Open letter to the European Union and 28 Member States of The Biofuel Policy

Respected European Union & The Member States,

Related to Biofuels Policy issued by the European Union which has a negative impact on the country or region that is dominated by large-scale oil palm plantations, palm oil itself is a source of biofuels. West Kalimantan in Indonesia and in particular will feel a huge impact on the policy, the expansion of palm oil company’s work and the use of land for biofuels basic materials industry. Of the total area 147.307km² West Kalimantan there are only 433,944 ha with a total area harvested paddy rice production 1,275,707 tons in 2015 to meet the basic needs of food 4.546 million people in West Kalimantan means that only 1% food needs were covered for the local community food while plantation palm oil with a total clearance 4,068,712 ha and who have received official permission operational there 2,124,953 ha means 50% just to meet the needs of European biofuels.

In parallel with 4 million total operating permits and 2 million land already tilled by the palm oil industry in West Kalimantan, the environmental impact is also already beginning to be felt starting from the indication of environmental pollution at some point to human rights issues, both for workers and communities directly affected by Industry palm oil. It is known there are (actual 411 companies in West Kalimantan) 25 companies supplier Wilmar and Sinar Mas subsidiary in conflict with local people in 7 districts

Conflicts:
1. Gender Discrimination,
2. Employment Discrimination
3. Wage Discrimination between Men and Women
4. No compensation for the existence of suitable land
5. The Community is far from prosperity, and prosperity
6. Do not get Improvement Society Infrastructure
7. Hard to Get Public Facilities, such as schools, health centers, because damaged infrastructure due to land clearing plantations.

8. Treatment of Gender Discrimination in Labor

9. Damage to the environment in which people live and farm land

10. Difficult Access To Education

11. Cultural changes are striking due to the inclusion of the company bring different styles and patterns

12. LOSS communal land / customs

West Kalimantan alone is a province where the local people live from farming, fishing. The entry of Oil Industry for Biofuels have forced the majority of traditional farmers and fishermen to change the professions for the sake of subsistence due to a decrease in land and natural result from deforestation and land and chemical use plantation.

Viewed from the need for large tracts of land and practice of violations committed by some of the Company’s Oil and Environmental Damage as a result of Biofuels industry we urge the EU to:

“Abolishing the current biofuel policies. The EU should abandon the obligation of biofuel blends with diesel / diesel, and cancel the funding support as much as billions of euros per year for the production of biofuel through public subsidies, the release of tax.etc”

Because through these policies you have helped eliminate the basic rights of the people as well as the continuity of life that comes from the Forest and Environment.

Best Regards,

Link-AR BORNEO
Advocacy and Research