

Magoh Declaration 2024

We, the Eastern Penan from the Ulu Barih and Magoh area, are native peoples on our land and have lived in the forests since time immemorial. We are the last nomads in Sarawak and forests have provided us with everything we need to live. We have always been heavily dependent on forests for our survival and do not want further deforestation activities to threaten our forests and our livelihoods without our consent.

Since 1987, our generation and our parents' generation have been setting up blockades to protect our forests from deforestation. The blockades in our areas have been reported worldwide and thanks to the blockades, we have been able to preserve some of our forests to this day. The current Premier of Sarawak, Tun Abang Hj. Openg, was then Minister for Penan Affairs and visited Lamin Lajang, the blockades of the Penan and Kelabit communities in Lg Napir. On 10 October 1987, the Penan Minister commissioned the State Planning Department to conduct a study on the Penan, which identified seven biosphere reserves (UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserve (MAB), 1971) for the nomadic Penan in the Tutoh, Magoh and Limbang areas, covering 6735 km². Despite these studies, which many decades ago established the outstanding value of the forests and the importance of the forests for us Penan, the biosphere reserve in our area and in most of the other proposed biosphere areas have not yet been recognized until today.

In 1991, a delegation from the Penan and Kelabit communities embarked on a world tour and visited 24 cities in 13 countries to gain international support for UN recognition of the biosphere reserves identified in the government study. In the following years, we also wrote many letters to the Sarawak government to gain support for the recognition of our forests as biosphere reserves. After all our efforts, on 9 July 2002, we received a letter from the Sarawak Forest Department granting us an area of 5,000 hectares in Ba' Da'un, Magoh, for the exclusive use of the Penan and giving us a guarantee that no further logging by companies will be allowed in our area. (Reference Sir: DF.921.01(VII)-26). Nevertheless, logging has continued in some parts of our area and neither the 5,000 hectares in the Ba' Da'un area nor the suggested biosphere in the Magoh area have been realized to date.

For this reason, the signatories of this letter are addressing you today with a declaration in favour of the Magoh Biosphere to express our absolute determination to continue to live with and in these forests into the future, to protect them as we have done in the past and wish to do for the future of generations to come.

Our vision of the Magoh Biosphere Reserve is the following:

1. Save our forests, its outstanding importance for biodiversity and world's climate

The area in the Ulu Barih/Magoh area are until today home to very valuable forests and watersheds with an outstanding biodiversity. Many species are listed as vulnerable or threatened on the IUCN Red List can be found in our area, including sun bears, clouded leopards and various hornbill species. Recent research also suggests that there are as yet undiscovered amphibian species in the area. These forests should remain protected and continue to be used sustainably by us.

2. Right to our land and respect for our rights

We, the Penan who live in the Magoh Biosphere Reserve area, should have the right to continue our lives and have our right to our land recognised. We want our land and our customary land rights to be protected and respected. We demand that the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) according to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) be respected in all activities on our land. All communities must be involved in all discussions that affect our territory and must receive all information that affects our territory.

3. Right to govern the Magoh Biosphere Reserve and generate alternative income

Article 1 of the UNDRIP states that, "Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and develop their political, economic and social systems or institutions, to be secure in the enjoyment of their own means of subsistence and development, and to engage freely in all their traditional and other economic activities." We should have the possibility to create alternative livelihoods, traditional and other economic and sustainable activities. And we, the local communities, should be the one managing the biosphere reserve.

4. Access to basic infrastructure

Like all people, we have basic needs that should be met by the state government, such as access to clean drinking water, medical care and access to energy sources. We would like to receive projects and support from the Sarawak state government, like many others, and hope that we will not be neglected in the future. However, we should also have the right to reject projects that we consider unsustainable and not beneficial to our community and the environment.

Despite various promises by the authorities to stop logging, we, the Penan, have been affected by logging in our ancestral territory of Ulu Bareh/Magoh for many years. We have been fighting against logging in our area since the 1980s. With this declaration, we demand the cancellation of all existing logging and plantation licenses that pose a threat to the forests and Penan territory of Ulu Bareh, Magoh and Limbang area. We request that a Biosphere Reserve designation be created for the said area. For time immemorial, we have lived in close relationship with our environment without destroying it, which is the basic aim of Man and Biosphere (MAB).

We wish to express our will and desire to continue living in and from our forests and to protect and sustainably use our forests for our lives and the lives of future generations.

With this declaration we want to lay the foundation for a Magoh Biosphere Reserve for the forests and all generations that will live in this area in the future.

Appendix 6: Proposed Magoh Bioshpere Reserve based on the proposed Bioshpere plans and including i.e. the 5,000 hectares mentioned above.

Deklarasi Magoh 2024

Amé Penan jin Ba Baréh, Magoh ngan kawasan Limbang, amé kelunan poho asen tong tana' mé' ngan murip tong tana' mé' jin suket opo ngan tepun mé' saha. Amé kelunan paso éh ga' pu'un lem Sarawak ngan tana' jalan mé' moko teu éh mena' kekat ineu éh gunah ke' mé' omok murip. Kekat éh lem tana' nah, matek gunah mu'un jalan amé omok murip uban inah amé bé' kelo kelunan kereja ngan nasa' tana', tebeng kayeu tong tana' amé atau ineu-ineu arong kereja réh éh petusah urip mé' tong tana' asen mé' hun néh bé' jin kejam amé.

