

## **Indo tourism ends '08 on high**

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#### ***News Desk***

The Indonesian tourism sector has improved in two main areas in 2008, according to the country's tourism and cultural minister.

Minister Jero Wacik said there had not only been an increase in the number of foreign tourists visiting Indonesia in the past year, but also an increase in the amount of foreign exchange revenue.

"The number of foreign tourists until the end of 2008 is predicted to reach more than 6 million, up by 16.85 percent from last year's 5.5 million," the Wacik told Asia Pulse on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, tourism foreign exchange receipts in 2008 amounted to US\$7.65 billion.

There have been a number of new resort openings, as well refurbishments such as the Grand Hyatt Bali's recent US\$35 million renovation.

Many resorts in Bali have been focusing on ecotourism, with growing support among visitors.