



## **GARUDA TUTUP RUTE DENPASAR-BRISBANE, WNI DI QUEENSLAND AJUKAN PETISI**

Friday, 16 January 2015, 5:55

**Jakarta** - Komunitas warga negara Indonesia di negara bagian Queensland, Australia, kecewa dengan Garuda Indonesia menghentikan penerbangan rute Denpasar-Brisbane-Denpasar. Ekspresi kekecewaan komunitas tersebut disalurkan melalui sebuah petisi berjudul “Petisi Mendukung Penerbangan Garuda Indonesia (GA720 dan GA721) Dipertahankan” yang mulai bergulir sejak Selasa (13/01).

Hingga saat ini, 20 organisasi komunitas Indonesia di Queensland dan 300 individu WNI dan WNA telah menyatakan dukungannya terhadap petisi tersebut.

“Secara umum, kami memberikan pertimbangan dan masukan agar Garuda Indonesia tetap mempertahankan rute penerbangan Denpasar-Brisbane-Denpasar atau setidaknya cukup mengurangi frekuensi penerbangan saja,” tulis salah satu pencetus petisi, Mohamad Faiz, kepada Antara News, Kamis kemarin (15/01).

Petisi tersebut juga mengemukakan kebanggaan dan nasionalisme Warga Negara Indonesia di Queensland.

“Sangat disayangkan, setelah memperoleh klarifikasi langsung dari Garuda Indonesia bahwa secara tiba-tiba penerbangan Garuda Indonesia untuk rute internasional Denpasar-Brisbane (GA720) dan Brisbane-Denpasar (GA721) akan dihentikan kembali mulai tanggal 2 Februari 2015. Oleh karena itu, melalui petisi online ini kami semua bermaksud untuk memberikan masukan dan mengajukan permohonan kepada Garuda Indonesia agar mempertimbangkan kembali keputusan tersebut dengan alasan bahwa keberadaan Garuda Indonesia di Queensland telah memberikan banyak manfaat,” bunyi petisi tersebut.

Dalam petisi tersebut, jika memang diperlukan, Garuda Indonesia diimbau agar mengurangi frekuensi penerbangan ke rute tersebut daripada menutupnya.

Selama tujuh tahun, yakni dari 2000 hingga 2007, Garuda Indonesia melayani rute Denpasar-Brisbane dengan nomor penerbangan GA720, dan Brisbane-Denpasar dengan nomor penerbangan GA721. Setelah sempat terhenti, rute tersebut kembali dilayani pada 31 Juli 2013 sebelum akhirnya ditutup kembali pada 2 Februari 2015 mendatang.

**Questions:**

1. What action by Garuda Indonesia has resulted in the writing of this news item?

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2. What course of action has been undertaken in response to the announcement by Garuda Indonesia and who are the stakeholders who have responded in this manner?

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3. Identify the specific stakeholder groups mentioned in the text?

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4. According to the text, what does the response by the stakeholders demonstrate about their personal characteristics and traits?

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5. What reason do the stakeholders provide to encourage Garuda Indonesia to reconsider its action?

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6. What counter proposal do the stakeholders request Garuda Indonesia to consider in order to resolve the situation?

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7. Is this the first time Garuda Indonesia has found themselves in this very same predicament? Provide the chronology of Garuda Indonesia in this regard since the year 2000.

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8. From your personal knowledge or standpoint, do you think the decision by Garuda Indonesia is justified? Give reasons for your opinion.

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# READING COMPREHENSION

## SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. Answer: The action by Garuda Indonesia which has resulted in the writing of this news item is the termination of the Brisbane-Denpasar direct service commencing from 02 February 2015.
2. Answer: An online petition titled "Petition supporting the retention of Garuda Indonesia Flights GA720 and GA721" has been started by the Indonesian community of Queensland who are disappointed at the decision to discontinue the service.
3. Answer: The specific stakeholders identified in the text are 20 Indonesian community organisations in Queensland along with 300 individuals of both Indonesian and Australian nationality.
4. Answer: According to the text, the response by the stakeholders demonstrates the pride and nationalism of Indonesians living in Queensland.
5. Answer: The reason the stakeholders provide for Garuda Indonesia to reconsider its decision is that the presence of Garuda Indonesia in Queensland has provided many benefits.
6. Answer: In order to resolve the situation, the stakeholders suggest that Garuda Indonesia reduce the frequency of flights servicing the route rather than closing the route down altogether.
7. Answer: [ No credit awarded for first statement]. No this is not the first time Garuda Indonesia has found itself in a similar predicament. For seven years between 2000 and 2007, Garuda Indonesia serviced the Brisbane-Denpasar route with Flights GA720 and GA721. After suspending the route for a number of years, they reopened it on 31 July 2013 until the latest decision to again suspend the service from 02 February 2015.
8. Answer: *Answers will vary as it is asking for an opinion based on a knowledge of current Australia-Indonesia relations and the airline industry; however, an answer such as the following would display the understandings required.* At a time when governments at all levels acknowledge the importance of the Australia-Indonesia relationship, it is important for Garuda Indonesia to maintain a presence in Queensland. As the world's highest-rated Economy Class carrier, Garuda Indonesia would benefit from this reputation and take customers from the low-cost Australian carriers such as Jetstar and Virgin Airlines which currently serve the Brisbane-Denpasar route.