

**Y.A.B Tuan Amirudin bin Shari,
Chief Minister of the Malaysian state of Selangor
Office of the Chief Minister of Selangor, 21st Floor,
Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah Building,
40503 Shah Alam, Selangor**



Dear Y.A.B Tuan Amirudin Shari,

I am writing on behalf of the Organization for World Peace to express my concern over the Selangor Forestry Department's proposed degazetting of 930.93 hectares of Kuala Langat North Forest Reserve (KLFNR). The proposed area comprises 97% of the total forest reserve and is home to four Temuan Indigenous settlements. If this land is degazetted, more than 1,000 Indigenous people face dispossession of their lands and forced dislocation.

North Forest Reserve has been home to the Temuan tribe for more than 134 years. Their way of life has previously been encroached upon by various development projects threatening their access to traditional sources of livelihood, placing them at risk of poverty and deepening marginalization. As the Malay population increased, Malays from neighboring villages gradually took Temuan rice land, which is essential to Temuan's livelihood, by obtaining legal titles to it. In 1995, Temuan tribes were forced to leave their home when the Nilai-Banting Highway was constructed without compensation and it took more than a decade for them to fight to get a settlement. In the worst cases, they have been summarily dispossessed of their lands, forced from their homes, and made to witness the depletion and degradation of natural resources on the land that they are deeply connected with.

The state has made little to no effort to inform the community of the degazetting, to explain its social and environmental impacts, or to discuss alternatives. According to the community, the first time they heard about the proposed degazetting was when they read the notice in the newspaper.

[KLFNR is an Environmental Sensitive Area](#), meaning that any development in this area should not be allowed as it will have detrimental environmental, economic and social impacts, particularly for the Temuan communities that have lived there for more than 100 years.

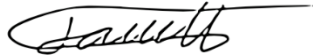
I am gravely concerned at the proposed violation of free, prior and informed consent principles in this process. Despite the fact that Malaysia had voted to adopt the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2007, [the Malaysian government continues to violate their commitment to improve conditions for Indigenous communities](#). With inadequate responses to land rights abuses and the absence of free, prior and informed consent, Malaysia continues to ignore the rights of indigenous peoples.

Y.A.B Tuan Amirudin Shari, I urge your office to act swiftly to protect Indigenous land in Selangor. Specifically, I call on you to:

- **Immediately cease the order to degazette the Kuala Langat North Forest Reserve;**
- **Work with the Department of Orang Asli Development and take immediate and concrete steps to ensure that KLNFR retains its status as a forest reserve by the end of the year; and**
- **Ensure the full participation of the Temuan Indigenous community and obtain their free, prior and informed consent in all plans relating to the KLNFR.**

Thank you for your kind attention. As an advocate for peace, I trust that you will take this issue seriously and seek to protect the rights of the Temuan indigenous community. Without your immediate help, the Temuan tribe would lose their beloved home and the violation of their human rights.

Sincerely,
Qianchun Xu
Advocate, The Organization for World Peace



Jonathon Arrell
Vice President, The Organization for World Peace