

Potency of Social Conflict In The Meranti Islands Regency

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Abstract

Riau Province has a diverse community composition both in religion, race and ethnicity. Plurality is like two inseparable sides of a coin. On the one hand, diversity is able to become a force for progress, but on the other hand it can be a trigger for conflict. If not managed properly, the power will turn into an unexpected potential social conflict. Meranti Islands Regency is part of the Riau Province, an area directly adjacent to neighboring Malaysia. Under these conditions, the vulnerability to destructive social conflicts increases. The high potential for social conflict occurs considering that the welfare of the community is still not evenly distributed, despite the abundance of natural resources and plantation products. Welfare can only be enjoyed by people who live in urban areas or in government centers, while indigenous people who generally live in districts near the border live below the decent life line, do not recognize modern models and lifestyles, minimal education, and limited supporting infrastructure. social life. This disparity certainly creates different social conflicts but has the same potential in breaking the integrity of ethnic groups.

The case study is used as an approach in this research to identify the sources, motives and issues of social conflict, explore the causes and map the potential for social conflicts that occur in the Meranti Islands district, as a representation of areas near the border. The selection of the district aims to get the character of social conflicts, so that the data obtained from the mapping can be the main reference in determining prevention or handling efforts, to social conflict resolution mechanisms based on the conditions and needs of various parties. The results showed that social conflicts that occur stem from seizure of natural resources in the form of seizure of land or forest with issues management of Industrial Plantation Forest (HTI) covering an area of 205 ha on the island of Padang. This conflict does not only have economic motives but also social motives, 2) KMeranti Islands district has two potential social conflicts, namely conflicts economic motives, high prices for basic necessities and political motives, the existence of issues that do not yet exist so the potential for multiple voters

Keywords: potential for social conflict, border areas, Meranti archipelago district, Riau Province



A. INTRODUCTION

Social conflicts as part of the dynamics of society can never be eliminated, especially in the life of the Indonesian nation, which is diverse in terms of culture, religion, race and ethnicity. This condition can be seen from the first quarter 2015 report by the National and Political Union (Kesbangpol) regarding the number of social conflicts over the last three years. Throughout 2013, 92 cases of social conflict were reported throughout Indonesia, while in 2014 the number of cases decreased to 82 cases. Meanwhile, in the middle of the 2015 quarter, it was recorded that the number of conflicts that occurred was 26 conflicts.¹

Based on the data released, it is known that the sources of conflict that occurred during the 3 years were ideological, political, economic, social and cultural issues (IPOLEKSOSBUD), disputes over land or natural resources (SDA), and issues of SARA. According to Fahmi & Akbar (2015: 111) the occurrence of social conflict is caused by a lack of mutual understanding and acceptance in the community (sharing of understanding and acceptance) which is closely related to aspects of space, power, economy, and culture.²

Meanwhile, if viewed from the regional grouping during the mid-quarter of 2015, social conflicts only occurred in some parts, such as in the urban areas of DKI Jakarta, and border areas with different scales and types of cases. However, basically each region has the potential for social conflict, especially in the expansion areas or areas near the border. The social conflicts that are prone to occur in border areas are generally caused by the isolation of people's lives due to lack of access to these areas. Conditions that are difficult to reach make economic growth slow and the lives of its citizens are far different from those in urban areas. It is this social inequality that easily causes friction so that it is easy for social conflicts to occur (Sutaryo, et al, 2015: 131).

1. http://kesbangpol.kemendagri.go.id/files_uploads/Data_Konflik.Pdf.

2. [Publication.fisip.unila.ac.id/index.php/sosiologi/article/download/293/250](http://publication.fisip.unila.ac.id/index.php/sosiologi/article/download/293/250)



Referring to the Kesbangpol report, Riau Province is one of the provinces that is close to the border and has a record of social conflicts. Riau Province has a diverse community composition both in religion, race and ethnicity. Plurality is like two inseparable sides of a coin. On the one hand, diversity is able to become a force for progress, but on the other hand it can be a trigger for conflict. If not managed properly, this power will turn into an unexpected potential social conflict.

Meranti Islands Regency is part of the Riau Province, an area directly adjacent to neighboring Malaysia. Its strategic location in the border area makes this youngest district very potential to be developed. However, the impact of remoteness and distance from provincial government centers often hinders regional progress. Under these conditions, the vulnerability to destructive social conflicts increases.

The high potential for social conflict occurs considering that the welfare of the community is still not evenly distributed, despite the abundance of natural resources and plantation products. Welfare can only be enjoyed by people who live in urban areas or in the center of government, while indigenous people who generally live in districts near the border live below the decent life line, do not recognize modern models and lifestyles, minimal education, and limited supporting infrastructure. social life. This disparity certainly creates different social conflicts but has the same potential in breaking the integrity of ethnic groups.

Referring to facts in the field supported by data from the Kesbangpol report which shows that each area has the potential for social conflict, research on the potential for social conflict in the Meranti Islands Regency is important to do to prevent destructive social conflicts that cause material and non-material damage. for many.

LITERATURE REVIEW

1. Conflict and Social Conflict

Conflict is a relationship between two or more parties (both individuals and groups) who have, or they think they have, non-uniform goals (Mitchell, 1981). Conflict



will arise when these parties pursue their goals, giving rise to disharmony. Conflict is an unavoidable phenomenon in life because it is an inherent part of human existence. Starting from the intrapersonal, interpersonal, to the level of groups, organizations, communities, and the state can experience conflicts. The reasons for this can vary, ranging from social, economic, power, and so on, and are manifested in the development and change of human life itself.

