



Y.BHG.Datp Dr. Freezaila bin Che Yeom,
Chairman, National Steering Committee
Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC)
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Datuk Seri Dr. Lim Keng Yaik
Minister of Primary Industries
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mr. Heiko Liedeker
Executive Director of the FSC

June 20, 2002

**International Support for the
Malaysian Collective of Indigenous Communities and NGO's on
Forest Issues
(JOANGOHutan)**

**Rejection of the Malaysian Timber Certification Council's Scheme
to Certify Sustainable Forest Management Practices.**

We, concerned individuals and NGO's would like to state here that we fully understand that members of JOANGOHutan were invited to participate in the development of the Malaysian timber certification process.

We also recognize that JOANGOHutan has now withdrawn their participation, as they found the process highly flawed due to the following points:

- 1) The certification initiative agenda was established by the Malaysian government in favor of industry stakeholders.
- 2) Malaysian NGO's were not adequately consulted nor represented from the onset of the process, nor were their positions fully included once their participation was requested.
- 3) The Malaysian Timber Certification Council's (MTCC) scheme, as it is currently drafted, does not recognize the rights of indigenous people and local forest communities.

Therefore:

- We, the undersigned, support JOANGO Hutan's rejection of the MTCC scheme, otherwise known as the Malaysian Criteria, Indicators, Activities and Standards of Performance (MC&I) for forest management certification.
- We agree with JOANGO Hutan's demand that the land rights of forest-dependent communities must be addressed satisfactorily and conclusively before any certification scheme can be deemed credible.
- We demand that the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) reject the current MTCC scheme, and insist upon the restarting of the MC& I through a transparent and accountable process. This process must:
 - Include the equal input of *all* stakeholders from the onset,
 - Be lead by an independent, non-political body, and
 - Uphold FSC principles #2 & #3 that clearly protects the rights and benefits of indigenous peoples.

** JOANGO Hutan was formed by 14 Malaysian NGO's and community organizations that had been participating in the MC & I process, and had unanimously agreed to withdraw in September 2001. The coalition's objectives are to reflect NGO's and indigenous communities' concerns and interests on matters relating to the development of timber certification.

JOANGO Hutan Membership:

1. Persatuan Orang Asli Semenanjung Malaysia (POASM-Association of Indigenous People in Peninsula Malaysia), Semenanjung Malaysia;
2. Sinui Pai Nanek Sngik (SPNS), Perak;
3. Komuniti Orang Asli Daerah Slim River, Perak;
4. Center for Orang Asli Concerns (COAC), Selangor;
5. Partners of Community Organizations (PACOS Trust), Sabah;
6. KERUAN Association, Sarawak;
7. Borneo Resources Institute (BRIMAS), Sarawak;
8. SILOP, Sarawak
9. Indigenous Peoples' Development Centre (IPDC), Sarawak;
10. Institute for Development of Alternative Living (IDEAL), Sarawak;
11. SACCESS, Sarawak;
12. Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM-Friends of the Earth), Malaysia;
13. SOS Selangor (Save Our Sungai Selangor), Selangor;
14. Suara Rakyat Malaysia (SUARAM-Voice of Malaysian People), Selangor.

International Supporters & Organizations

Name of Individual/Organization	Contact person	Country
1. Pacific Environment	Cynthia Josayma,	Oakland, U.S.A
2. Borneo Project	Wick Pancoast,	Berkeley, USA
3. Borneo Project	Harlan Thompson,	Berkeley, USA
4. Sarawak Campaign Committee		Japan
5. Chipstop Campaign against Woodchipping	Harriett Swift,	Australia.
6. Friends of the Earth Japan	T. Okazaki,	Tokyo, Japan
7. Ring of Fire Coalition	Yuriko Hayami	Kyoto, Japan
8. Ring of Fire Coalition	Jun Miyakawa,	Tokyo, Japan
9. Native Forest Network, Southern Hemisphere	Tim Cadman,	Australia
10. Japan Tropical Forest Action Network	Takahiro Kohama,	Tokyo, Japan
11. Taiga Ecological Group	Fyodor Kronikovskiy,	Far East, Russia
12. Ring of Fire	Melissa Renganathan,	New Zealand.
13. Ramin Research Society		Japan
14. APEC Monitor NGO Network	Toyoyuki Kawakami,	Osaka, Japan
15. Wallace Forest Ecological Protection		Sulawesi, Indonesia
16. Pacific Environment	Sibyl Diver,	Oakland, U.S.A
17. The Indonesia Tropical Institute	Happy Tarumadevyanto,	Sulawesi, Indonesia
18. BROC	Anatoly Lebedev,	Vladivostok, Russia
19.Environment Desk, Images Asia Inc.	Chong Ten Yeen,	Chiang Mai, Thailand
20. Rainforest Relief	Tim Keating,	Brooklyn, New York.
21.Rainforest Action Network	Jessica Lawrence,	S.F. U.S.
22 Ayus-Buddhist International Cooperation Network		Japan
23. Defenders of the Chilean Forests	Patricia Vera,	Santiago, Chile.
24. Plight of the Redwoods Campaign	Redwood Mary	U.S.A
25. JANNI Japan NGO Network on Indonesia	OKAMOTO Sachie,	Japan
26. Midori no Iihatobu	KAWAMURA Teruo,	Japan
27. Survival International Japan Network	MAZANE Kazumi,	Japan
28. Nichifutsu Boeki Co., Ltd.	Gerome Paltos,	Japan
29. Nipponzan Myohoji Temple	TAKEDA Takao,	Japan
30. G.E.N.K.I. Rainbow Network	Reiko YUKAWA,	Japan
31. Ohmine Nature Protecting Society	Yoshihiko TAMURA,	Japan

Individuals:

AMAMIYA Toshie, Japan
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 Masaaki HAGA, Japan
 HASHIGUCHI Hideo, Japan
 ICHII Haruya, Japan
 .IKEDA Mitsuji, Japan
 .Daisuke IZUMI, Japan
 .IZUTANI Daisuke, Japan
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 TAKADA Ken, Japan
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 Tsutomu UENO, Japan
 WADA Yoshihiko, Japan
 YONEZAWA Kohji, Japan