



**PRESS RELEASE  
MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT**

**The 26th Session of the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP 26)  
World Leaders Summit on Forests and Land-Use**

**2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2021  
Glasgow, United Kingdom**

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The 26th Session of the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP 26) opened on the 31st October 2021, for two weeks, in Glasgow, United Kingdom. The United Kingdom as host and President of the COP 26 officiated the event with a 2-day World Leaders Summit attended by over 120 leaders around the world. As part of the Summit, a Forests and Land Use Event was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021, aimed at reaffirming collective commitments to preserve forests and reverse deforestation.

The event was opened with remarks by United Kingdom Prime Minister Boris Johnson, Columbia President Ivan Duque Marquez, and Indonesia President Joko Widodo. The event was also graced by His Royal Highness Prince Charles, The Prince of Wales.

At the WLS FLU event, more than 110 countries endorsed the “*Glasgow Leaders’ Declaration on Forests and Land Use*”, including Brunei Darussalam. By endorsing the Declaration, Brunei Darussalam has joined others in the effort to, among others, conserve forests and other terrestrial ecosystems, facilitate trade and development policies that do not drive deforestation and land degradation, reduce vulnerability, build resilience and enhance rural livelihoods, implement sustainable agriculture, and accelerate the transition to an economy that is resilient and advances forest, sustainable land use, biodiversity and climate goals. The full text of the Declaration is in ANNEX I.

Brunei Darussalam has a forests coverage of 72 percent, with a capacity to absorb about 13.9 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e of carbon emissions annually. Brunei Darussalam will continue to preserve its pristine rainforests by increasing the forest reserves from 41 percent to 55 percent of the total land area, and seek to increase the country’s carbon sink further through planting 500,000 new trees by 2035.

Representing the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the World Leader Summit’ Forests and Land Use Event were Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Haji Erywan bin Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Haji Mohd. Yusof, Second Minister of Foreign Affairs, as representative of the 2021 ASEAN Chair, and Yang Mulia Awang Haji Azhar bin Haji Yahya, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Energy, as Brunei Darussalam’s Executive Committee Chair on Climate Change.