



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **WELCOMING DINNER**

#### **BRUNEI DARUSSALAM EXPEDITION ON FOREST TO REEF IN CONJUNCTION WITH BRUNEI MID-YEAR CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION (MYCE) 2025**

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**Bandar Seri Begawan**

**Sunday, 18 May 2025**

A Welcoming Dinner was held last night at the Mangrove Paradise Resort to celebrate the official commencement of the highly anticipated Brunei Darussalam Expedition on Forest to Reef in conjunction with the Brunei Mid-Year Conference and Exhibition (MYCE) 2025, which is jointly organized by the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism through the Forestry Department and the Department of Fisheries, partnered with the Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) and Poni Groups.

The event was attended by Yang Mulia Dayang Hajah Tutiaty binti Haji Abdul Wahab, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism as the Guest of Honor. Also in attendance were the High Commissioners, Ambassadors, Deputy Permanent Secretaries of the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Chief Executive Officer of the Poni Group Sdn Bhd, Head of Departments from the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism and the Scientific Researchers who participate and embarking in the week-long expedition from 19th May to 25th May 2025. The expedition underscores the collective commitment of researchers to understanding and preserving our planet's precious biodiversity.

Local and international researchers gathered for a Forest to Reef scientific expedition to be held on Monday, 19th May 2025, aiming to foster collaboration, share insights, and build networking opportunity among the diverse team of researchers and stakeholders with arrays of ecological interest dedicated to exploring the interconnected ecosystems from the forest canopy to vibrant reef environments.

Among the research fieldwork to be conducted at the dense mangrove forests of Pulau Selirong is the determination of fauna and flora biodiversity and key parameters of mangrove as carbon sequestration as well as breeding grounds for fish to develop comprehensive checklist and conservation strategies in mangrove ecosystems. Another scientific research will be conducted at Pulau Pelong-Pelongan for the assessment of the abundance of macro and microplastics in coral reef ecosystems to determine Brunei Darussalam's marine conservation strategies and support regional and international sustainability goals. Findings from this expedition will be shared during the Brunei Darussalam Conference on Forest to Reef which will take place from 17th June to 19th June 2025 at the International Convention Centre, Berakas.

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Prepared by: Forestry Department & Department of Fisheries  
Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism Brunei Darussalam