Jin bu'un taun 1987, kekat tepun, opo mé' ngan kekat kelunan ja'au mé' petekedeng apat ke' réh omok modo ngan mava tana' mé' dai néh tasa'. Kereja apat lem kawasan mé' iteu lepah perengah ngan kenejam avé tipo tana' ngan amé murung kenin uban apat éh neu mé' nah, omok maneu tana' mé' keto lalun avé tong dau iteu. Premier Sarawak, Tun Hj Openg éh hun iteu teu, jaka' inah iah jadi Menteri Hal Ehwal Penan, iah maneu lawatan tai Lamin Lajang tong apat éh naneu Penan ngan Kelabit tong Long Napir. Tong 10.10.1987, iah nyoho State Planning Department maneu jah penyelidikan tong pengurip ngan asen amé Penan. Tovo inah irah jam tong 7 kekat *biosphere rizab (UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserves (MAB), 1971)*. Iteu penakai ngan kenejam kekat kelunan Penan éh pu'un tong Tutoh, Magoh ngan Limbang. Keja'au retek iteu inah éh 52,620 hektar. Avé hun iteu, *biosphere rizab* teu bé' jak éh kenakun tong retek mé', bé' éh barei 6 retek éh beken nah. Na' péh kekat penyelidikan iteu naneu réh kura masa éh lepah pajau, ngan lena éh jian ngan pepoleng tana' nah gunah mu'un tong pengurip amé Penan, *biosphere rizab* tong retek mé' bé' jak éh kenakun réh, bé' éh pekua' ngan 6 retek éh beken nah.

Tong taun 1991, perwakilan jin Penan pekua' ngan Kelabit nebu'un pengelakau tai tipo tana' ngan tai 24 lebo lem 13 lebo ja'au ke' réh ala sokongan antarabangsa atau kelunan usit ngan UN doko omok ngakun *biosphere reserves* eh neu lem penyelidikan inah ri'. Tong taun éh sa' ketai inah, pina mé' maneu surat tai Perintah Sarawak, menyat sokongan ngan tolong ke' irah péh omok ngakun tana' mé' jadi retek rizab biosfera. Jin kekat éh neu mé' nah, tong 9 dau laséh 7 taun 2002, amé terima jah surat jin Sarawak Forest Department éh mena' 5,000 kejaau hektar tana' tong Ba Daun, Magoh, ke' amé Penan omok murip lem néh ngan pakai éh. Ngan irah pejaji bé' pu'un kereja nasa' tana', ngan bé' pu'un la'ah kompeni omok masek lem retek mé' ngan ala kayeu mé'. (Reference Sir:DF.921.01(VII)-26). Na' péh réh kenat ha', pu'un keto kereja ala kayeu naneu tong jelua' retek tana' mé'. Tana' pejaji éh juk nena' keja'au 5000 hektar tong Ba Daun ngan retek éh juk neu réh biosfera tong Ba Magoh inah péh, avé dau iteu bé' réh pu'un ngakun éh ngan mena' éh ngan amé.

Uban néh kenat, kekat amé pu'un pei tada' ojo tong surat iteu doko pepoléng ha' ngan kenin éh nada' mé' pekua' kenin tong Magoh Biosfera. Amé bé' melo kenin tong mava ngan mihau tana' mé'. Jian péh iah jalan ke' mé' murip hun iteu, kenat péh ke' mé' modo éh ngan anak, ayam mé' éh sa' tenah iteu vam.

1. Mihau tana' lalun lu', uban néh matek gunah mu'un tong biodiversity ngan pengepaléu tipo tana' (world's climate)

Retek l'ot Baréh/Magoh nah avé hun iteu ne', inah éh barei jah lamin ngan kekat éh gunah pu'un lem néh ngan retek inah pekua' apan ba ngan pina la'ah éh jian lem tana' lalun nah éh matek jian mu'un. Pina arong ka'an éh bé' lumang tena'an ngan lepah bé' éh keto pu'un lem IUCN, omok to néh tena'an ngan kenejam pu'un tong retek mé' iteu,

pala kelalun néh. Ka'an éh barei buang ja'au, bengosa' tepun, ngan kekat arong juhit metui. Inah péh kekat ka'an-ka'an iteu, pu'un penyidik bara', pina to arong ka'an éh bé' jak tena'an tapi' pu'un éh lem retek iteu. Uban néh kenat, pelapah gunah mu'un tana' iteu penoko ngan nava, kenat péh amé omok pakai éh ngan teneng.

2. Pu'un penyukat amé bau tana' mé' ngan tunuk ra' penyukat mé'

Amé, Penan éh murip lem retek Magoh Biosfera Rizab, poho pu'un penyukat doko omok tio ngelakau pengurip mé' siteu ngan pu'un penyukat mé' bau tana' mé'. Amé kelo doko tana' ngan kekat ad et asen mé' tetap nihau ngan kelunan tunduk tong néh. Amé menyat doko prinsip Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) kivu lem United Nations Declaration tong Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) omok kenivu, tong kekat penganeu atau kereja éh juk naneu lem retek amé. Kenat péh kekat ineu penganeu éh juk senuai lem retek mé' ngan kekat ineu rengah éh avé lem retek amé, jian hun ka'ah pané bara' éh ngan kekat kelunan lem uma.

