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PRESS RELEASE

BATIK COLLECTION OF OBAMA'S MOTHER ON TOUR IN SIX MAJOR US CITIES

The Indonesian Embassy in Washington D.C. and Maya Soetoro Ng's Family are proud to present the exhibit of Ann Dunham private Indonesian Batik collection with the title *A Lady found a Culture: Barack Obama's Mother in Indonesia*. Batik was very special to Ann Dunham and her interest in this Indonesian traditional textile began during her stay in Yogyakarta. Ann Dunham believes that batik embodies the essence of the culture and tradition of the place that the batik came from, that is Indonesia. The batik collection will be showcased consecutively in six cities across the United States of America from the month of May to August 2009, with the following tentative schedule:

- Chicago: Opening on 16 May 2009, Exhibition 17-21 May 2009 at the Drake Hotel Chicago
- Los Angeles: Opening on 31 May 2009, Exhibition 1-4 June 2009 at the Indonesian Consulate General in Los Angeles
- San Francisco: Opening on 8 June 2009, Exhibition 9-11 June 2009 at the Residence "Wisma Indonesia" San Francisco
- Houston: Opening on 1 July, Exhibition 2-5 July 2009 at the Indonesian Consulate General in Houston
- New York: Opening on 21 July, Exhibition 21-24 July 2009 at the Waldorf Astoria New York
- Washington D.C.: Opening on 8 August 2009 at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, D.C., Exhibition 9 – 23 August 2009 at the Textile Museum

The opening of the exhibit in Chicago on the 16th of May 2009 will be attended by H.E. Mdm. Mari E. Pangestu, Minister of Trade of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Amb. Sudjadnan Parnohadiningrat and the Secretary of State of Illinois, Mr. Jesse White.

Further, for the opening in Los Angeles and San Francisco will showcase fashion shows featuring contemporary batik collections by Ramli, a top Indonesian designers, supported by the Regional Government of Sampang Regency in Madura, East Java, Indonesia.

The final leg of the exhibition in Washington D.C. is scheduled to be opened by a Gala Dinner on the 8th of August 2009 at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Washington D.C. hosted by the Indonesian Ambassador to the U.S., Sudjadnan Parnohadiningrat, and the Chairman of Coordinating Board of Investment of Indonesia, Mr. Muhammad Lutfi as well as attended by the sister of President Obama, Mrs. Maya Soetoro Ng. The collection will be exhibited for public at The Textile Museum of Washington D.C. from 9th up to 23rd of August 2009.

Washington, D.C. 13 May 2009
