
NEWS RELEASE

BUMITAMA CLARIFIES ON PUBLICATION:
KEEP FORESTS STANDING: HOW LOCAL COMMUNITY RESISTANCE
IS SAVING THE LAST RAINFORESTS OF BORNEO

Jakarta, 16 February 2023 – Bumitama would like to respond to the publication made by the Rainforest Alliance Network (RAN) that refers to Bumitama as part of the timber operations of Harita Group.

Bumitama Agri Ltd. (Bumitama) is an Indonesian oil palm grower and palm oil producer, operating in Riau and West and Central Kalimantan. Despite having the same beneficial owner, Bumitama is not involved in the timber business and is managed separately from the rest of the Harita Group, with its own team of professional managers. Bumitama Agri Ltd. is a publicly traded company, listed at the Singapore Stock Exchange (SGX).

As an RSPO member since 2007, Bumitama Agri is committed to sustainable palm oil production. This strong ambition has been confirmed with our 2015 Sustainability Policy, which cemented the commitments to the processes of FPIC, that seek to ensure that indigenous peoples and local communities have a say in decisions that may affect their rights, lands and territories, as well as the implementation of the NDPE commitment, instrumental in conserving over 40,000 hectares of land under our permits, including peatlands, high conservation value areas and forests. Contrary to the statement in the RAN report, Bumitama subscribes to the HCS approach in forest identification assessments, as per our Sustainability Policy, referenced in the same document.

As such, Bumitama is not aware of any policy gaps or violations related directly to our operations, that would justify suspension of our products by our buyers. Our progress in implementation of our commitments and other sustainability initiatives is regularly monitored and verified by third parties, and communicated through our Sustainability reporting and other means available to the public. Nevertheless, we invite all stakeholders interested in an open, transparent dialogue, to engage us on our sustainability programmes and their implementation progress.

With reference to the response to the RAN report draft by the Harita Group (as attached under the publication), Bumitama takes the position that PT. Rodamas Tbr Kalimantan (RTK) and PT. Kemakmuran Berkah Timber (KBT) have taken appropriate steps in providing the local communities the right to give or withhold their consent during the various stages of their engagement and ultimately, upon their request, taken the contested Long Isun community lands out of its long-term work plans and discontinued any activities in these areas. Harita Group, throughout its various operations, sympathises with the right of the indigenous communities to their land and resources. This includes supporting the Long Isun community in their ongoing process for recognition of their lands as customary forest.

Untuk informasi selanjutnya, harap hubungi kami di:

Investor Relations
investor.relations@bumitama-agri.com

Sustainability & CSR
sustainability@bumitama-agri.com