2 Indian Ocean earthquake on 26 December 2004. The tragedy of the tsunami was further compounded several months later on 28 March 2005 when a second off-shore earthquake measuring 8.6 on the Richter scale struck the sea bed between the islands of Simeulue Island in Aceh and Nias in North Sumatra. This second quake killed a further 1346 people on Nias and Simeulue, displaced tens of thousands more, and caused the tsunami response to be expanded to include

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The first part of this paper contains a preliminary study / literature based on books, papers, internet sources and also field study about the Aceh Province such as geographical location, its potential demography, and a bit about its history. In the main chapter the author will show a Reconstruction of Aceh Land Administration System (RALAS) Project improves land tenure security in Aceh after the devastation caused by the tsunami and the destruction of evidence of ownership. At the end chapter, the author describes the successes of RALAS Project and the raising of the public awareness about land titling and property rights.

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