



**Press Release**

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## **Independent Group will conduct a Quick Count**

**Banda Aceh** - Jurdil Aceh, a network of Aceh-based civil organizations, will independently monitor the December 11, 2006 Aceh elections using the internationally recognized Quick Count method. The Quick Count will independently verify the official vote count of the Aceh Independent Election Commission (KIP) in this provincial Gubernatorial poll and evaluate the quality of the voting process. "Within 24 hours of the election, Jurdil Aceh's will release the Quick Count report on the voting and counting process. Not other observation method is as contextual and speedy as the Quick Count." said Jurdil Aceh spokesperson, Teuku Ardiansyah.

The Quick Count is reliable to within 1% with a 95% percent confidence level to project the vote count and verify the results. It has been proven effective both internationally as well as in Indonesia's 2004 national and 2005 local elections such as in Kutai Kartanegara and North Sulawesi. The Quick count detects irregularities, deters manipulation and increases public confidence in the election process. These effects contribute to an overall reduction of political tensions in the days following an election.

Jurdil Aceh is a network of four civic organizations including Aceh Development Fund (ADF), Community for Aceh Resources Development (e-Card), the Aceh NGO Forum and Katahati Institute. Jurdil Aceh receives technical assistance from the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI). In the Aceh local elections, Jurdil Aceh has conducted a voter registration audit.

Quick Count is a reliable monitoring methodology and which relies on live observation and statistics to evaluate the process at the polling stations during the Election Day. Jurdil Aceh will deploy 800 volunteers in 400 randomly selected polling stations across Aceh province. NDI has developed this scientific method in over 25 countries across the world, including Indonesia. The Quick Count is not the same as a public opinion research or an exit poll because the Quick Count does not survey public opinion but rather collects voting data directly from the polling stations.

For further information:

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