



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

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Organización  
de las Naciones Unidas  
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Организация  
Объединенных Наций по  
вопросам образования,  
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة  
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、  
科学及文化组织

## Culture Sector Division for Heritage

H. E. Mr Hotmangaradja Pandjaitan  
Ambassador Extraordinary and  
Plenipotentiary of Indonesia in France,  
Permanent Delegate  
Permanent Delegation of the Republic of  
Indonesia to UNESCO  
UNESCO House

28 December 2016

Ref.: CLT/HER/WHC/APA/YG/225

### **Subject: State of Conservation of the Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra**

Dear Ambassador,

The UNESCO World Heritage Centre has received third-party information regarding the proposed development of a major geothermal project in the heart of the Gunung Leuser National Park, part of the World Heritage property "Tropical Rainforest Heritage of Sumatra".

The attached information was received at the World Heritage Centre with great concern, as the property has been retained on the List of World Heritage in Danger since 2011. Should the geothermal project be constructed as proposed, it might have a significant negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property and hinder progress towards achieving the desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

We are sending this information to you in accordance with Paragraph 174 of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* to enable us to verify, with your authorities concerned, the source and content of the information that we have received. We look forward to receiving your response as soon as possible, preferably within 1 month of receipt of this letter.

We also take this opportunity to remind you that the State Party of Indonesia has been requested by the World Heritage Committee at its 40<sup>th</sup> session to submit an updated report on the state of conservation of the property to the World Heritage Centre by **1 February 2017**, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 41<sup>st</sup> session in 2017.

Thanking you for your continuous collaboration and support in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Rössler".

Mechtild Rössler  
Director  
World Heritage Centre

cc: Indonesian National Commission for UNESCO  
UNESCO Office in Jakarta  
IUCN