

From : Business & Human Rights Centre

Invitation to respond on the Joint Press Release issued by

- 1) WALHI (Wahana Lingkungan Hidup Indonesia)
- 2) Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center
- 3) Sahabat Alam Malaysia

Friends of the Earth Asia Pacific (FoE APAC)

Joint Press Release

"Transboundary Haze is an Ecological Crisis: Coalition Urges Transnational Corporate Responsibility and Recognition of Ecocide", 9 September 2026, WALHI:

<https://www.walhi.or.id/transboundary-haze-is-an-ecological-crisis-coalition-urges-transnational-corporate-responsibility-and-recognition-of-ecocide>

Our Response

Genting Group through its subsidiary company, Genting Plantations Berhad, is committed to the development of its oil palm plantation without burning. Having been a member of RSPO since 2006, Genting Plantations have since implemented sustainable criteria in all of its operations, which includes the adoption of 'Zero Burning Policy'.

As it is, Kalimantan is experiencing exceptional prolonged dry period, with rampant wildfires reported across the region. While efforts are being undertaken by the Indonesian government, which amongst others the directive to temporary suspend land clearing activities via burning practices for planting of staple food, curbing the fires remain a challenge.

Similarly at Genting Plantations, efforts were not spared to ensure vigilant monitoring along with deployment of extensive manpower resources to manage, handle and resolve effectively fire incidents at our plantations. At the onset of the current dry period, we have maintained heightened fire surveillance through continuous hotspot monitoring, via both internally established satellite and drone hotspot monitoring system as well as patrolling by internal fire patrol teams. In addition, we continuously engaged local communities through the "*Masyarakat Peduli Api*" programme to support fire patrol activities, and early detection and firefighting efforts. Importantly, the preparedness at our operations, which included firefighting equipment and resources, together with co-operation from local communities have enabled us to respond promptly to the recent incidents, hence minimising the risk of widespread fire incidents.

Further, for any fire incidence, our fire patrol teams will act upon it by reporting such incidence to the local police, with details of actions taken. Concurrently, the incidence will also be reported to other authorities, namely *Disnas Perkebunan*, which is the local Plantation Agency. Additionally, we also report to RSPO on fire incidents.

Most of the recent fire incidences at our plantations originated from outside our concession, and have spread and encroached into our areas. Regardless, whether the fires are outside or within our plantations, efforts to extinguish and curb the spread of fires, where possible, will be undertaken. We do not condone practices of open burning in any of our operations, and remain committed to our 'Zero Burning Policy'. We continue to work closely to strengthen collaboration with relevant local authorities including the Regent, Chief of District Police, Chief of District Army, Head of District Fire Brigade, Department of Agriculture, Head of Subdistrict and Village Heads. Through these active engagements, we conduct regular outreach and awareness programmes with the local communities surrounding our establishments, and conduct fire prevention awareness and training, including the importance of doing away with their cultural practice of slash-and-burn in their agricultural practices.