

## Promoting Sustainable Palm Oil, Asian Agri Affirms Commitment to Work with Government

**Jakarta**, **9 January 2019** – Asian Agri has reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the government in promoting the national sustainable palm oil industry through continuous partnership and collaboration.

The statement was delivered by M. Fadhil Hasan, Asian Agri's Corporate Affairs Director, to Retno Marsudi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, during the 2019 Annual Press Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia in Jakarta on Tuesday (8/1).



Asian Agri Corporate Affairs Director M. Fadhil Hasan handed a book of smallholder partnerships to the Foreign Affairs Minister Retno Marsudi at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jakarta (8/1)

The statement came after a successful 2018, which saw Asian Agri cooperate with the Ministry on a number of initiatives. As a national palm oil producer committed to sustainability, Asian Agri was granted the opportunity to welcome a group of EU ambassadors during the Executive Oil Palm Program in April 2018. The program was held by the Policy Planning and Development Agency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with Jambi Government and Jambi University, amid ongoing negative campaigns against oil palm.

During the event, Asian Agri had the first opportunity to explain sustainable palm oil practices in its Tungkal Ulu Estate to the nine countries' ambassadors and diplomats.



Asian Agri's superior Topaz seeds displayed during an event on palm oil diplomacy held by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Policy Analysis and Development Agency (BPPK).

Further, Asian Agri supported a training program on the importance of sustainable palm oil for 25 Indonesian diplomats at the company's mill and biogas power plant in Buatan, Riau.

"Asian Agri is committed to support the government's efforts in promoting sustainable palm oil domestically and internationally," Fadhil said.



Ambassadors of European Union Member States visited a Biogas Power Plant owned by Asian Agri in Tungkal Ulu, Jambi to learn about sustainable palm oil practices implemented by the company (16/4)



Indonesian diplomats visited Asian Agri's operations in Buatan, Riau, as part of the Senior Diplomatic Training program (SESPARLU) held by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (11/5).

## About Asian Agri:

Asian Agri is one of Indonesia's largest palm oil producers since 1979. Today, the company manages 100,000 hectares of land and employs over 25,000 people. A pioneer of the Indonesian government's Trans-National Government Migration (PIR-Trans) program, Asian Agri works with 30,000 plasma smallholders in Riau and Jambi who operate 60,000 hectares of palm oil plantations, as well as independent smallholders, bringing about positive impact on their quality of life and economic development.

Implementing a strict "no burn" policy and best practices in sustainable plantation management, Asian Agri has helped its smallholder partners improve productivity, yield and supply chain traceability, while assisting them obtain certifications. The company's mills are technologically advanced and energy self-sufficient, minimizing greenhouse gas emissions.

Asian Agri is a member of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). More than 86% of both owned plantations in North Sumatra, Riau & Jambi provinces and 100% of scheme smallholder plantations in Riau & Jambi provinces have been RSPO certified.

All plantations, including those owned by smallholders, have been certified by ISCC (International Sustainability & Carbon Certification).

More than 93% of plantations and mills owned by Asian Agri have been ISPO (Indonesian Sustainable Palm Oil) certified.

The company's operations are ISO 14001 certified, while its Learning Institute and nursery research center in Riau province, Indonesia are both ISO 9001 certified. Asian Agri's R&D Center in North Sumatra was also given a certification by the International Plant-Analytical Exchange at the WEPAL lab at Wageningen University in The Netherlands, for its high standards.

For further information, please contact:

Dinna Permana Setyani Corporate Communication Manager E-mail: <u>DinnaPermana@asianagri.com</u> DID: +62 21 2301 119