

Briefing Report : **Sesi Taklimat Kempen Taklimt Sayangi Sawitku
Kepada Ahli-Ahli Dewan Rakyat**
Date : **11/04/2019**
Time : **12.30pm to 2.30pm**
Venue : **Bilik Taklimat, Dewan Rakyat, Parliament**
Speaker : **YB Teresa Kok, Minister of Primary Industries**

Background

The purpose of the briefing is to **enlist members of parliament in the effort to promote Malaysia Palm Oil in the public and their respective constituencies.**

According to the Minister of Primary Industries, palm oil products faces severe discrimination due to certain parties' agenda namely soy bean industries and developed countries such as European Union, Norway Government and Dutch Government. EU alone allocated US\$600 million in anti-palm oil campaign this year while the Ministry of Primary Industries only got an allocation of RM2 million and the anti-palm oil campaign are being effective not only in their respective countries but also globally.

The anti-palm oil campaign which started from 1980s based on health concerns have evolved into environmental concerns and now are being extensive to the point that children in schools and kindergarden are also taught about the negative impact of palm oil alongside many viral social media videos targeting children.

Even Malaysians themselves are also exposed to this trend and many have also subscribed to same arguments against palm oil of being unhealthy and deforestation. The negative image of palm oil is spreading globally and evolving that the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Agro-based Industry shared that in his business visit to China, he was questioned on the sustainability of palm oil and its health impacts. Many products globally began to bear the logo of "palm oil free" in their effort to disassociate themselves from the commodities and to reach the ever-rising niche market of sophisticated consumer globally.

The Deputy Minister of Health also provided his perspective that palm oil compare to other cooking oil are only slightly inferior but different from rapeseed oil it will not cause heart attack or cardiac arrests.

Fat and Risk of Cardiac Arrest: - Palm oil may give risk to high cholesterol due to its high concentration saturated-fat but it is unlikely to contribute to cardiac arrests due to its zero trans-fat properties. Palm oil also contains antioxidants, such as carotenoids and tocotrienols, that might provide protection against certain types of cancer,

Risks of Cancer: - Palm oil cancer causing properties is found not in its oil form but at its free radical level or after heating it over 200 degree Celsius. According to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), palm oil generates more of a contaminant that's potentially cancer causing than other oils when it reaches this temperature. EFAS carried out a study in 2014 and identified potentially harmful product after industrial refining.

The European Union recently tabled Delegated Act is expected to be passed in 2 month and will be detrimental to the palm oil industry. The Delegated Act tabled in 13 March 2019 will have two months period for scrutiny before being brought up for approval in European Parliament. The act is not amendable and deem most palm oil biofuel as unsustainable based on “indirect land use change” (ILUC) and would not be counted toward EU renewable energy targets.

Malaysia is against the EU Delegated Act as it was controversial measurement not supported by global standard; against United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and bias with criteria in favour of soy bean planters.

Details of the “Sayangi Sawitku” Campaign

To raise Malaysian awareness on the benefit and nutrition of palm oil and the challenges faced by the palm oil commodities. Encourage Malaysian to defend the commodities and be its spokesperson.

Ministry’s Strategy to Address the Anti-Palm Oil Campaign

- Limit the expansion of palm oil plantation to only 6.5 million hectares;
- Establish a publicly open official map for palm oil plantation nationwide;
- Collaborate with industries players and state government to restore and rehabilitate forest tree species; and
- Establish wildlife conservatives.
- Certify Malaysia palm oil as sustainable

The current status Malaysia Sustainable Palm Oil Certification (MSPO)

	Total Land Size (hectare)	Units Certified	Land Size Certified	%
Small private plantation owners In Phase 2 of MSPO	979,892	107	27,407.01	2.8
Organized small private plantation owners in Phase 3 of MSPO	4,869,438	92 cluster/ estate	1,480,528.27	30.4
Estate Size under MSPO Phase 3		529 estate		
Total	5,849,330	728 unit	1,507,935	25.8

Palm oil Mill under MSPO Phase 3	Total Palm Oil Mills	Certified Units	Mill Capacity (MT per hour)	%
	451	149	8,14	33.00%

Ministry's Programme / Initiatives to Address the Issue:

- Inter-Ministries and Agency Collaboration
DBKL/ Information Department/ RTM/ Ministry of Tourism/ Ministry of Environment and State Government
- Collaboration with Private Sector
Palm Oil Industry Players
Airlines Companies (MAS, Malindo, AirAsia)
- Malaysia Inbound Tourism Association
- Tourist Driver Association
Visitation to Palm Oil Plantation Programme (Tour Package -Sime Darby Carey – FGV Pahang)
- Palm Oil Ambassador Club
- Palm Oil Wall
Private Higher Education Institution (KDU, Segi University)
Strategic Commercial Space (Langkawi Airport / Ferry Terminal)
- Sayangi Sawitku Campaign and Commercial
Digital commercial by the Government and private sector
- Campaign through mass and social media
- Encourage palm-oil oriented products to bear logo of SayangiSawitku or MSPO
- Planting for Future
Pin Supu Forest Reserve in Sabah
- Wildlife Conservation
Contribution to Wild Life Department of Sabah – Survey of orangutan and pygmy population

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