



Jakarta, December 20th, 2024

AAL repeats its open door offer to Friends of the Earth and Walhi

In the wake of Friends of the Earth's (FoE) recent publication of claims that the UN Rapporteurs for human rights are supportive of FoE's grievances against AAL, and that AAL failed to reply within the specified time to the UN Rapporteurs' request for a response, we want to re-iterate openly our position on direct engagement with any member of civil society in an effort to resolve issues that are under dispute. We do this in spite of the fact that neither of the above claims is accurate. We did respond, in time, and fully, with details as follows :

- On 14 November 2024, AAL received a letter from the regional office of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights requesting clarification and information regarding the Special Rapporteur's report on AAL and its subsidiaries (the Report). This letter was sent to us as they were invited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for a meeting to discuss the Report. The allegations against AAL contained in the Report are basically the same as the FoE's grievances. We promptly responded on 18 November 2024.
- On 18 November 2024, AAL received a letter from the Central Sulawesi Plantation Service Regional Government Office regarding the Report and immediately responded on the same day.
- On 19 November 2024, AAL received a letter from the West Sulawesi Plantation Service Regional Government Office concerning the Report, and we responded immediately on the same day.
- We also proactively conveyed our clarification directly to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs office handling this matter.
- We are aware that the Government of Indonesia (GoI) has responded to the Special Rapporteur on 9 December 2024 in a timely and appropriate manner. We understand that the GoI's response should have been posted by the UN Human Rights Office of the High Commission on its website pursuant to its rule, but to date it has not been uploaded.

For the last nearly two years we have been clear that our door is unconditionally open to both FoE US and Walhi to sit down and work to resolve things in a spirit of openness and co-operation. This is how these things are always resolved. We have offered the involvement of a mutually agreed third party mediator and that we are happy to facilitate on-the-ground fact-finding. We would expect similar transparency and open discovery in return.

We are conscious of the conditions that FoE US place on any engagement in terms of a public apology and restitution, but we do not believe pre-conditions such as these serve any purpose. Indeed, we require none of our own.

Meanwhile we continue to focus on implementing the action plan that arose from Econusantara's independent assessment into FoE's grievances which was carried out diligently and without fear or favour in spite of the refusal of Walhi to engage or co-operate or share the evidence it claimed it held to support their concerns.

We would take this opportunity to once again in good faith openly invite FoE and Walhi to engage and discuss on the roundtable for resolution without preconditions.