



## Solidaritas Perempuan Affirms the Ministry of ATR to take concrete actions in resolving agrarian conflicts

by: Nisa Anisa

Monday, 25 September 2017, Solidaritas Perempuan (SP) together with SP Community visited the Ministry of Agrarian Affairs / National Land Agency (ATR / BPN) to have a dialogue and report cases of land conflicts that occurred in Central Sulawesi, South Sulawesi and South Sumatra. During the hearing, SP was received by the Directorate General of Agrarian Affairs for Spatial and Land Use, or the Director General 7, along with a team from the Directorate of Land and Spatial Disputes and Conflict in Territory I.

The hearing began with an opening from the Director General of Agrarian Affairs, Spatial Use and Land, which discussed land conflicts that are increasingly occurring in Indonesia. This Director General received SP at the Ministry of ATR / BPN to discuss the conflict problems that occurred, as well as to find solutions to these problems. On this occasion, SP reported three land conflict cases that occurred in Takalar-South Sulawesi, Ogan Ilir-South Sumatra, and Pamona Tenggara-Poso.

A female farmer from Seribandung Village, Ogan Ilir, South Sumatra, conveyed the conflict between the farmers and the PTPN 7 Cinta Manis Sugarcane Plantation, which has been confiscating community land since 1982. "The existence of PTPN Cinta Manis has made us experience prolonged conflict. There were acts of violence against the organ ilir community, when the community fought for their rights, they were said to hinder development. When conflicts occur, women and children often become victims. That's why we want a review with the HGU, and we want our land to be returned," he said. This was responded by the Directorate of Land and Spatial Disputes and Conflict Territory I, by saying "that our basis for issuing the HGU is because the company has provided complete documents, and based on the documents it is also stated that the residents have agreed to make their land into plantations, and the residents have also received compensation, so there is no conflict there ". This of course contradicts what has been previously described. This case has also been handled by the Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs. Although, until now, the conflict between residents and PTPN VII Cinta Manis still occurs.

Solidaritas Perempuan Poso also reported community conflicts with the company Sawit Jaya Abadi 2 (SJA 2), whose plantation location is in the village of Barati Pamona Tenggara, Central Sulawesi. "PT. SJA has evicted community land for oil palm plantations, whereas according to BPN Poso, the HGU is not clear yet, but strangely enough, PT. SJA continues to operate and is now starting to harvest," said the activist SP Poso. In addition, PT. SJA has never provided clear information to the community that their land will be turned into oil palm plantations. He also revealed the fact that oil palm plantations can have a negative impact on the community, especially women.

Meanwhile, SP Makassar reported community conflicts with PTPN 14, the Takalar sugar cane plantation in South Sulawesi. PTPN confiscates farmers' land forcibly, and also pollutes the environment. When land clearing occurred, many women and children became traumatized. "Even though the HGU itself is not clear, we have asked for information on the clarity of the HGU from the regional BPN, but they have not been able to give us, the HGU they hold is only 4 villages, even though there are 11 villages whose land was taken", he concluded.

In both cases, the Ministry of ATR / BPN is committed to coordinating with Regional Offices in the two regions. " I will write to the Regional Office to coordinate on this PTP," said Director General 7 conveying

the Regional Office to discuss this case," he said.

At the end of the discussion, Director General 7 also asked the SP to provide concept proposals related to the resolution of community conflicts with PTPN. "We find it difficult to touch PTPN, because they are under BUMN, which is also part of the government, so if the SP can provide input, give us a formula for conflict resolution with PTPN," he said at the end of the discussion.

Responding to this, Solidaritas Perempuan stated the importance of the government's commitment in resolving land conflict cases involving PTPN and the company. " If the government cannot touch PTPN, then inequality and land tenure conflicts will continue to occur," said Nisaa Yura, Coordinator of the Women's Solidarity Program. Therefore, SP will continue to follow up on commitments from ATR / BPN, both related to cases and related to the concept of conflict resolution with PTPN. On the same day, SP also submitted complaints along with land conflict case files to the ATR Ministry's Case Complaint correspondence section.

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