



AMERICAN KRATOM ASSOCIATION

November 29, 2023

General TNI (Ret.) Dr. Moeldoko
Chief of Staff to the President of Indonesia
Gedung Bina Graha
Jl. Veteran No. 16
Jakarta Pusat, 10110
Indonesia

Dear Dr. Moeldoko:

The American Kratom Association (“AKA”) is in receipt of a copy of a letter sent to you on November 13, 2023 from Mr. Heriyandri, S.Sos., MM., General President of PERHIMPUNAN PENGUSAHA HORTIKULTURA INDONESIA (PPHI) and Yohanis Ceanis Walean, Chairman of KOPERASI PRODUSEN ANUGERAH BUMI HIJAU (KOPRABUH) recommending the “export stoppage as a solution to the kratom problem, and I write to you today to offer our strong opposition to this recommendation.

The deliberately false claims by business owners in Indonesia who seek to monopolize kratom exports to the United States harms every kratom farmer in Indonesia. The AKA has never engaged in any sales transaction in purchasing kratom from a farmer or processor, and AKA has never sold any kratom to a manufacturer. The AKA has always encouraged kratom trade between kratom processors in Indonesia committed to quality standards and American vendors where testing for contaminants is the core principle to ensure consumers are protected.”

The AKA has consistently advocated for kratom processors to adopt standards for kratom raw materials to meet or exceed FDA standards for wholesomeness and quality. The report issued by KOPRABUH and PPHI was riddled with inaccurate conclusions, unsupported allegations, and completely false assumptions.

The AKA is strongly supportive of the proposal you submitted to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (“FDA”) on September 29, 2023, to lift the current import alert on kratom, Import Alert 54-15. Your letter outlines the procedures Indonesia will implement to assure the FDA kratom exports from Indonesia will be free from unsafe contaminants, and the AKA looks forward to supporting this proposal.

While there may be areas of agreement where the interests of kratom farmers in Indonesia will have access to traditional commodity trading transactions, the singular impediment to that occurring is the current FDA import alert.

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The AKA remains committed to the principles and quality standards for kratom imports to the U.S. that you outlined in your September 29, 2023, letter to the FDA. We are equally committed to the benefits that will result from your petition to the FDA for kratom farmers and their families with the lifting of the FDA's import alert on kratom where a fair-trade model can be implemented that respects all parties to any sales transaction.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mac Haddow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mac" and last name "Haddow" clearly distinguishable.

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