
DATUK SAM MANNAN, Director of Forestry, Sabah, Malaysia.

A Speech Delivered At The “Global Roundtable On Sustainable Palm Oil 9”

Held At The Sutera Harbour Resort, Kota Kinabalu.
24th November 2011
UK High Commissioner to Malaysia
August, 2007

Malaysian Palm Oil Promotional Council Seminar, London, UK,
May, 2006


EU Ambassadors & High Commissioners to Malaysia (March, 2011)

Director of Forestry, Sabah, Malaysia – Nov., 2011
Our Big Picture Goals

- phasing out short term licences.
- SFM – long term (50-100 yrs).
- 3rd party audits.
- forest certification.

Director of Forestry, Sabah, Malaysia – Nov., 2011
Why Forest Certification?

- improves behavior & performance.
- continuous improvement mechanism.
- credibility & transparency.
- access to sensitive markets.
- endorsement of good governance.

Director of Forestry, Sabah, Malaysia – Nov., 2011
Our Forte In The Next 20 years

- build up depleted resources.

**Tree Plantations, Forest Restoration and Silviculture Tending in Sabah**

(2002 - 2010)

*Director of Forestry, Sabah, Malaysia – Nov., 2011*
Oil Palm In Sabah – The Good

- **Socio-Economic Development**
  - ‘60s, ‘70s and ‘80s – poor man’s crop.
  - today, oil palm covers 1.5 million hectares of land alienated for agriculture.

- **Direct Sabah Government Revenue**
  - not less than RM 1 billion.

- **Reduces Pressure To Log More Forest**
  - revenue from oil palm means avoiding logging 200,000 ha of virgin forests.

- **Investing In Long Term Conservation**
  - Sime Darby
  - Wilmar International

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**Forest Revenue: 1970 - 2020**

Danum Valley
Quality Of Life
- better housing.
- clean water.
- schools, etc.
Oil Palm In Sabah – The Bad & The Ugly
Encroachment
- some 40,000 ha.
- 20,000 ha retrieved to date.

Who Buys Illegal Oil Palm?
- no CoC.

Illegal Oil Palm Destroyed (2006 – 2010)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Area Destroyed (ha)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>225.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>913.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1,351.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2,297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4,936.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Elephants Continue To Be Killed
- 2010, not less than 5 juveniles.
- poisoned or shot?
Orang Utans & Oil Palm – Is It Compatible?

- habitat loss?
Native Rights & Land Issues

“A market is a place set apart for men to deceive and get the better of one another.”
(Anacharsis, “Lives of Eminent Philosophers”)

“Laissez Faire” – Let business go forward, no interference.
(Marquis D’Argenson)

“…. It was vital, Sir William told us that the colony came up with some new crop, which could thrive in the wet river valleys of the east coast. He was particularly pleased that Unilever’s investment was to be in the form of an oil palm plantation....”
(Datuk Leslie Davidson in conversation with the Governor, Sir William Goode – in the book “East of Kinabalu”)
Beluran villagers protest ‘incursion’

Stephanie Loo
KOTA KINABALU: Villagers of Kg. Mapat and Kg. Mapad in Paitan, Beluran, are furious over the destruction of crops on their lands and have vowed to never give in to those trying to take over their customary lands.

Village Security and Development Committee Chairman, Lungking @ Lupang Menggag said their lands, which had been their homes for at least five generations, were now under threat. He said a plantation company had started bulldozing and destroying the crops and fruit trees planted on this land despite continuous protest from villagers since 2007.

"Since 2006 until now, we have been complaining to the Department of Land and Survey objecting to the survey of the company and other parties encroaching our customary lands," he said.

Police reports had also been made in Beluran but no actions were taken, he claimed. Lungking who was detained for one and a half day at the Beluran police station recently for allegedly being rude to the police, made another police report at the city police headquarters regarding the matter on Monday.

Speaking of his arrest by the police, he said it was unfair as he was pulled up.

"Do I have to keep quiet and let our customary land fall into someone else’s hands? Do I have to keep mum and just look at them destroying our crops, our living and all our forefathers’ hard work? Do we shut up when they dig up our ancestors’ graves?" he asked. He also queried the said land grant acquired by the company, which up to this day has never been shown to the villagers even though various requests have been made.

"The police said they are the ones keeping the grant, and why is the grant with the police and not the land owners (if the grant really exists)?"

The police did show us a letter written in English, which they say is the land grant and ignored our request when we asked for a photocopy," he said, adding that they could not understand the letter presented as it was written in English.

In this respect, a lawyer who accompanied the villagers in making their police report here, Datuk Kong Hong Meng said this is another tragedy on land grabs. The Tawau PKR chief said the villagers are crying out for justice and immediate actions to put an end to the uncertainty of the continuity of their communal livelihood. "Their ancestral lands are being encroached and destroyed under helpless protests. Their appeals to the authorities for help, justice and protection were denied." They were three before any form of government administration. After years of settlement for at least six generations, they are now fighting to keep their ancestral land inherited for the survival of their families, livelihood and a space for the continuity of their present and future generations. "The government has acknowledged the existence of the village communities and their customary land by having appointed not less than six village chiefs over the years," Kong said.

In this regard, he called for immediate investigations and actions to put an end to any impropriety and abuse of power of the authorities concerned.

People at Paitan should not be harassed anymore or forced to take the law into their own hands out of helplessness and desperation, as they too deserve justice and full protection under the law, he added.

"Until today, despite demands of villagers no one from both villages had seen any court order that the company to trespass their ancestral land and destroy crops planted," he said.

Need to resolve growing land rights issues

Sherell Ann Jeffrey
KOTA KINABALU: There’s a need to address growing issues concerning native land titles faced by indigenous people in the State, especially those in the interiors.

Executive Director of The Land Empowerment Animals People, Cynthia Ong, said this here, Monday, during a dialogue with the media on the outcome of her on-going one-week evaluation programme which began Oct 16 on land rights matters in Sabah in collaboration with an independent consultant from Denmark, Birgitte Feiring.

"Many natives of Sabah, especially those in the interiors, are faced with many hard rights to their lands. Some of these cases date 11 years back like the case in Kg. Kakolot in Penampang," she said.

Ong (left) and Feiring.
Slow Death Of The Lower Kinabatangan Corridor Of Life (K-CoL).

Director of Forestry, Sabah, Malaysia – Nov., 2011
Conclusion

- too small to compete on the basis of size.
- compete on the basis of good governance.
- be exclusive.
Conclusion

- be a branded good.
Conclusion

- get certified under any credible certification schemes.
Conclusion

- support conservation.

CREDD-plus
Heart of Borneo (Sabah), Malaysia
Conclusion

- save the dying K-CoL.

Director of Forestry, Sabah, Malaysia – Nov., 2011
Conclusion

- chain of custody.
- don’t expect green dividends.
- don’t export bad reputation.
- be honest.
- may the force be with you.
Borneon Pygmy Elephants in Malua Forest Reserve

THANK YOU