01 January 2010

A Great Friend of the Territory

The Northern Territory Chief Minister Paul Henderson has paid tribute to Dr Frans Seda AM who died yesterday, describing him as a great friend of the Territory.

Dr Seda was the Northern Territory Government’s representative in Indonesia for 15 years. He was 83.

“Frans Seda played a major role in the development of an excellent relationship between the governments and people of Indonesia and the Territory,” Mr Henderson said.

“He made many friends during his valuable time as the Northern Territory Government Representative in Indonesia, and on their behalf, I extend our sincere condolences.

“I met Frans on several occasions and considered him a close and personal friend. I'm deeply saddened by his passing. My heartfelt condolences go to his wife and daughters at this sad time.”

Dr Seda was a former Indonesian Government Minister or advisor to three presidents.

He was part of Indonesia’s struggle for Independence and was honoured with an Independence Medal.

In his role as the Northern Territory Government Representative in Indonesia, Dr Seda promoted Northern Territory and broader Australian trade and investment and educational, sport and cultural ties. He was awarded an Honorary AM by the Australian Government for his work. He retired as the NT Government’s Representative in Indonesia in 2007.

Dr Seda will be given a State Funeral after mass at the Jakarta Catholic Cathedral tomorrow. He will be buried in a private cemetery.

Media contact: Andrea Adlam 0401 119467