



**In the Zone Leadership Forum**  
**1 May 2015**  
**Embargoed till 10.45am**

**Statement from His Excellency Professor Doctor  
Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono**

Dear Dr Chaney

I have closely followed the sad news of the current situation following the execution of Andrew Chan and Myuran Sukumaran.

I had been so looking forward to taking part in the In the Zone conference but as you are aware this week has been a difficult and sensitive time between our countries, at both government and people-to-people level.

I hope that the current disturbed relationship can be restored. This week however my presence in Perth would be counter-productive and therefore I have postponed my visit to Australia.

I hope you will understand my decision.

Australia – Indonesian relationships have been a matter of special importance to me. I spent two whole Presidential terms trying to mend and elevate Indonesia – Australia relations, starting with my State visit to Australia in mid-2005 where we began our Comprehensive Partnership.

I have invested so much diplomatic and political capital in strong bilateral relations between our two nations and I sincerely hope that our relations will be able to withstand the strain of recent events.

I wish you all very productive discussions at the In the Zone conference. Please convey my best to my good friend Julie Bishop and to all the conference participants.

**Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono**





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### **Editor's Note:**

In the Zone is The University of Western Australia's premier forum on geopolitics and international trade. Our ambitious conference series aims to engage stakeholders in Australia and in key Asian cities directly, to encourage networking and collaboration between decision makers across the zone and to share our vision of Perth and Western Australia's place in this dynamic region.

This year, In the Zone has convened two high-profile events, our annual Forum on 1 May 2015, and our first venture into Asia in Singapore on 13 April. Venture Asia extended the In the Zone narrative beyond Perth.

**THE ZONE / ~ noun the time zone shared by Perth, 60 per cent of the world's population, and the nations that promise the greatest economic growth of the twenty-first century.**