3. Na' penyukat amé lem Magoh Biosfera Rizab ngan suai kereja éh pu'un mena' olé ngan usah mé'.

Lem Article 1 UNDRIP pu'un bara', "Kelunan asen pu'un penyukat omok poko ngan pebeté politik, ekonomi ngan sosial sistem atau institusi, doko pu'un pengepawah lem ngelakau pengurip réh ngan pu'un pengebeté lem urip réh tengé, ngan irah omok senang kenin omok nyeliko kekat aktiviti ekonomi tradisional ngan kekat éh beken". Amé pu'un pengejam lem pitah kineu gaya' murip, jin néh urip adet asen kenat péh urip pebelih ngan kenat péh pitan lem pitah gaya' urip éh jian kepéh. Kenat péh, amé kelunan asen menyat doko amé éh ngamit biosfera rizab iteu.

4. Lumang tong kemudahan asas

Barei kelunan éh beken, amé péh pu'un éh gunah mé' jalan murip lem siget dau, iteu perlu réh seruh éh mu'un, barei irah kerajaan negeri barei éh gunah tong ba bersih, usah éh magat ngan lumang omok gunah sumber tenaga éh pu'un. Amé péh kelo terima projek ngan sokongan jin Kerajaan Negeri Sarawak barei mah kekat kelunan beken. Ngan amé ngelan, amé bé' nepei awah lem dau éh sa' tenah. Kenat péh, amé péh pu'un penyukat hun mé' bara' bé' buha' jah-jah projek hun amé seruh éh omok mihin penusah ngan kesa'at ngan kelunan mé', kenat péh lem tana' lalun mé'.

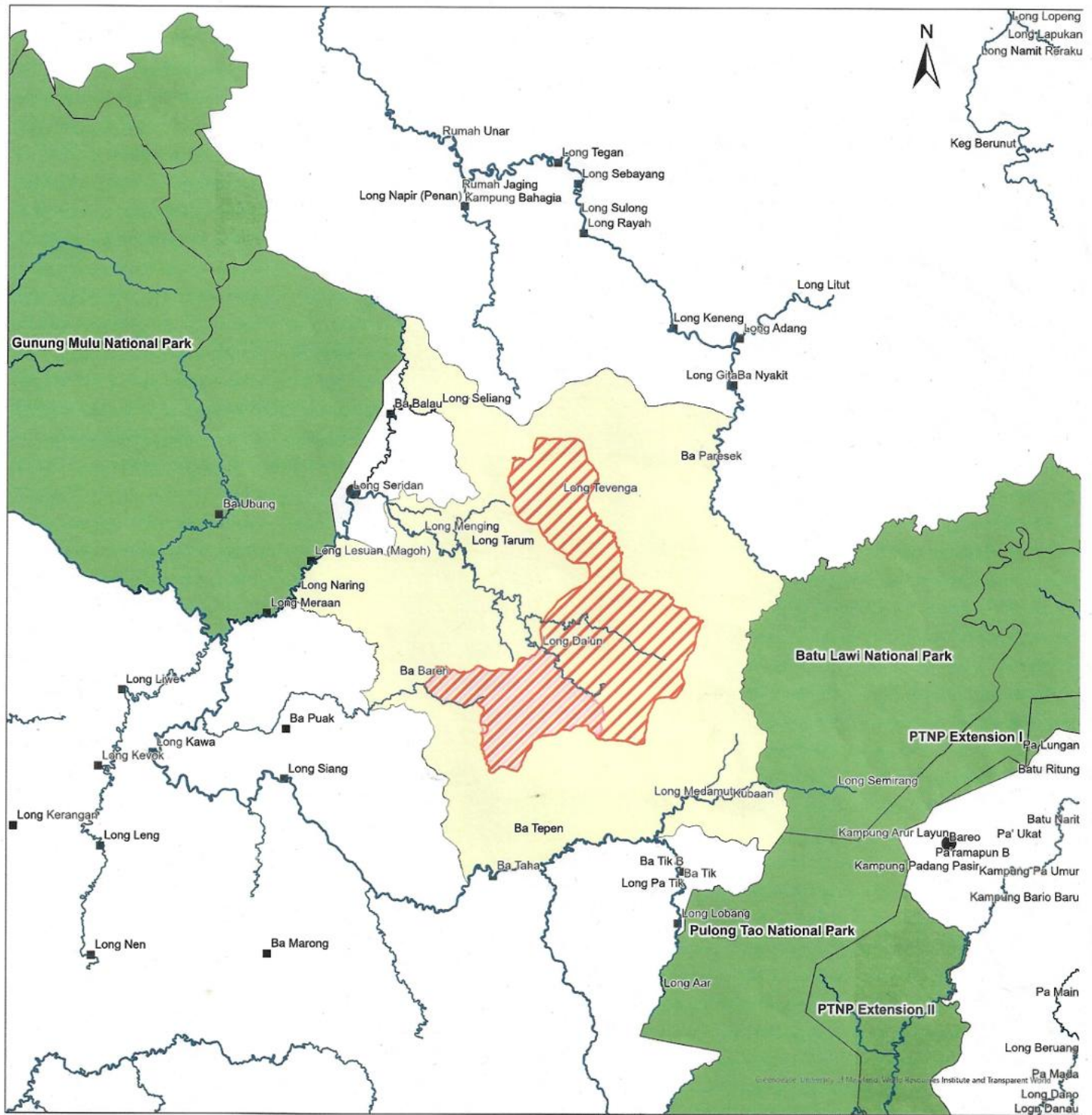
Kineu péh kekat jaji éh lepah naneu kekat kelunan ja'au doko pekao pembalakan, amé Penan keto ngakam kekat penusah uban kayeu éh lepah tenebeng lem tana' irah ja'au mé' lem l'ot Bareh/Magoh lem kura-kura taun iteu. Amé petangen pekao pembalakan iteu jin taun 1980 rai. Uban kenat lem surat tada' bua ojo iteu, amé menyat lesen metek kayeu ngan lesen mulah kayeu éh lepah pesuai nah nebet ngan mai nakai uban kekat iteu lena maneu jah penusah ngan amé Penan ngan kenat péh tana' lalun lem retek i'ot Baréh/Magoh ngan Limbang. Amé menyat doko Biosfera Rizab iteu mu'un-mu'un senuai lem retek éh lepah tenatuk. Jin sahau tenéh, amé murip dani mu'un ngan tana' lalun ngan amé bé' nasa' éh, jadi iteu néh jah éh matek lubun jah lem Man and Biosphere (MAB).

