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## **BSP organizes second Offshore Safety Zone Roadshow**

The fishing community in Kuala Belait and Seria were the second to participate in an information roadshow that aims to educate the community regarding enacted safety zones near offshore oil rigs and structures in Brunei waters.

The number of fishermen encroaching to the offshore safety zones continues to increase over the years, despite laws and deterrents being implemented. This factor has driven relevant government agencies to collaborate in raising awareness on the enacted safety zones in Negara Brunei Darussalam.

The Brunei Darussalam's Marine Police, Marine Department, Fisheries Department, Royal Brunei Navy, Attorney-General Chambers (AGC) and the National Maritime Coordination Centre (NMCC), as well as Brunei Shell Petroleum (BSP) engaged members of the local fishing community at the Dewan Pejabat Daerah Seria yesterday.

Among the many extensive highlights of the roadshow included presentations from government agencies which highlighted Brunei Government's Acts and legal Order of the Merchant Shipping Safety Zones, which prohibits the public from entering and catching fish within a 500-metre radius of offshore installations and structures.

The government agencies and BSP representatives seek cooperation from the public, particularly the fishing and marine communities, to adhere to the 500 metres exclusion or "no-go" zone near oil rigs and structures, as it can jeopardise safety, people and assets which in turn could have impact on the country's economy. Risks of such activities include collisions between boats and/or people, falling objects from platforms, as well as fires and explosions, triggered by cigarettes and hand-phones.

In accordance to 'The Merchant Shipping (Safety Zones) Order, 1988 and Merchant Shipping (Safety Zones) (Amendment) Order, 2013', there are safety zones that are prohibited to unauthorised mariners.

The areas are Champion Shoal Oilfield, Magpie Oilfield, Fairley Oilfield, South West Ampa Oilfield, Fairley-Baram Oilfield, Gannet and 500 metres around offshore installations.

The consequences of encroachments and illegal fishing threaten not only people and the environment, but also the oil and gas business and the country's economy. The owner, master or person in charge of any ship or any person found contravening "shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$100,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 years or both and the ship shall be liable to be detained."

## **ENQUIRIES:**

### **Brunei Shell Petroleum Media Relations**

Notes to Editors: Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sdn Bhd (BSP) should be referred as BSP or Brunei Shell Petroleum for abbreviation or headline purposes. Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sdn Bhd's activity is primarily for the exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas from onshore and offshore fields. The Government of Brunei Darussalam and a company in the Royal Dutch Shell Group of Companies each own a 50% stake in BSP.