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NEWS RELEASE

BUMITAMA REFERS TO THE ARTICLE: 'MOMENT OF TRUTH'

Jakarta, 12 April 2018 – Bumitama Agri Ltd and its Group (“Bumitama”) refers to the article published by Greenpeace International titled “Moment of Truth - Time for Brands to Come Clean About Their Links to Forest Destruction for Palm Oil” issued in March 2018. The photos from the concessions of PT Ladang Sawit Mas (“LSM”) and PT Damai Agro Sejahtera (“DAS”) featured in this article are outdated and may be misleading.

There was a complaint against PT LSM, which was closed for monitoring in August 2014 and fully closed in November 2015 after three progress updates. Part of the complaint resolution was an Orangutan carrying capacity survey, conducted together with Tanjungpura University and the local Natural Resources Conservation Center (*Balai Konservasi Sumberdaya Alam* or “BKSDA”). As a result, an adult male named Han was translocated to the neighboring forests of Gunung Tarak in consideration of its safety and welfare, with the help of International Animal Rescue (“YIARI”). Although the translocation was a success, the training from YIARI recommended observation and monitoring of any later discovered orangutans until they head back into the forest.



At the end of 2016 we inked the collaboration of a landscape-based biodiversity corridor named Bumitama Biodiversity and Community Project (“BBCP”), which focuses on conservation of orangutan habitat and creation of a natural migration route identified in the set-aside areas of the concession of PT Gemilang Makmur Subur (“GMS”) to the vast forests of Sungai Putri in the west and Gunung Tarak in the east.

The image featured on the page 4-5 of the article displays the forest in PT DAS taken on 11 December 2016 - before the acquisition by Bumitama on 20 December 2016. Upon takeover, the new management issued an internal memo containing instructions for the site operations to uphold a strict stop-work order for any plantation development until all requirements under the RSPO New Planting Procedure and our own Sustainability Policy of “No Deforestation, No Peat and No Exploitation” are fulfilled. After the HCV assessment, we found that we could join the potential set-aside areas in PT DAS to the BBCP. Latter orangutan nest survey of both PT DAS and PT GMS by YIARI gave us more information on the condition of the habitat of these critically endangered species.



To further safeguard this area zoned as Area for Other Land Use (*Areal Penggunaan Lain* or “APL”) from deforestation, we engaged with the regional office of Ministry of Forestry on the Essential Ecosystem Area (*Kawasan Ekosistem Esensial* or “KEE”) initiative. As a result, the BBCP project area was confirmed by the Governor of West Kalimantan as a part of a KEE area called “Orangutan Corridor Landscape Sungai Putri – Gunung Tarak – Gunung Palung”.

For more details on the above matters please refer to the [RSPO Case Tracker](#) and our regular News Releases ([link 1](#), [link 2](#), [link 3](#)).

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