Amé kelo bara' kenin ngan pengenyat mé' doko omok ngelakau pengurip mé' ngan jian, kenat péh amé omok mihau tana' lalun mé' ngan jian, doko omok nakai mé' jin hun iteu pah avé anak ngan ayam mé' vam.

Ngan ha' pengakun iteu, amé pei Magoh Biosfera Rizab, bé' éh ngan usah amé tengé tapi' amé poko éh ngan kekat anak, ayam mé' éh murip dau sa' tenah vam.

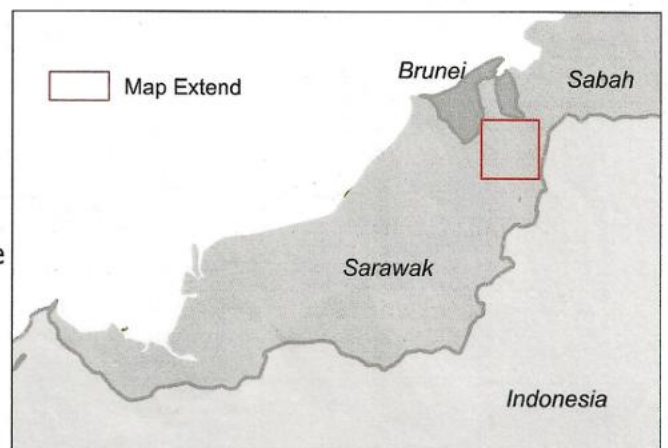
Tada' bua ojo jin kelunan éh murip tong l'ot Baréh, Magoh ngan Limbang.

