



**3 November 2006**  
**Press Release**  
**Banda Aceh**

### **Most Eligible Voters in Aceh Registered**

An independent audit of the voters list has found that 86.9% of eligible voters in Aceh are registered. “This finding demonstrates that the election administration has performed their duty to register eligible voters quite well”, said Jurdil Aceh spokesperson Teuku Ardiansyah.

The audit of the voter list was conducted by Jurdil Aceh, a local election watchdog organization. This data was collected on 8-10 October 2006 by deploying 479 volunteers to 384 sample villages in all district and municipalities in Aceh. The villages in the sample were randomly selected using a reliable statistical methodology. Jurdil Aceh volunteers interviewed 6,834 respondents using a two-way test (list-to-people and people-to-list). The margin of error was  $\pm 2\%$  and the level of confidence was 95%.

Even though the level of registration is quite high, it is significant that only two thirds of respondents (67.5%) are aware that they are registered. A fifth of the respondents (22.4%) do not know whether they are registered while 10.1% believe they are not.

Jurdil Aceh volunteer found during the period for public response to the temporary voters list that in 28.4% of audited communities the voters list was not publicly available. This was due to a failure to post the list in a public place (70 villages) or because the local enumeration official did not have the list (39 villages).

In addition, 7.5% of registered voters were identified as “ghost voters” or voters who should not be on the list for a variety of reasons. These include voters who have died, respondents who are not eligible to vote (ex. members of military), voters who have permanently moved away, voters who do not exist or voters who are registered at addresses that do not exist. Another 11.2% of registered voters could not be found by Jurdil Aceh volunteers either because they were away from their residence for an extended period of time or because their residence had not been inhabited for some time.

Jurdil Aceh also confirmed that most official enumerators conducted the registration house-to-house as instructed by the election administration. More than four out of five respondents (84.4%) reported being registered at home.

During registration, 58.3% of respondents reported using their residence cards (KTP), 29.8% used their family cards, and 2.5% used their driver's licenses. However, 8.1% of respondents reported registering without any proof of identity at all.

Based on these findings, Jurdil Aceh makes the following recommendations:

1. Before the list is finalized on 8 November 2006, the election administration (KIP) should update the list and attempt to register unregistered voters.
2. The final voters list (DPT) should be posted in public places after its finalization (8 November 2006) until election day.
3. In addition to KIP, all those concerned about a successful election such as non-government organizations, political parties, independent candidates, media and the general public should encourage eligible voters to check their registration data on the voters list and add their names if they are unregistered before 8 November 2006.

This two-way methodology has been proven scientifically and has been applied successfully in Indonesia during the 2004 national elections as well in other countries. This audit was conducted by Jurdil Aceh which consists of the Aceh Development Fund, e-Card, Aceh NGO Forum and Katahati Institute with the technical assistance from National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI). This audit was generously sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Australia Indonesia Partnership (AusAID).

For more information, please contact:  
Teuku Ardiansyah (Jurdil Aceh spokesperson)  
HP: 0811685032, Tel: 0651-7410466

Paul Rowland (NDI Resident Representative)  
HP: 0811-933-991, Tel: 021-310-7154