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The Profile of the Forestry Agency of Central Kalimantan Province

Forests in Indonesia are very important and strategic natural resources and environmental components, namely as a life support system with 3 (three) main functions which include conservation functions, protection functions and production functions. These functions have clearly been regulated and stipulated in Act Number 41 of Year 1999 concerning Forestry. These three functions have reciprocal relationships and complement one another. Therefore, the management of these functions is essential in order to achieve the optimization of functions in a sustainable manner and to provide a profound meaning for the continuity of the development of our nation and country, in the present and in the future.

As a real potential natural resource besides being renewable resources, nowadays, forest is one of the main focuses of attention from various parties, both policy makers (government), practitioners and the business world (private) and academics, even the community members, with different points of view on the 3 (three) main functions mentioned. The fact is that in its development, even more so after the Indonesian nation was hit by a multi-dimensional crisis which still can not be overcome, it was clear that by most parties, forest natural resources were more viewed from the point of view of its production function. While until now there has not been found a model or system of sustainable forest management that is able to accommodate a variety of interests that are equally essential for the lives of people, nation and country.

The objective condition of Central Kalimantan Province which is the third largest forest area in Indonesia (after Irian Jaya and East Kalimantan) naturally places the forestry sector as one of the potential strategic choices in supporting the implementation of Regional Autonomy which has become a joint national commitment as well as one of the mainstay sectors of Central Kalimantan.

That the collection or utilization activities of the forest's own natural resources in Indonesia, including in Central Kalimantan, have been going on for approximately four decades, that is, since the end of the decade of the 60s. Since then, forest business activities in Indonesia have become one of the strategic choices and profitable for the private sectors in developing their business. Initially it was indeed dominated by forms of licensing/concession rights in the form of Forest Concession Rights (Hak Pengusahaan Hutan/HPH), but later developed other forms of licensing such as HPHTI, IPK, HPHH, HPHKm, and other legal permits, both on a large, medium and small scale all of which has its own implications for the existence and potential of forest natural resources with the 3 (three) main functions mentioned above.

In the current atmosphere of concern, together we have agreed that to be able to get out of the crisis that hit our nation and country is by no ways other than by consistently implementing reforms in all fields, including forestry reform which is substantially carried out by changing the **old paradigm** of forestry development which was more focused on economic aspects with a **centralistic** system of government - towards a **new paradigm** of forest management, of which for the welfare of the community and ensuring the implementation of principles of equity, justice and sustainability in a **decentralistic** system of government that is inspired by the spirit of reform and autonomy. Within this framework, the forestry development policies being developed must be a shift in policy from

timber management towards multi-purposes and multi-functions management that are tailored-made for local or regional objective conditions and demands that arise and develop around us as well as the current reform discourse. Thus we will be able to "get to know ourselves and our potential" to further determine the steps towards policies in the future. In turn, it is hoped to be realized a common perspective (vision) and common understanding (perception) of regional forestry development that are increasingly stable and resilient.

The existence of Act No. 22 of Year 1999 concerning Regional Government and Act No. 25 of Year 1999 concerning Financial Balance between the Central Government and Regional Government, and the existence of Act No. 41 of Year 1999 concerning Forestry (substitute for Act No. 5 of Year 1967) are constitutional implementations in welcoming and accommodating demands and regional objective conditions in the nuances of reform that are developing today that must be addressed by empowering all potential regional objectives, including potential forest nature resources, where the portion and access of local communities are increasingly expanded and strengthened so that they are multi-dimensionally integrated with the system and development policies applied in the region. Specifically, the stipulation of Government Regulation PP No. 25 concerning the Authority of the Government and the Authority of the Province as an Autonomous Region, which is the elaboration of Act No. 22 of Year 1999 and Act No. 25 of Year 1999, and in line with Act No. 41 of Year 1999, is intended to provide opportunities (through delegation of authority) to the regions to empower and manage each of their objective potentials in accordance with the conditions, demands and needs of regional development and communities, with the core of Decentralization.

In order to address this, various government policies in the forestry sector should continue to be developed to strengthen the role of the community in forestry development so that it will create a proportional ideal condition between the interests of the community, the government, the business world and the preservation of the forest itself. That forest management and business activities are not owned by large established private sectors with large capital only, but also by communities, both community groups, business entities and/or cooperatives as well as individuals are given equal opportunities in the widest possible balance.

However, what we must realize and understand is that between these two aspects (existing policies and conditions of society) at the present time objectively have not yet reached the level of "going hand in hand and aligned". This means that the community has not been optimally prepared to be able to welcome and implement existing policies. This is precisely the central position of each region of forestry lines that is very strategic in nature. In this context, it is time for the "culture to pick up the ball" of which we must be able to develop in accordance with the objective conditions of the area. That the present period can be said to be the society's "golden period" where opportunities and chances for the community to take part in regional forestry development are literally wide open. Such conditions are certainly ideal and have positive impacts on the people of Central Kalimantan, which is an originally traditional-agrarian society with all its special characteristics.