

## **GAR Response to Forest Peoples Programme's Press Statement dated 16 August**

**20 August 2018**

Golden Agri-Resources (GAR) is extremely disappointed with the Forest Peoples Programme (FPP) latest press statement released on 16 August 2018 entitled "Indonesia's largest palm oil company, Golden Agri Resources on the ropes". In it, FPP stated that it had filed a new complaint against GAR. However, FPP chose not to share the details of their grievance with GAR before releasing their "complaint." To date, GAR has received no official notification or communication from FPP regarding the new "complaint".

This has given GAR no opportunity to understand or clarify any of the matters brought up by FPP and is hampering proper communications between the parties as well as a violation of the spirit of the RSPO process.

From what we know of the FPP grievance, we note that it is referring and repeating various matters which have been previously resolved and addressed. Furthermore it is still based on an erroneous understanding about our relationship with GVL, the nature of which we have recently clarified again with the RSPO Secretariat. We have updated these matters with FPP and RSPO through our regular reports to RSPO which are publicly accessible here: <https://rspo.org/members/complaints/status-of-complaints/view/75>. As for FPP's claim concerning GAR and shadow companies, we absolutely refute this and affirm there is no basis for such allegations.

In accordance with the [GAR Social and Environmental Policy](#), we remain committed to complying with the RSPO Principles and Criteria and the laws and regulations of Indonesia.

### **About Golden Agri-Resources Ltd (GAR)**

GAR is one of the leading palm oil plantation companies with a total planted area of 500,481 hectares (including plasma smallholders) as at 30 June 2018, located in Indonesia. It has integrated operations focused on the production of palm-based edible oil and fat.

Founded in 1996, GAR was listed on the Singapore Exchange in 1999 and has a market capitalisation of US\$2.8 billion as at 30 June 2018. Flambo International Limited, an investment company, is currently GAR's largest shareholder, with a 50.35 percent stake.

GAR has several subsidiaries, including PT SMART Tbk which was listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange in 1992.

GAR is focused on responsible palm oil production. In Indonesia, its primary activities include cultivating and harvesting of oil palm trees; processing of fresh fruit bunch into crude palm oil (CPO) and palm kernel; refining CPO into value-added products such as cooking oil, margarine, shortening, biodiesel and oleo-chemicals; as well as merchandising palm products throughout the world. It also has operations in China and India including a deep-sea port, oilseeds crushing plant, production capabilities for refined edible oil products as well as other food products such as noodles.

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