Proposed Magoh Biosphere Reserve



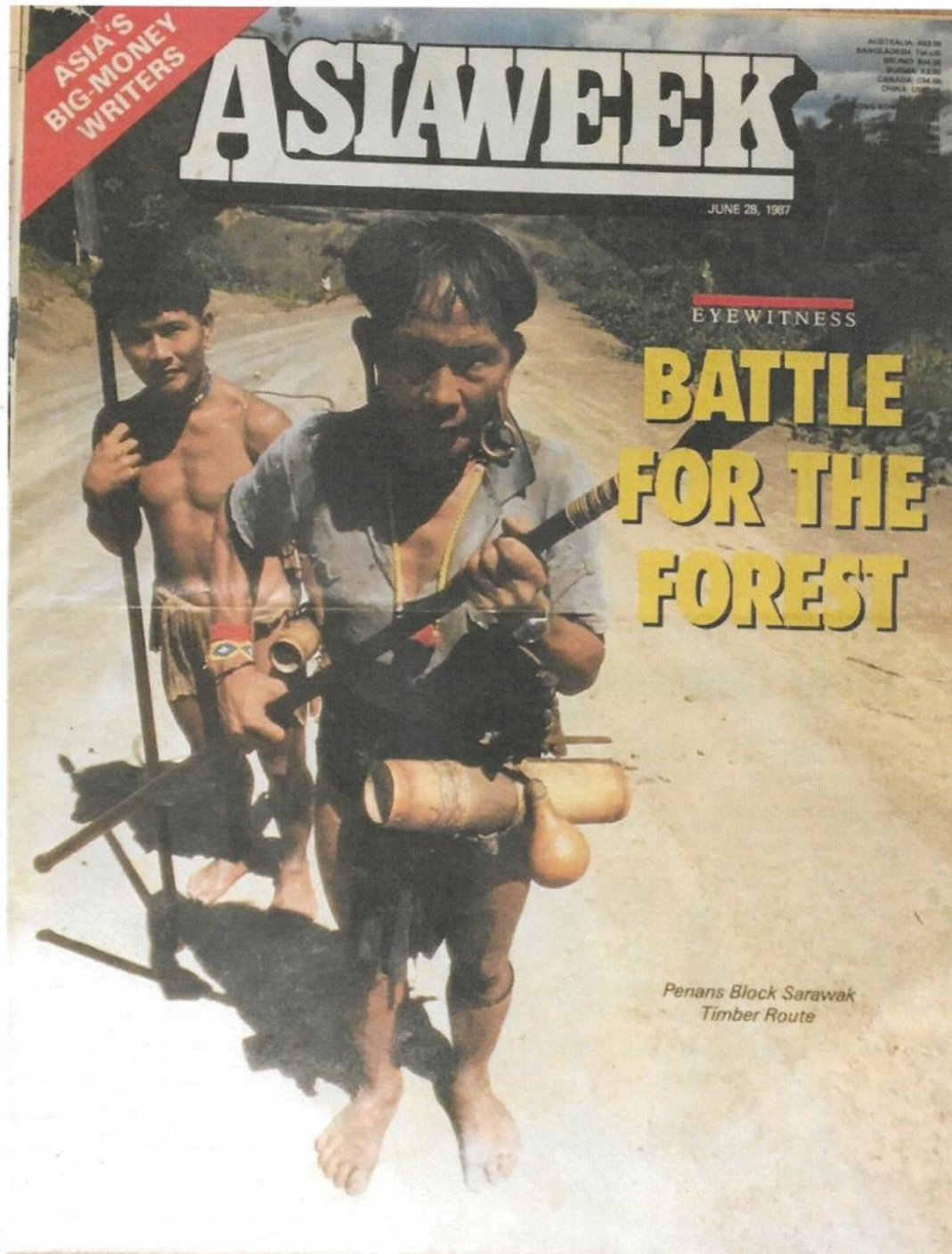
Legend

- Proposed Biosphere Reserve
- New Core Zone of prop. Magoh Biosphere Reserve
- Old Core Zone of prop. Magoh Biosphere Reserve
- Existing National Parks
- Penan Villages



ANNEXES TO THE DECLARATION

Appendix 1: The blockades in our areas have been reported worldwide since the 1980s. For example, in the Asia Week, Battle for the Forest, on June 20, 1987.



Appendix 2: On 10 October 1987, the Penan Minister commissioned the State Planning Department to conduct a study on the Penan.

Report on the Effects of Logging
Activities on the Penans in
Baram and Limbang Districts:

A Short Term Development
Programme

SUBMITTED TO THE SARAWAK
STATE CABINET COMMITTEE
ON PENAN AFFAIRS

BY

JABATAN PEMBANGUNAN NEGERI
(UNIT PERANCANG NEGERI)

JABATAN HUTAN

JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN PERUBATAN
DAN KESIHATAN

Jabatan Pembangunan Negeri
(Unit Perancang Negeri)
Petra Jaya
Kuching.

10 Oktober 1987.

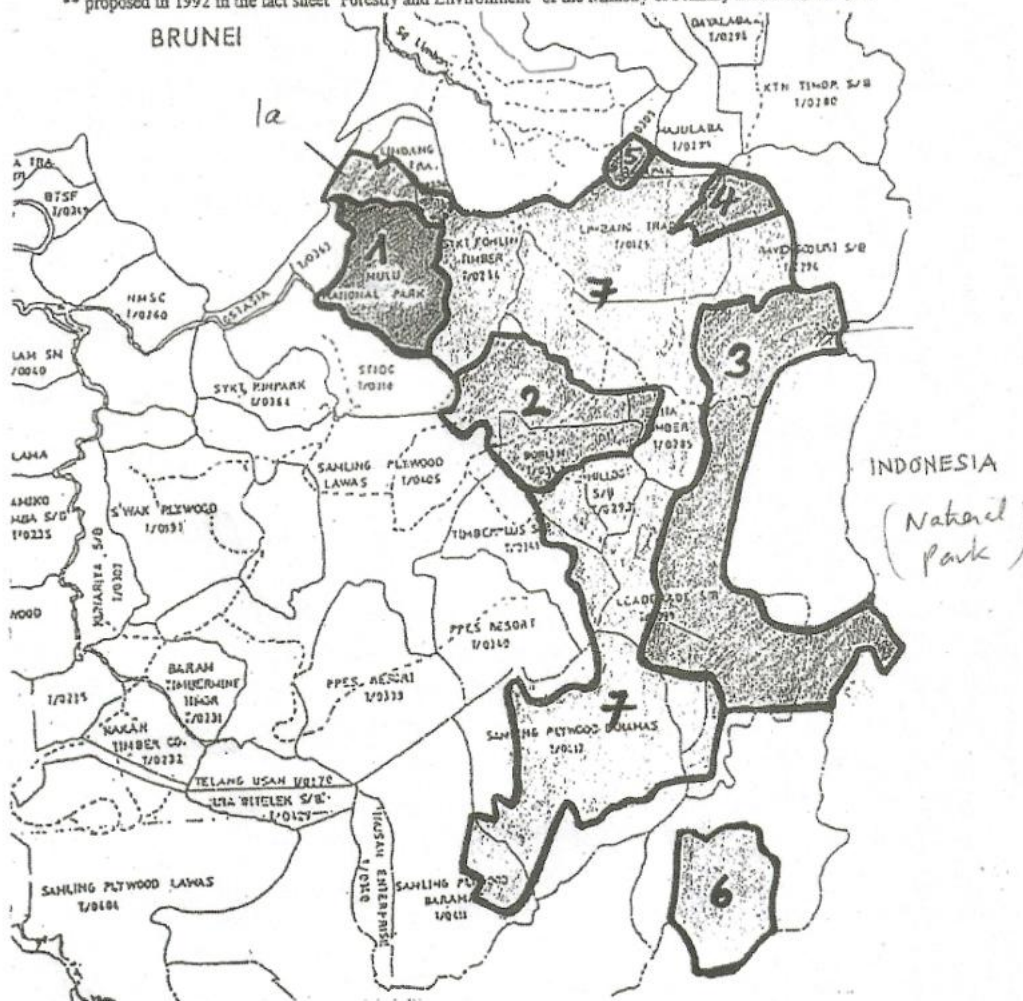
Appendix 3: The above mentioned study of the Unit Perancang Negeri identified seven biosphere reserves for the nomadic Penan in the Tutoh, Magoh and Limbang areas, covering 6735 km².

