

## PRESS RELEASE

## Brunei Darussalam National Climate Change Policy Operational Document Task Force Workshop Dewan Setia Pahlawan, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism

7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020

**Bandar Seri Begawan** - The Brunei Darussalam National Climate Change Policy (BNCCP) Operational Document Task Force (ODTF) Workshop continued this week to discuss on BNCCP Strategy 2 Forest Cover. The workshop is held on 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at the Dewan Setia Pahlawan, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism.

Present to officiate the workshop was Yang Mulia Dayang Hajah Tutiaty binti Haji Abd Wahab, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism. In her remarks, she highlighted that although Brunei Darussalam is not a significant contributor to the global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, the Nation is still experiencing the adverse impact of climate change due to GHG emissions, such as rise in temperature and increase in number of forest fires in the last decade. Brunei Darussalam is blessed with an extensive and biologically rich forest. With 72.1% forest cover, the country is capable to absorb most of its national greenhouse gas emissions. However, the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism through Forestry Department intends to further increase the country's carbon sequestration capacity by planting new trees and to use this platform in promoting participation from stakeholders and the communities. Also present at the workshop was Yang Berhormat Dayang Khairunnisa binti Haji Ash'ari, Legislative Council Member and Co-Founder of Green Brunei.

The 2-day workshop was organized by the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism through Forestry Department as the lead agency for BNCCP Strategy 2 on Forest Cover and supported by the Brunei Climate Change Secretariat (BCCS). About 72 participants attended this workshop comprising of important stakeholders from the government agencies, private sectors, higher institutions, bank association, key industry players and NGOs. This workshop was aimed to formulate an Operational Document for BNCCP Strategy 2 on Forest Cover to achieve the target of increasing Brunei Darussalam's carbon sink through afforestation and reforestation with a target of planting 500,000 new trees by 2035. The workshop was co-facilitated by the lead agency and external co-facilitator from the Brunei Shell Petroleum Sdn. Bhd.

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