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NEWS RELEASE

Bumitama Refers To A Video Named “Kidnapped By The Palm Oil Industry”

Jakarta, 5 May 2017 – Bumitama Agri Ltd and its group (“Bumitama” or “the Group”) refers to a video published by Walhi Indonesia together with Friends of the Earth (“FOE”). This video tendentiously portrays the circumstances investigated and discussed in a facilitative bilateral communication with the Complainant, as a part of the Bumitama Gunajaya Abadi (“BGB”) Complaint case lodged with RSPO, to which Walhi Indonesia is one of the parties (supporting the Complainant). We are of the opinion that the video instigates negative sentiments against BGB in an effort to influence the outcome of the facilitative bilateral communication process. This violates the ethical code of conduct and undermines the amicable outcome of the whole process.

In a letter sent to RSPO on 5 May 2017 Bumitama petitioned to the RSPO Complaint Panel to call for the Complainant to refrain from subverting the dispute resolution effort and to follow the principles of an equitable facilitative bilateral communication.

Bumitama has been acting proactively and in good faith when engaging with the Complainant, throughout the whole process. Restoring harmony inside our community and working for the common good of the local people has been our priority.

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