CENTRAL KALIMANTAN’S HEAD OF PLANTATION
REMARKS DELIVERED AT:

Towards a Sustainable Palm Oil District:
Seruyan’s Pathway towards Jurisdictional Certification
Kuala Lumpur, November 17th 2015

Honorable guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon and I hope you are all well. I am happy to be here and to speak in front of you on the commitment that has inspired us in Central Kalimantan.

As mentioned by Bapak Bupati Seruyan, in June this year on the sideline of the Governors’ Climate and Forest (GCF) Task Force annual meeting in Barcelona, Central Kalimantan announced its commitment in pursuing a jurisdictional certification approach. Our aim with this approach is to ensure that commodities produced in Central Kalimantan are sustainable, starting with palm oil. This commitment was built upon our previous targets announced in the 2013 roadmap to low-deforestation rural development that increases production and reduces poverty. Those targets are:

1. Province-wide deforestation should decline to 20% of the 2006-2009 level
2. Smallholder palm oil production should reach 20% of the total area of plantations

We’re really excited and proud on what Bapak Bupati Seruyan has planned in moving forward with the jurisdictional certification approach. With the plan outlined, Seruyan will be a model to other districts not only in Central Kalimantan, but also in Indonesia, in leading as an example on how this could be best implemented on the ground. And without doubt we will be supporting Bapak Bupati of Seruyan on this journey.

At the province level, we have formed a working group consisting of representatives from oil palm growers, government and non-government organizations in Central Kalimantan. The working group aims to identify and implement strategies to expedite the certification of the entire jurisdiction. Specifically, the working group will focus on identifying important sustainability risks at the provincial level in Central Kalimantan and then to find ways in mitigating these important risks such as deforestation, social conflicts, greenhouse gas emissions and degradation of areas with high conservation values.

To support the achievement of our targets, supported by Earth Innovation Institute or INOBU, we have developed a monitoring system. The monitoring system that is currently being finalized will eventually be open to the general public. The system incorporates consolidated geo-referenced, spatial data and an on-line database. It will include information on the performance status of plantation concessions such as productivity, smallholder farmers, land cover change or deforestation, and fire hotspots. The system can be enhanced to include complaints filed by local communities related to the operations of companies, indigenous land claims, and other performance indicators. Three district governments in Central Kalimantan have been selected as pilot districts to implement the system, including Seruyan, Kotawaringin Barat and soon Gunung Mas.
The system will also provide other benefits including in ensuring that future licenses are only allocated in degraded areas as instructed by the Provincial Regulation no. 5 2011 on development of sustainable plantations. With the system we can identify the degraded lands that can be used for future plantations.

At the current moment, we’re happy to inform you that Central Kalimantan’s spatial plan has been approved and legalized through local regulation no. 5 2015. With this we now formally have a legally approved spatial plan that will serve as the base map of the monitoring system.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Before I finish, I would like to echo of what Bapak Bupati Seruyan has pointed out, on the importance of collaboration with other stakeholders in making this commitment and pathway on jurisdictional certification implemented. We need to work together, to ensure that the concept of sustainable jurisdictions is understood and valued by buyers and consumers. Through achieving this dream, we can ensure that commodities are produced sustainably and profitably.

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