Location of proposed Biosphere Area and Logging-Concessions in Eastern Sarawak

	Name	Present or proposed Status	Estimated area (km ²)
1	Gunung Mulu, including Medalam	National Park (Wh)	530
1a	Medalam, extension Gunung Mulu	proposed extended National Park**	350
2	Magoh	proposed Biosphere Reserve *	525
3	Pulong Tau	proposed National Park **	1645
4	Long Adang	proposed Wildlife Sanctuary *	160
5	Sempayang	proposed Biosphere Reserve *	80
6	Long Lamai Enclave	currently no specific protection status	295
7	Ulu Limbang/Ulu Baram	currently no specific protection status	3150
	TOTAL BIOSPHERE AREA		6735

* proposed in 1987 in the "Report on Effects of Logging Activities on the Penan in Baram and Limbang Districts" by Jabatan Pengangkutan Negeri, Jabatan Hutan and Jabatan Perkhidmatan Perubatan dan Kesihatan.

** proposed in 1992 in the fact sheet "Forestry and Environment" of the Ministry of Primary Industries, Malaysia.



Appendix 4: On 9 July 2002, a letter from the Sarawak Forest Department was granting the Penan an area of 5,000 hectares in Ba' Da'un, Magoh, for the exclusive use of the Penan and with a guarantee that no further logging by companies will take place. Reference DF.921.01(VII)-26

	IBU PEJABAT JABATAN PERHUTANAN, WISMA SUMBER ALAM, JALAN STADIUM, PETRA JAYA, 93660 KUCHING, SARAWAK.	Kawat : Perhutanan, Kuching Telefon Am : 082-319102 Telefeks : 082-445640 Teleks :
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Ruj. Tuan :

Ruj. Kami : DF.921.01 (VII) - 26

Tarikh : 9 Julai 2002

Encik Bujang Lawai
Ketua Kaum Nomadic Penan
Penan Ba' Barih Magoh
Tutuh Baram
di /a Peti Surat 216
Marudi
98058 Baram

Tuan,

Per: Rayuan untuk melindungi hutan dan tanah untuk kaum Penan di Ba' Barih Magoh

Adalah saya dengan segala hormatnya merujuk kepada surat tuan bertarikh 23 Mei 2002 yang dialamatkan kepada YAB Ketua Menteri Sarawak/ Menteri Perancangan dan Pengurusan Sumber.

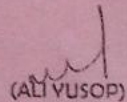
Saya telah diarah untuk memaklumkan bahawa Kerajaan Negeri telahpun memperuntukkan satu kawasan seluas lebih kurang 5000 hektar di kawasan berkenaan untuk kegunaan penduduk tempatan seperti yang tertara dalam peta yang dikepitkan bersama ini. Pembalakan tidak dibenarkan dalam kawasan tersebut.

Sukacita juga dinyatakan bahawa sebahagian kawasan yang direzab itu adalah terletak dalam kawasan yang dirayu oleh tuan untuk dilindungi.

Harap maklum.

