

WALHI Central Sulawesi

Indonesian Forum for Environment

Farmers' Lands Captured June 8, 2015

Posted by walhisultengnews in Uncategorized.

Tags: Walhi Campaign

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Palm Oil Companies Have Not Provided Rewards

PALU, KOMPAS - About 7,000 hectares of land for farmers in five villages in East Petasia District, North Morowali Regency, Central Sulawesi, are suspected of being annexed by oil palm companies. Until now, the oil palm company has not secured the right to cultivate and has not given compensation to local farmers.

Referring to the investigation by the Central Sulawesi Forum for the Environment, the lands of farmers who were allegedly annexed were scattered in the villages of Bunta, Tompira, Bungitimbe, Molino, and Towara.

"In fact, the farmers have had ownership certificates and land tenure certificates (SKPT) since 1996. The company entered in 2006. This means that the existence of oil palm plantations is illegal," said Executive Director of Walhi Central Sulawesi Ahmad Pelor in Palu, Central Sulawesi, Friday (5 / 6). Walhi traced this allegation over the past three months.

Until now, the oil palm company which has been operating since 2007 has only obtained a plantation business license. Supposedly, plantation business permits should be followed up with exploitation rights to legalize plantations and resolve land conflicts with farmers. The area of the caplokan is the distribution of the company's oil palm plantations from the location permit of 19,675 hectares.

Ahmad ensured that the company's oil palm land did not have legal rights from the farmers, either through buying and selling, borrowing and using, or other mechanisms permitted by regulations. The initial handover of land to the company was based on an agreement that the oil palm was classified as plasma. "However, since the first harvest in 2010, residents have never taken part. Everything is controlled by the company," he said.

In fact, continued Ahmad, farmers' resistance to oil palm companies has been going on for a long time. They often block the road to the garden to block the trucks carrying palm oil.

Regarding land tenure certificates and certificates, Ahmad saw an overlap. One plot of land sometimes has two certificates, so does the SKPT. However, this problem is not the basis for annexing oil palm plantations.

Form a team

Administrative and General Assistant for the North Morowali Regional Secretariat Moh Amirullah explained that the local government and DPRD had formed a team to resolve the status of oil palm land. The results will later determine whether it is in the core or plasma category, so no one will be harmed.

Walhi Central Sulawesi hopes that the investigation will not only lead to compromise negotiations. Walhi asked the police to be proactive in investigating the alleged annexation, including other accompanying crimes such as gratuities to officials.

Head of the Central Sulawesi Regional Police's Public Information Subdivision Commissioner Rostin Tamuloto said that Walhi or the community should make a report to the police. "We will definitely follow up if the report includes at least data representing the reported problems," he said. (VDL)

<http://epaper1.kompas.com/kompas/books/150608kompas/#/21/>

Walhi Central Sulawesi Unveils Oil Company Violations

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Question the PT ANA permit in East Petasia

Palu, Metrosulawesi.com - The massive oil palm plantations in Central Sulawesi are considered by several groups, especially Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to be at a concerning stage.

One of the NGOs that continues to intensify against oil palm expansion is the Central Sulawesi Forum for the Environment (Walhi). Based on Walhi's records, in just five years half of Central Sulawesi's landmass had been controlled by oil palm plantations.

Director of Walhi Central Sulawesi, Ahmad Pelor said, since 2006 many oil palm companies have operated in Central Sulawesi, for example, Astra Agro Lestari (AAL). This company is the most active plantation corporation in expanding oil palm plantations in Central Sulawesi with land tenure based on permits reaching 98,000 hectares.

This company, said Ahmad, has already conducted large-scale oil palm plantations in Central Sulawesi through at least five subsidiaries, namely, PT Lestari Tani Teladan (LTT), PT Sawit Jaya Abadi (SJA), PT Rimbunan Alam Sentosa (RAS), PT Cipta Agro Nusantara (CAN), and PT Agro Nusa Abadi (ANA). All these companies operate in Donggala, Poso and North Morowali Regencies.

This subsidiary of Astra International Tbk, in general, in carrying out activities and expansion of oil palm plantations in Central Sulawesi, is always accompanied by various problems, such as problems with permits, land grabbing of farmers, conversion of forest areas, criminalization of farmers, labor conflicts, and various other problems.

In Walhi's notes, explained Ahmad Pelor, a subsidiary of PT AAL, namely PT Agro Nusa Abadi (ANA) which operates in East Petasia District, North Morowali Regency, obtained a location permit for an area of 19,675 hectares through the Decree of the Regent of Morowali Number 188.45 / 0706 / GENERAL / 2006 dated 8 December 2006, as stipulated in the Minister of Agrarian Affairs / Head of BPN No. 2 of 1999 concerning Location Permits.

The location permit is valid for three years and can be extended for one year if the land that has been acquired has reached 50%. If calculated based on the aforementioned provisions, ideally the location permit on behalf of PT ANA will expire in 2009, or if more than 50% of the land acquisition has been attempted, the location permit is extended for one year until it expires in 2010.

However, the facts in the field, he said, were that until 2015 PT ANA was only able to cultivate land for plantations of around 36% or around 7,000 hectares.

Thus, since 2010 PT ANA has been carrying out activities to acquire the location or plantation land without the permission of the authorized official or in other words illegally according to law.

Another fact shows, since 2007 PT ANA has carried out land clearing (land clearing) and planting on lands belonging to the villagers of Bunta, Tompira, Bungintimbe, Molino, Towara, East Petasia District, without being preceded by the process of relinquishing land rights. That means, since 2007 PT ANA has illegally controlled and managed a land area of ± 7,000 hectares belonging to the community of several villages in East Petasia District and against the law.

"Another fatal violation committed by PT ANA was carrying out plantation activities (planting, maintaining and harvesting plantation products), without having a Business Use Right which is the basis for the right to control over 25 hectares of plantation land," he said.

The problem is getting more chaotic, said Ahmad, when in 2014 the Acting Regent of Morowali Abdul Haris Rengga again issued a location permit to hold plantation land to PT ANA through Decree number 188.45 / KEP-B. MU / 0096 / VIII / 2014 dated 20 August 2014 concerning Approval of Renewal of Location Permits for Integrated Oil Palm Plantation Businesses and Other Supporting Facilities in Petasia Timur District.

Walhi Central Sulawesi assessed that PT ANA's plantation activities were illegal activities because they were carried out on land owned by the people of East Petasia District without a relinquishment of rights. Ahmad Pelor said SK number 188.45 / KEP-B. MU / 0096 / VIII / 2014 dated August 20, 2014 concerning Renewal Location Permit seems forced, so it is reasonable to suspect that there was a gratification process in the process of issuing the decree.

He also asked the Central Sulawesi Regional Police and the North Morowali Police to immediately investigate the issuance of the SK, and urged the Ministry of Agrarian and Spatial Planning / Head of the National Land Agency not to issue the Right to Use Business (HGU) certificate to PT ANA.

Editor: Alfred lande

- See more at: <http://www.metrosulawesi.com/article/walhi-sulteng-disclosed-pelanggaran-per-company-sawit#sthash.eMdzc5hR.dpuf>

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