

**Welcoming Remarks  
by Ken Marnoch, Managing Director,  
Brunei Shell Petroleum Co Sdn Bhd  
at BSP and Wetlands International Biodiversity Action Plan Stakeholder Engagement  
Wednesday, October 17, 2012  
Empire Hotel & Country Club, Jerudong**

Representatives from the government sector, private sector and non-governmental agencies.

Distinguished guests, Tuan-tuan dan puan-puan,

Selamat Pagi dan Selamat Datang.

Welcome and thank all of you for being with us here this morning.

All of you know that Brunei is a truly special place as it is home to one of the oldest and most pristine rainforests in the world, and also some of the only remaining peatland forests. The country's unique environment, coupled with the Brunei Government's active conservation efforts has allowed for its rainforests to flourish.

On this note, I am really pleased to be here at today's stakeholder engagement on BSP's collaboration with Wetlands International due to their global expertise and dedication to the conservation and restoration of wetlands. Our work together on the Biodiversity Action Plan Project is taking the next step in demonstrating our responsibility towards the environment.

Good biodiversity management needs to incorporate cultural, social and economic values in the Vision, Mission, Thought, Motivation and Action process. This is why we are engaging all the relevant stakeholders, such as yourselves, here today –to make sure that everybody who has a significant stake in the biodiversity of our country is engaged, has the opportunity to add value to the project, and thus ensuring a successful outcome for everyone involved.

As we strive to achieve the Company's vision of "Energy for Life... Fuelling Brunei's future", we must do so by making the Natural Choice, which is Caring for the Environment. BSP is proud to play its part in sustaining the economy of Brunei Darussalam by meeting her energy needs and that of the world – and we will continue to do so by delivering sustainable long-term value to our shareholders and the country.

Nations must remember that biodiversity is a crucial asset to the sustainable development of a country and plays a part in many social and economic issues. Here in Brunei, for example, the rainforest is a significant source of potential income for the people and the country, however it must be developed in a sustainable and responsible manner in order to preserve the ecosystem and also the livelihoods of people who depend on this resource.

Protecting the biodiversity of Brunei's environment is a long term investment that will benefit us all.

Every country has a responsibility in this regard, and every organisation in a country – whether governmental, NGO, private, public – and every individual, has a responsibility towards protecting the environment.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivered a *titah* at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation conference in 2007, stating his and Brunei's commitment, through initiatives like the Heart of Borneo, to protecting its natural environment and the promotion of sustainability. It should be our strategy and prerogative to support His Majesty's aspirations for Brunei's future and through our combined efforts to make visible strides forward in realizing them.

Brunei's forests are home to 13 primate species, more than 350 bird species, 150 species of reptiles and amphibians and about 15,000 species of plants. However, if we are not careful, according to the latest United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity held in India just last week, environmental experts forecast that the time to prevent or even reverse a huge loss of species worldwide is running out, even as quickly as ten years – which is what the Biodiversity Action Plan sets out to learn and safeguard.

One thing is clear – we must take these steps together now to protect the nature around us today, for ourselves, our children and our children's children.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for your time and commitment to partner with BSP and the BAP team. It will require real mutual understanding and respect, partnership and coordinated action to turn all your commitment and resources into positive impact to protect Brunei Darussalam's biodiversity and environment. I hope that the presentation and discussions this morning will demonstrate the significance of today's event for tomorrow's future.

Terima Kasih

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