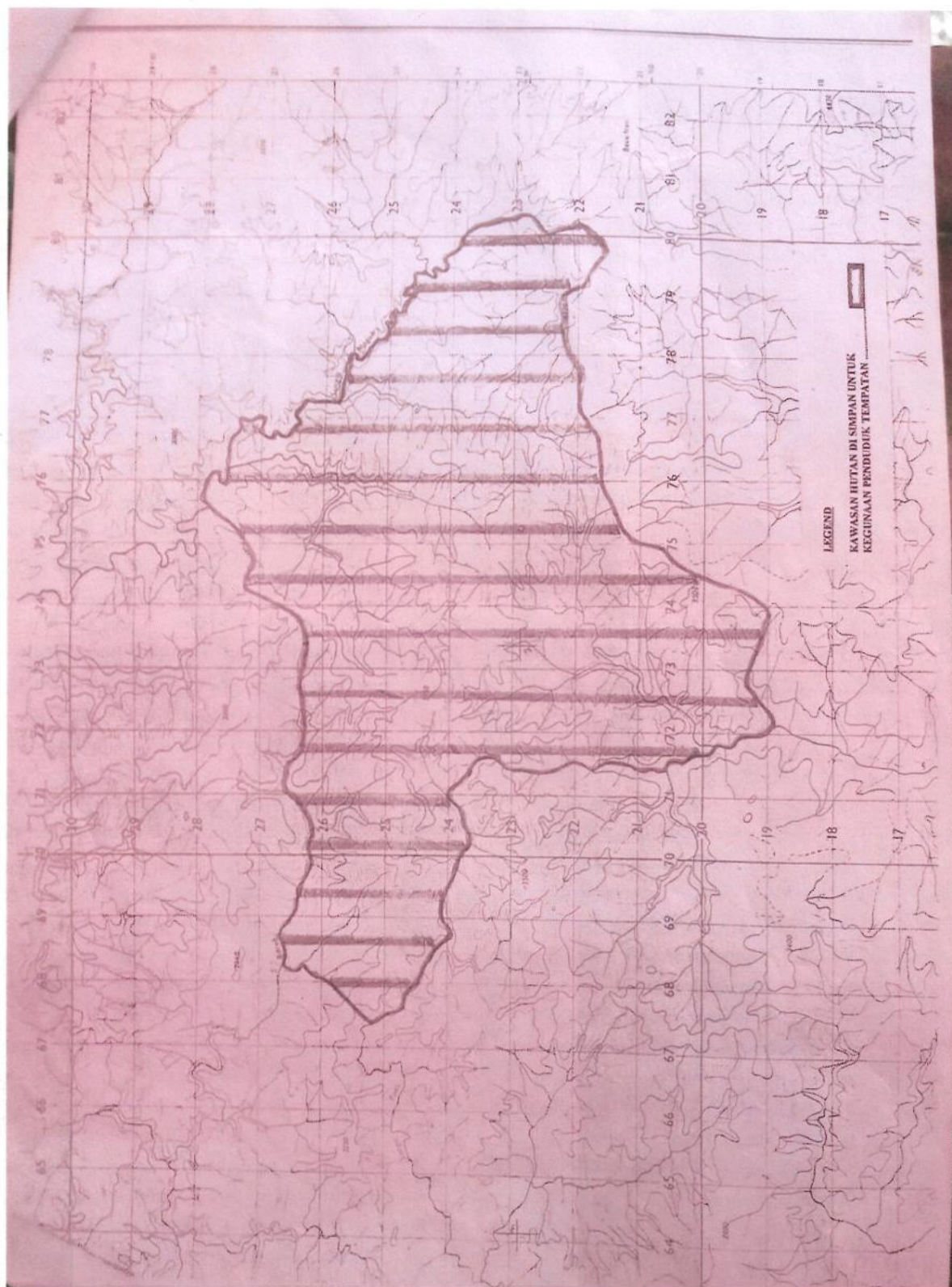
'BERSATU BERUSAHA BERBAKTI'

Yang benar,

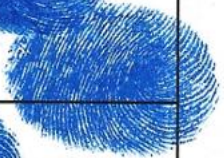
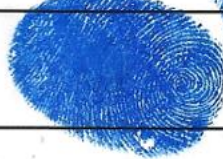
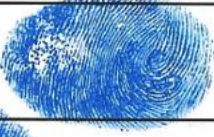
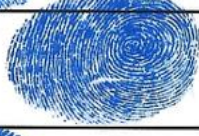
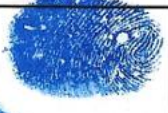
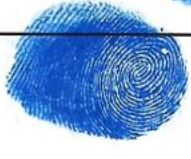

(ALI YUSOP)
b.p. Pengarah Hutan
SARAWAK

s.k. YA Peguam Besar Negeri

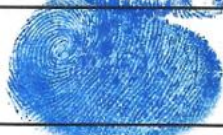
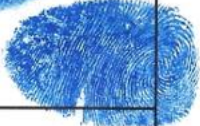
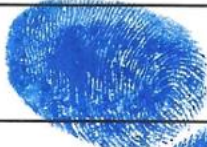
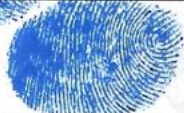
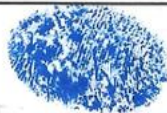
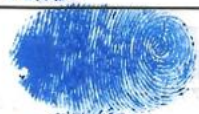
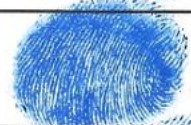
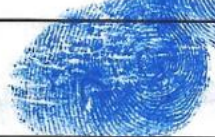
Appendix 5: Attached map to the letter, that shows the area of 5,000 hectares in Ba' Da'un, Magoh that was granted for the exclusive use of the Penan and with a guarantee that no further logging by companies will be allowed in this area. Reference DF.921.01(VII)-26



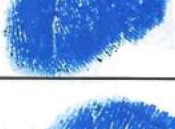
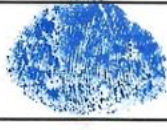
Signatories from the communities in the Ulu Barih and Magoh

