

MAS : Families will be flown to Perth after wreckage found

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KUALA LUMPUR: The families of the 239 passengers aboard missing Flight MH370 will be flown to Perth only after wreckage of the plane is found, Malaysia Airlines (MAS) said today.

MAS chief executive officer Ahmad Jauhari Yahya said a Family Assistance Centre will be set up in Perth as a focal point for activities planned for the relatives, including briefings, prayers and religious services.

“Malaysia Airlines wishes to clarify that it will be making arrangements to fly family members to Perth, only once it has been authoritatively confirmed that the physical wreckage found is that of MH370.

“Arrangements will be made as soon as the relevant government agencies have provided clearances for Malaysia Airlines to bring family members to the site where aircraft wreckage will be kept,” said Ahmad Jauhari in a brief statement today.

He said the airline was committed to continuously providing welfare and support to the families of the passengers.

“Malaysia Airlines is fully committed to supporting all efforts by the relevant foreign governments who continue to search for and recover the aircraft, and it continues to cooperate with all authorities involved in the investigation.”

Earlier today, some 50 relatives of the Chinese passengers staged a protest at the Subang Jaya Holiday Villa here, just hours after flying into Kuala Lumpur in an effort to obtain more answers from the Malaysian government.

They claimed the MH370 flight was part of an official cover-up, and demanded “the truth” behind the fate of their kin, whom were presumably lost when the jetliner was confirmed to have ended its flight in the Indian Ocean.

The multinational search for the flight, which went missing on March 8, enters its 23rd day today. Ships and planes are scouring the seas for any sign of debris, in a search area only slightly smaller than Malaysia.

Searchers have about seven more days before the black box’s pinger runs out of battery. The pinger emits a sound to help researchers locate it.

Source: <http://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2014/03/30/mas-families-will-be-flown-to-perth-after-wreckage-found/>