

TK Bilong Oyau  
Ketua Kaum Penan,  
Long Sait, 98050 Selungo  
Baram, Sarawak.  
Malaysia.

To:

Malaysian Timber Certification Council  
Dato' Dr. Freezailah B. Che Yeom  
Chairman  
19 F, Level 19, Menara PGRM  
No. 8, Jalan Pudu Ulu, Cheras  
56100 KUALA LUMPUR

Dear Sir,

January 25, 2005

Ref: Protest against the approval of MTCC Certification to Samling Plywood (Baramas) Sdn.Bhd.

We, the Penan people and headmen of the Upper Ulu Baram area, have been informed that Samling Plywood (Baramas) Sdn Bhd. Have recently been granted the Certificate for Forest Management under the Malaysian Timber Certification Council scheme for the Sela'an-Linau Forest Management Unit.

We have not been consulted on this matter. We strongly reject this certification, which was approved in against of our interest. We have been living here in peace until the timber companies came to disturb our life and encroach into our forest. Many of us have suffered due to the Samling logging operations: our rivers are polluted, our sacred sites damaged and our animals chased away by people who deprive us of our livelihood and culture.

For many years, we have been raising our voice to protest against Samling activities, but neither the company nor the government is listening to us. We cannot accept that Samling timber be now awarded with a certificate to continue offending our native customary rights.

We stay united and we are determined in our protest against this offence of our rights. Here, we renew our firm demand that Samling timber stop destroying our forest.

As a matter of fact that the disputes between the concessionary and our claims are far from resolved, the approval of forest management certification would only make the matter worst. Therefore, we, the Penan people in upper Baram from Long Lamai, Long Lai, Long Kerong, Long Sait, Long Sepigen, Long Lamam, Long Ajeng, Long Bu'ung, Long Data, Ba Pengaran, Long Benali , Long Kepang , Ba Jawi, Long Sabai, Ba Tik and

Middle Baram Long Pakan, Long Sepatai, Long Medamut, strongly ask the Malaysian Timber Certification Council to immediately revoke the certificate granted to Samling Plywood.

As we have filed legal action against Samling in 1998, which is still pending at the high Court, it is highly disputable for the affected forests to be awarded any management certificate. Since the legal status of the affected forest remains unresolved, the certification of the Sela'an Linua Concessionary is most inappropriate. As such we, the Penan headmen from the effected area strongly opposed to the approval of MTCC Certification (which) granted to Samling Timber.

Thank you,

Copies to:

Sarawak Chief Minister  
Prime Minister of Malaysia  
SUHAKAM  
International Tropical Timber Council, Yokohama  
UN Commissioner of Human Rights, Geneva

Headmen and villages of the Upper Ulu Baram area

(Signatures of headmen)

Signatures

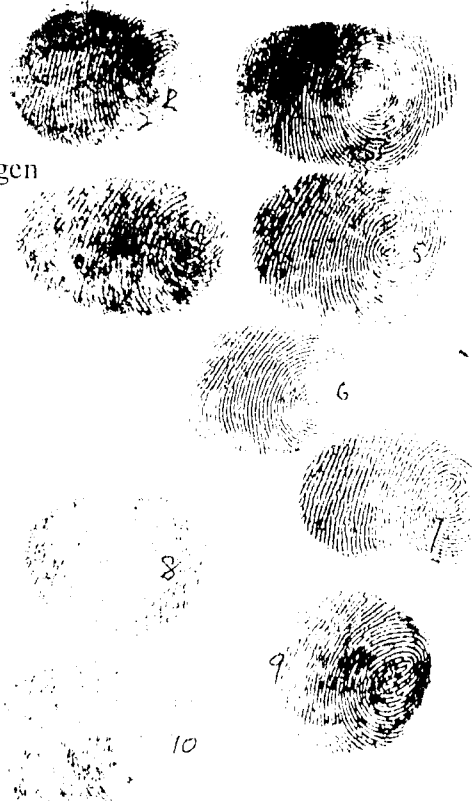
(Signatures of villagers

Post

villagers



1. TK Bilong Oyau - Headman, Long Sait
2. TK Kelesau Naan - Headman, Long Kerong
3. WTK Thomas Pelutan - Assistang headman, Long Sepigen
4. TK Jawa Nyipa - Headman, Long Ajeng, Selaan
5. TK Balang Toi - Headman, Long Laman, Selaan
6. TK Thomas Keliap - Headman, Long Murung, Selaan
7. TK Ali Toi - Headman, Ba Pengaran, Akah
8. TK Kusin Uvan - Headman, Ba Pengaran asal, Akah
9. TK Saun Bujang - Headman, Long Benali, Akah
10. TK Pusa Luding - Headman, Long Sabai



11. TK Melai Nak – Headman, Ba Tik, Ngelah
12. TK Panai Irang – Headman, Long Sepatai, Akah
13. TK Pada Jutang – Headman, Long Pakan, Akah
14. WKK Aya Luding –Assistant Headman, Long Sait
15. WKK Tirong Lawing – Assistant Headman, Long Kerong
16. WKK Abraham Nak – Assistant , Ba Tik
17. Balan Kade – Committee , Long Kerong
18. Pulak Tagung – Committee, Long Sait
19. Weng Pet – Committee, Long Sabai