Name Nama	Village/Communities Kampung/Komuniti	Signatures Tandatangan
T.K Sayak Megut	Long Tarum	
T.K Guman Megut	Long Daun	
T.K Peng Megut	Long Tevenga	
Gerawat Megut	Long Ba Magoh	
Edi Ruki	Ba Daun	
Mauk Peden	Long Magoh	
Jamet Jaka Gerawat	Long Magoh	
Abok Guman	Long Ba Daun	
Udi Peng	Long Tevenga	
Pelohen Guman	Ba Daun	
Sabang Tepaket	Ba Tarum	
Senun Apoi	Ba Magoh	
Lakai Katok	Ba Mumin	

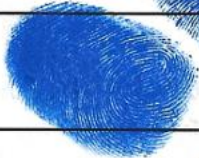
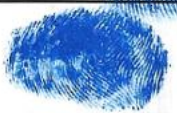
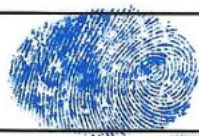
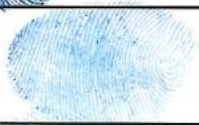
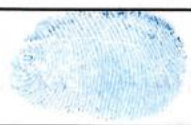
Signatories from the communities in the Ulu Barih and Magoh

Name Nama	Village/Communities Kampung/Komuniti	Signatures Tandatangan
Itik Agan	Ba Daun	
Tepetel Agan	Ba Tarum	
Gasi Megut	Ba Tarum	
Selai Segu(TK)	Ba Peresol	
Lep Selai	Ba Peresol	
Juma Lassol	Ba Peresol	
Robin Baru	Ba Peresol	
Florance Along	Long Along.	
Jalong Sok	Long Tegau	
Minit Along	Long Gita	
Baruk No	Long Gita	
Kelawing Ngok	Long Rayah	Jiel
Rian Baruk	Long Gita	

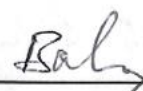
Signatories from the communities in the Ulu Bareh and Magoh

Name Nama	Village/Communities Kampung/Komuniti	Signatures Tandatangan
ASMIDAH LASO	LONG GITA	
SIKEI ALONG	LONG NYABIT	
MARY PENG	LONG NYABIT	
DEN ALONG	Lg Nyabit	
MUING AWING	Lg Nyabit	
YUT BELULOK	Lg Gita	
Leonard	Lg Gita	
ROBIN BARN	Lg peresek	
PIOI LASO	Lg Nyakit	
PEGA BELULOK	Lg Nyabit	
DAMESYR MELAI	Lg Nyabit	
JANE MAPEE	Lg Nyabit	
JUMA LASO	Lg peresek	

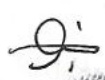
Signatories from the communities in the Ulu Bareh and Magoh

Name Nama	Village/Communities Kampung/Komuniti	Signatures Tandatangan
Menu Baruk	Loug Nyakit	
Dorris Laso	Loug Nyakit	
David Peng	Loug Tevanga	
Raymond Mo'eng	Lg Gritz	
Eric Uyan	Lg Keneng	
Mujan Melai	Lg Nyakit	
Morris Robin	Lg Nyakit	
Perry Mo'eng	Lg Nyakit	
Retua Bank	Lg Adang	
Metan Bank	Lg Gritz	
Donny Mo'eng	Lg Gritz	
Amran Kayan	Lg Adang	
LAM LASO	Lg Nyakit	

Signatories from the communities in the Ulu Bareh and Magoh

Name Nama	Village/Communities Kampung/Komuniti	Signatures Tandatangan
Gai megeh	Long mengeng	
Nyaru Beti	Long Meraan	
Bungan Megut	Ba Daun	
Noraini Weng	Long Meraan	
Rinai Su	Long Meraan	
Radu Kurau	Long Meraan	
Fendi Tidan	Long Meraan	
Belaweng Tuar	Long Meraan	
Jani Udan	Long Meraan	
Johani Udan	Long Meraan	
Pianti Kapon	Long Meraan	
Lebong Ayin	Long Meraan	
JEFFERY NYARU	LONG MERAAN	

Signatories from the communities in the Ulu Bareh and Magoh

Name Nama	Village/Communities Kampung/Komuniti	Signatures Tandatangan
Tomie Kapan	Long Meraan	
MARIA KAPAN	LONG MERAAN	Maia
MELITA ATING	LONG MERAAN	
ubung megth	long meraan	
winnie yesaka	long meraan	
Deborq nyalang	Long meraan	
Jottie Neyok	Long Meraan	
Reymond sayak	Long Meraan	
manq saman	long meraan	
Lian Ltee	long meraan	
Enom kurau	long meraan	
Willie Yesaka	Long meraan	
Daugles Tubeh	Long meraan	

Signatories from the communities in the Ulu Barih and Magoh

Name Nama	Village/Communities Kampung/Komuniti	Signatures Tandatangan
Lister Jok	Long Meraan	
Roland Kut	Long Meraan	
Michael Dawat	Ba Barih	
Katok Usai	Ba Barih	
Bilang Kelek	Ba Barih	
Robins Kelek	Ba Barih	
Lungu Lwasi	Ba Barih	
Pmeys Lili	Ba Barih	
Alicis Dawat	Ba Barih	
Stanley Gai	Ba Barih	
Sigum Dawat	Ba Barih	
KELVIN NINOK	LG MERAAN	
ROSELIND ALI	LG MERAAN	

Signatories from the communities in the Ulu Bareh and Magoh

[illegible]