Dear Stakeholders,

# <u>Public Notification on upcoming RSPO Certification Assessment of Hap Seng Plantations</u> (Ladang Kawa) Sdn Bhd- Kawa Estate & Hap Seng Estate

Hap Seng Plantations (Ladang Kawa) Sdn Bhd has commissioned PT TUV Rheinland Indonesia for the assessment and certification of one of their holdings in Tawau, Malaysia and will be assessed against the Roundtable of Sustainable Palm Oil Principles and Criteria – Malaysian National Interpretation (MY-NI) and the RSPO Standard for Group Certification. The assessment shall be carried out by a qualified team of auditors to assess the legal, environmental, economic, health & safety and social aspects as covered by the RSPO P&C.

Hap Seng Plantations (Ladang Kawa) Sdn Bhd is a subsidiary company of Hap Seng Plantations Holdings Berhad. Hap Seng Plantations Holdings Bhd. is 51.55% owned (as at December 2009) by Hap Seng Consolidated Berhad, and was listed on the Main Board of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad on 16 November 2007. Hap Seng Consolidated Berhad is a progressive and well-established publicly listed company with diversified businesses in plantations, property investment and development, credit financing, trading of fertilizers and automotive, as well as building materials and stone quarries.

In line with RSPO certification requirements, Hap Seng Plantations Holdings Bhd. had established a challenging time bound plan to certify all its estates and mills in Malaysia and had completed certification assessments for all 3 of the company's main groups of estate (GOE), i.e. Sg. Segama GOE, Tomanggong GOE and Jeroco GOE by year 2013.

Hap Seng Plantations Holding Bhd. announces Kawa Estate and Hap Seng Estate under their subsidiary, Hap Seng Plantations (Ladang Kawa) Sdn. Bhd. to be assessed against the global RSPO standards framework. The two estates are located at Tawau, Sabah, Malaysia, cover a total land area of 1939.62ha and have a total combined annual average FFB output of 38,021.87 tonnes\*.

#### Scope of assessment:

The RSPO certification assessment of Kawa Estate and Hap Seng Estate is scheduled to commence from 25 – 26 November 2014. The assessment shall be carried out for 2 (two) company-owned estates. The details of the oil palm mill and estates to be assessed are as follows:

Company Estates to be included in the main assessment*						
Name of estate	Location of estate	GPS locations		Area Summary		FFB
		Latitude	Longitude	Total (ha)	Planted as of 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2014 (ha)	Production in year 2013 (tonnes)
Kawa Estate	Tawau	N4° 21' 54.2"	E118° 2' 20.7"	1276.19	1200.50	30,237.14
Hap Seng Estate	Tawau	N4° 21' 54.2"	E118° 2' 20.7"	663.43	179.00	7,784.73
TOTAL				1939.62	1379.5	38,021.87

<sup>\*</sup> All data is provided by the organization undergoing assessment and will be verified during the on-site assessment.

#### **Assessment Team**

PT TUV Rheinland Indonesia is member of Group TÜV Rheinland Group, a global leader in independent testing and assessment services. Established in 1872, TÜV Rheinland Group has over 130 years of experience in providing various types of certifications as well as technical services for over 500 locations in 65 countries worldwide.

The assessment team assigned for the certification assessment of Kawa Estate and Hap Seng Estate is as follows:

Lead auditor: Dian S. Soeminta (Group Certification, GAP, HCVs, Social, Supply Chain, etc...)

Auditors: Azizan bin Zakaria (Environment and Legal)

Dr. Savinder (Workers, Social, Local Communities and External Stakeholders)

Yusof Khairan Nizar (OSH and Legal)

#### Invitation to all stakeholders:

As a part of the certification assessment procedure we invite stakeholders to offer comments and feedback (if any) on Hap Seng Plantations Holdings Bhd. – Kawa Estate and Hap Seng Estate in relation to the relevant RSPO Principles and Criteria as per the Malaysian National Interpretation (RSPO MY-NI) on any of the following issues:

- Environmental protection
- Biodiversity conservation
- Opportunities for employment, earning fair wages, overtime and piece-rated work
- Company approach to community development
- Provision of housing, sanitation, amenities and educational support
- Community development
- Land acquisition process
- Free, prior and informed consent
- · Other matters pertaining to RSPO

Your comments or observations can be communicated to us through either a meeting with assessment team member during the fieldwork or submitting written comments by email, fax or regular mail to contact details below. Comments submitted within 30 days from the date of this notification shall be considered during the certification assessment. However, your input will be welcome at any stage of the assessment process. Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential and made available to only PT TUV Rheinland Indonesia and the RSPO Board.

#### Contact details:

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Contact person: Ms. Dian Susanty Soeminta

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Contact person: Ms. Carol Ng Tel: +603 78598023 ext. 181 Fax: +603 78598020/21 Email: carol.ng@ tuv.com

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### **Auditee:**

## Hap Seng Plantations Holdings Bhd.

Contact person: Mr. Kee Keow Chong

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Alamat:

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We thank you for your comments and feedback.

Yours sincerely,

Dian S. Soeminta

RSPO Program Manager

PT TUV Rheinland Indonesia