

# Summary of Media Analysis

6-12 May 2019

Six issues recorded this week: indigenous people, climate change, agrarian reform, palm oil, deforestation, and forest moratorium.

## Deforestation

- Indonesia's deforestation rate 2017-2018 = 440,000 hectares, lower than 2016-2017, which was 480,000 hectares.
- Global Forest Watch through Global Land Analysis and Discovery (GLAD) – calculating Tree Cover Loss (not just natural forests but also plantation forest harvest) found that in 2018, primary forest loss in Indonesia is 40% lower than annual forest loss in 2002-2016.
- Director of Forest Resources Inventory and Monitoring of DG-Planology, MoEF, Belinda A. Margono mentioned several measures that slowed down deforestation:
  - Moratorium
  - Prevention of forest fire
  - Limitation of conversion of production forest for conversion (HPK) for plantation and other non-forestry purposes (perhaps referring to palm oil moratorium)
  - Agrarian reform
  - Social forestry
  - Sustainable forest management
  - Rehabilitation of forest and land

## Forest moratorium

- Director of Forest Resources Inventory and Monitoring of DG-Planology, MoEF, Belinda A. Margono stated that the government ensures to continue forest moratorium on primary forests and peatland, that has been enacted since 2011 to slow down deforestation and achieve Indonesia's NDC target.

## Indigenous people recognition

- **West Papua** - RFN partner alert: **Panah Papua's** quote:
  - Progress of Regional Regulation (Perda) to recognize indigenous people in Teluk Bintuni District, West Papua = waiting for approval from Head of District.
  - The bill is pushed by Panah Papua with district government and regional parliament – previously by Paradisea.
  - *Madani's comment*: must ensure that this regional regulation recognizes not only the indigenous people (the subject) but also their territories (the object) to qualify for customary forest recognition by MoEF under the current regulations.
- **Mentawai**
  - The regional government is proposing customary forest recognition to MoEF
  - Mapping by AMAN Mentawai = 10.000 ha in 11 Uma (tribal communities) in four sub-districts.

- **Central Kalimantan**
  - District of Balangan – regional parliament of Balangan is prioritizing the formulation of Regional Regulation of Dayak Customary Institution.
- **Papua**
  - **APHA (Association of Customary Law Lecturers)** urges for protection of sago forests in Papua and West Papua to stop deforestation in Merauke and Jayapura. The size of sago forest in Papua in 2018 is small, only 35.351 ha (compared to palm oil – 158.000 ha)
  - **National Land Agency (BPN) Papua** encourages head of districts in Papua to issue a regulation for indigenous territory delineation in each district. The burden of mapping indigenous territories is in the hands of the indigenous communities themselves. However, the Head of District in Jayapura is currently conducting mapping of indigenous territory in Jayapura District.

## Climate change

- **Governor's Climate and Forest Task Force (GCF) Annual Conference 2019**
  - Governor of Papua attended annual GCF conference in Colombia (1-3 May). Papua is to be the host of GCF 2021.
  - Governor of Papua stated that he is prepared to keep 90% of tropical forest in Papua, but needs help due to massive plantation and logging.
    - Comment: There are 1.4 million hectares of forests located in palm oil concessions in Papua (Greenpeace 2017, Auriga) – should be the object of evaluation in palm oil moratorium, but the process is behind closed doors.
  - West Kalimantan and Jambi – are in Bio Carbon Fund program with the World Bank – committed to reduce emission by 2% by preserving forests. Bio Carbon Fund pledged USD 100 billion up to 2030.
    - Comment: There are 737.644 hectares of forests located in palm oil concessions in West Kalimantan (Greenpeace 2017)

## Agrarian reform

- Coordinating Minister of Economic Affairs is committed to continue agrarian reform in the next government period (2019-2024)
- Want Online Single Submission (OSS) to be supported by regional governments – requires digital map of RDTR (Detailed Spatial Plan), without which location permits cannot be given.
  - Comment: ICEL is in the process of filing a judicial review against OSS because it contradicts many laws and regulations. In the agriculture licensing regime, it accelerates the licensing process up to 2-3 months – Madani has published an analysis about this but still in Indonesian:
  - <https://madaniberkelanjutan.id/2019/05/09/analisis-permentan-tentang-tata-cara-perizinan-berusaha-sektor-pertanian/>

## Palm oil

### Kemenko's Letter to Close HGU Data

- In May 6, 2019, **the Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs**, Deputy of Food and Agriculture Coordination, Musdalifah, issued a letter to the palm oil industry (Palm Oil Council of Indonesia or DMSI, GAPKI, and palm oil companies) urging them not to disclose data regarding HGU to NGOs, foreign countries, foreign institutions, etc.
- **Walhi** demands that the HGU be opened – the letter is in direct contradiction to the President's order in Ratas (closed meeting) in May 3 regarding conflict resolution.
- **KPA** (Consortium for Agrarian Reform) = the letter suggests conspiracy between the ministry and palm oil companies, exacerbates agrarian conflict: 2015-2018, land grabbing by large scale palm oil plantations occurred in 409 locations with the size of 1,132,697 hectares – palm oil companies are the no 1 driver of agrarian conflict in the last 15 years.
  - KPA with 120 farmer organizations has submitted locations to be prioritized in agrarian reform = Agrarian Reform Priority Locations (LPRA) with the size of 662,493 hectares, 400,593 hectares of which overlaps with HGU.
- **AMAN** – the letter is in contradiction with Public Disclosure Act (Law No. 14/2008)
- **Coalition to Open HGU Data:** YLBHI, Greenpeace, FWI, KPA, Sawit Watch, HuMa, Walhi, AMAN, Jatam, Elsam.

### Expansion of export market for palm oil

- Government of Indonesia with GAPKI and BDPKKS are going on trade mission to several countries to expand market for palm oil = South Asia, Middle East, Latin America.
- Export of CPO and its derivative products (biodiesel, oleochemicals) increased by 8% in 2018 from 32.18 tons to 34.71 tons. Export increased to China (18%), Bangladesh (16%), Pakistan (12%), Africa (13%), and the US (3%). Export to India, EU, and Middle East decreased.

### Evaluation of palm oil licenses

- Lembaga Adat Melayu (LAM) = encourages KPK and Riau government to discipline palm oil plantations operating without proper licenses in Riau.
- KPK = 1 million hectares of palm oil plantations operate without licenses and do not pay taxes.
- Special Committee of Plantation Monitoring (Pansus) in Riau parliament has found in 2016 that 1.5 million hectares of palm oil plantations in Riau are illegal, but resolution is slow.

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