



Australian Government

## Joint Agency Coordination Centre

### MH370 Operational Search Update

9 November 2016

This operational report has been developed to provide regular updates on the progress of the search effort for MH370. Our work will continue to be thorough and methodical, so sometimes weekly progress may seem slow. Please be assured that work is continuing and is aimed at finding MH370 as quickly as possible.

#### Key developments this week

- *Fugro Equator* arrived in the search area on 2 November and is currently conducting underwater search operations using the Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV).
- *Dong Hai Jiu 101* is continuing underwater search operations using the Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV).

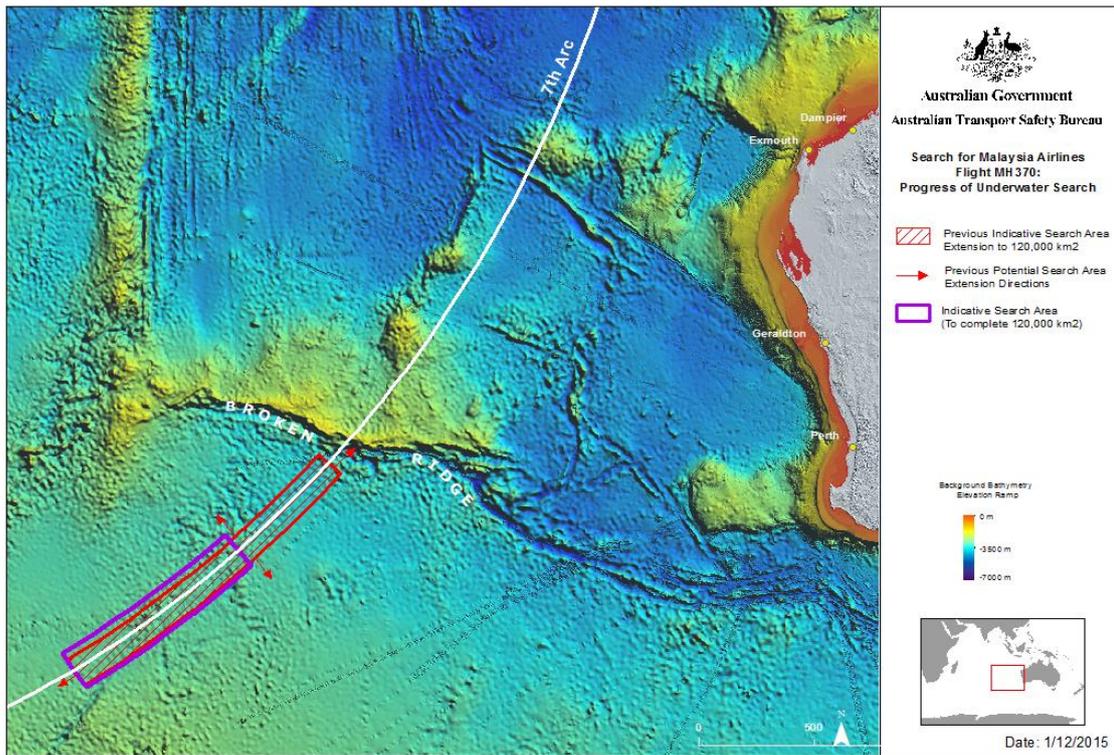
#### Underwater Search Operations

More than 110,000 square kilometres of the seafloor have been searched so far.

At a meeting of Ministers from Malaysia, Australia and the People's Republic of China held on 22 July 2016, it was agreed that should the aircraft not be located in the current search area, and in the absence of credible new evidence leading to the identification of a specific location of the aircraft, the search would be suspended upon completion of the 120,000 square kilometre search area.

Due to poor weather conditions over the Southern hemisphere winter, it is expected searching the entire 120,000 square kilometre search area will be completed by around January/February 2017.

Ministers went to great lengths to explain this does not mean the termination of the search. Should credible new information emerge that can be used to identify the specific location of the aircraft, consideration will be given to determining next steps.



## First Principles Review Meeting

A First Principles Review meeting was hosted by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau in Canberra on 2-4 November 2016. The meeting brought together the Search Strategy Working Group and other Australian and international experts and advisors along with representatives from Malaysia (including officers of the Malaysian Department of Civil Aviation) and the People's Republic of China. The purpose of the meeting was to review the results of the search undertaken to date and all of the available data, associated analysis, assumptions and modelling which have informed the definition of the search area and which may also assist operations in the remainder of the search effort.

The development of a report detailing the outcomes of the First Principles Review meeting is currently underway and will be published by the ATSB in the coming months.

## Weather

Weather conditions are predicted to be reasonable throughout the week and are not expected to adversely impact the progress of the search operations.

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