

**Joint Statement**  
Supporting Coalition Struggle Meranti Islands

**Immediate Completion of Land and Forest Tenure Conflict,  
And Violence in Pulau Padang**

Sequel conflict at Pulau Padang which is covering 14 villages triggered by the Industrial Timber Plantation Permit of PT. RAPP (APRIL Group) on June 21 2009 through Forestry Minister letter No. 327/Menhut-II/2009 for 350.165 hectares, which located in Pulau Padang are 41.205 hectares.

Most of Concession area of PT. RAPP in Pulau Padang is overlapped with lands which owned by local community, for instant for rubber plantation, sago plantation, thus farming area and ex farming area and plantation. Because PT. RAPP forces to operate without consider the community reaction and or objection, causing massive rejection by demonstration which often happens until took place in Jakarta.

Started when PT. RAPP brought their heavy equipments last May 2011 in Tanjung Padang, Community organization Riau Farmer Union tried to stopped the heavy equipment works until they have the



resolution that can be accepted by them. On May 30, in the morning until noon (05.30 WIB) the locals stopped the operation of heavy equipments on the port of PT RAPP in Pulau Padang, this port is the main access of PT RAPP for entrance and starting their land clearing in the middle of the island and gets the log and chip wood which then transported to Futong Port in Sungai Apit of Siak District and then taken to PT RAPP mill in Pangkalan Kerinci of Pelalawan District. In the middle of the night, at the same day there were 2 heavy equipments

burn at the same location of the demonstration, conduct by a group of unknown people, and then on July 13 a heavy equipment also burn with a man as the operator of this heavy equipment in it after he got tortured and shot, this happened at Sei Kuat of Lukit Village.

Supporting Coalition Struggle Meranti Islands considered that land tenure conflict and two accident of burn which taken a man as victim conduct by a group of professional, systematically and planned, thus has to be investigated until the recognition of the intellectual actor.

According to the analysis on the field, the party that has strong interest on land, forest and resources potential in Pulau padang, as follows:

1. Local community, both part of Riau Farmer Union or not who interest to prevent the land and forest as living support resources

2. PT. RAPP, that working on land clearing of natural forest and its logs to be used as material raw for pulp and paper in Pangkalan kerinci, then build acacia plantation as their self-Annual Allowable Cutting (*Self Approval*) by the Executive Director of PT RAPP, Kusnan Rahmin, on March 24 2011 by letter SK.06/RAPP/III/2011 for 30.087 hectares.
3. PT. Kondur Petroleum (Bakrie Group), that also has permit of Oil Industry, which their location overlap with the PT RAPP Concession, meanwhile the oil in this area potentially high. This company has to stopped their operation because they need to negotiate with PT RAPP and Forestry Ministry as the authorized institution for forest area.
4. Loggers (Logs Baron) who has interest which role as buyer and as the investors for groups and individuals who cuts trees in Pulau padang. The existence of PT RAPP has broken the chain to logs supplies, disturbed/aggrieved by the entrance of PT RAPP.
5. Regional Government of Meranti Island District as the territorial authorized government has large interest on each natural resources in Pulau Padang give income for the area and for development of this area. Using the economic point of view, it is possible if the regional government has an ambition to have share holders of each investment in Pulau padang.
6. Owner of large scale land which comes from inside or outside of Pulau Padang who feel threatened because of PT RAPP doesn't pay proper compensation on land that used by PT RAPP for port, access Road, and land which included in their concession.
7. Police person who gain profit through provision of security in this conflict area, police failure to reveal the burn tragedy has become big question, what is the motive of this.

Therefore we The Supporting Coalition Struggle Meranti Islands urge:

1. Formation of Integrate Fact-Finding Team involves Indonesia's Human Rights Commission, Police, Meranti Island Regional Government and CSO.
2. PT RAPP stops all their operation on the field and withdraws each heavy equipment until the common agreement stated and can be accepted by all parties. This refers to Indonesia's Human Rights Commission letter to PT RAPP leaders on April 29 2011 No.1.071/K/PMT/IV/2011.
3. Encourage Indonesia's Human Rights Commission demand PT RAPP, Regional Government of Meranti, Bengkalis District Police responsibilities on the omission of prolonged conflict and caused violence and took a man as murder victim on July 13.

Thus This Statement we made.

Pekanbaru, July 21<sup>st</sup> 2011

**Supporting Coalition Struggle Meranti Islands**

(Walhi Riau, STR, PRD Riau, JMGR, Jikalauhari, Greenpeace, Kaliptra, Kabut, TII Riau, Scale Up))