



Forest Peoples Programme

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17th August 2009

To: Thomas Handoko, Director of RAPP

Re: Respecting indigenous peoples' rights in the Kampar Peninsular

Dear Sir,

It has come to our attention that the Teluk Meranti community has rejected RAPP's plans to develop Acacia pulpwood plantations that will impact the community's customary territories on the Kampar Peninsular. In a letter to RAPP on 20 June 2009, the Teluk Meranti community wrote that it has used and managed its customary forests on the Kampar Peninsular since long before Indonesia achieved independence, and that it rejects RAPP's presence on its territory.

We note that in March 2007, the then Director of RAPP, Mr. Rudi Fajar, informed an international meeting in Riau organized by The Forest Dialogue, that RAPP would respect the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in establishing new plantation areas and resolving land conflicts with communities.

The right of indigenous peoples to FPIC, which is included in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, includes the right of indigenous peoples to reject planned developments that would affect their customary lands.

We urge you to respect the decision of the Teluk Meranti community, and to implement procedures in line with the principle of FPIC within your company.

Sincerely,

Marcus Colchester
Director, Forest Peoples Programme

Co-signatories to the August 17 letter to Thomas Handoko, Director of RAPP

Serge Marti
Life Mosaic, UK

Lee Tan
Australian Conservation Foundation

Almuth Ernsting
Biofuelwatch, UK

Lucio Cuenca
OLCA, Chile

Pandurang Hegde
Appiko-Chipko Movement, India

Ricardo Carrere
World Rainforest Movement, Uruguay

Otto Miettinen
FOE Finland

Ana Filippini
Latin American Network against
Monoculture Tree
Plantations, Uruguay

Marianne Klute
Watch Indonesia, Germany

Maria Selva Ortiz
Friends of the Earth, Uruguay

Heffa Schuecking
Urgewald, Germany

Elizabeth Diaz
Guayubira Group, Uruguay

Reinhard Behrend
Rettet den Regenwald, Germany

Maria Carcamo
RAPAL (Pesticides Action Network),
Uruguay

Hermann Edelmann
Pro Regenwald, Germany

Anatoly Lebedev
Bureau for Regional Outreach
Campaigns, Russia

Diego Cardona
Front for Life and Against the Green
Desert, Colombia

Candace Batycki
Forest Ethics, Canada

Hildebrando Velez
CENSAT, Colombia

Michael Brune
Rainforest Action Network, USA

Gustavo Castro
Otros Mundos AC, Mexico

Mike Roselle
American Forest Alliance, USA

Ivonne Ramos
Acción Ecológica, Ecuador

John Seed
Rainforest Information Centre,
Australia

Marcelo Calazans
Alert Against the Green Desert
Network, Brazil

Elias Diaz Peña
SOBREVIVENCIA, FOE, Paraguay

Cc:

Scale Up
Communities of the Kampar Peninsular: Teluk Meranti, Teluk Binjai, Pulau Muda,
Penyengat
Governor of Riau
Minister of Forestry, Republic of Indonesia

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