Meanwhile, according to Lawang (1994: 53), conflict is defined as a struggle to get rare things such as value, status, power and so on, where the purpose of conflict is not only to gain benefits but also to defeat or subdue competitors. In other words, conflict is defined as a clash of strengths and interests between one group and another in the struggle for relatively limited social resources (economic, political, social and cultural). As explained by Coser (in Zeitlin, 1998: 56) that the struggle for value and recognition of status and efforts to minimize or neutralize power and resources from its competitors is a social conflict.

Social conflict according to Soerjono Soekanto (1992: 86) is divided into five forms, namely: 1) Conflict or personal conflict, namely conflict that occurs between two or more individuals due to differences in views, etc., 2) Conflict or racial conflict, namely conflicts arising from differences - racial differences, 3) Conflict or conflict between social classes, namely conflicts that occur due to differences in interests between social classes, 4) Political conflicts or conflicts, namely conflicts that occur due to the political interests or goals of a person or group, 5) Conflict or conflict of an international nature, namely conflicts that occur due to different interests which then affect the sovereignty of the state.

The main source of conflict in society is the existence of social injustice, discrimination against the rights of individuals and groups, and weak respect for diversity (Dubois & Miley, 1992: 148). Sumarno and Roebiyanto (in Fahmi & Akbar, 2015: 112) explained that conflict, in general, occurs due to three factors. The first is social motive. Due to the weak attitude of mutual respect in society, especially those with different



social backgrounds, when there are differences in social interests there can be social friction which has the potential to disturb the peace of the community. The second is an economic motive. The difference in the ability to meet the necessities of life makes it easy for residents to clash, especially when there are differences in interests in exploiting economic resources that trigger social conflicts in the community. The third is a political motive. Differences in political interests that exist in society have the potential to create clashes in the power struggle process which can then lead to social conflicts.³

Conflict as a social process that arises from an imbalance of relationships will always take place in social life because society is dynamic. This dynamic is an answer to the demands of life both individually and in groups. Each level or level of conflict that occurs is related to other levels that form a potential chain of power for constructive change, or destructive violence (Fisher, 2000). Thus, conflict is a complex phenomenon and in reality conflict is always multi-layered because it involves two or more individuals or groups who have inconsistencies in goals and interests. The communication model that is built between the parties concerned is also very varied.

However, conflicts must be faced and resolved, both by the parties involved and by third parties who act as facilitators. As for its implementation, a strategy for taking action is needed, starting from the initial stage, mediation, to the conflict resolution stage. This initial step is usually referred to as conflict analysis. In this conflict analysis, many experts convey conflict analysis methods and tools, for example the stage of conflict method, timelines, conflict mapping, the ABC triangle (Attitude-Behavior-Context Triangle), the onion model, the conflict tree, force-field analysis, the pillar of conflict, and the pyramid model.

c. Conflict Mapping

Conflict mapping is a technique used to graphically describe conflict, connect parties to the problem, and between actors in the problem. So, in any conflict mapping includes mapping the parties involved and all the aspirations they carry (Fisher, 2000).

http://bangpol.kemendagri.go.id/files_uploads/Data_Konflik.Pdf



Mapping is the first step in conflict management. This step allows the conflicting parties and third parties (intervenor / mediator / provocateur) to get a clearer understanding of the root of the conflict, the real conditions and the dynamics of the conflict and the various possibilities for prolonging or ending the conflict.

Amr Abdalla, a sociologist from the United Nation -University for Peace, revealed 2 conflict mapping models, namely SIPABIO (source-issue-parties-attitudes-behavior-intervention-outcomes) and SPITCEROW (source-parties-issue-tactics-chnges-enlargement. -resources-outcome-winner / loser). The explanation of each of the sections above is as follows.

- a. *Source*(source of conflict). Conflict is caused by different sources, giving birth to different types of conflict. In a sociological analysis of conflict, various sources of conflict can arise from social relations models (social construction analysis), values such as identity and religion (causer analysis), and structural domination (positivist and critical structural analysis).
- b. *Issue*(issue). The issue shows the interrelation of inconsistent objectives between the warring parties. This issue was developed by all the conflicting parties and other parties who were not identified about the source of the conflict.
- c. *Parties*(Parties involved). Parties to a conflict are groups that participate in it, either the main party directly involved or the third parties involved in the conflict.
- d. *Attitudes*(Attitude). Attitudes are feelings and perceptions that influence the behavior patterns of conflict actors. Attitudes can come in both positive and negative forms.
- e. *Behavior*(Behavior). Behavior is an aspect of the social actions of the conflicting parties, both in the coercive and non-coercive form.
- f. *Intervention* (Intervention). Intervention is a social action from a neutral party aimed at helping to resolve conflicts.



- g. *Outcome*(The final result). The final result is the impact of various actions taken by the parties to the conflict in the form of a situation.

Through conflict mapping, social conflict is narrated although it is still very abstract. However, the picture can already be easily read by others who see it. This technique is borrowed from the technique of reading and understanding a very large and complex area through an image of an area map. Therefore, the conflict map will contain, 1) the identity of the parties involved directly or indirectly in the conflict, 2) the types of relations between the parties involved in the conflict, 3) the various interests involved in the conflict, 4) various issues that become sources of conflict, 5) parties capable of encouraging the conflict resolution process.

The purpose of holding this conflict mapping, among others, is to better understand the conflict situation so that the relationship between the parties involved, either directly or indirectly, can be clearly seen. In addition, conflict mapping can be used to clarify where the main forces are in conflict and to clarify the balance of activities and relationships between conflicting parties. Another objective is to see where allies or alliances are located and identify the opening of interventions or taking resolution actions and facilitate the evaluation process of actions and resolutions that have been taken in handling potential conflicts.

RESEARCH METHODS

The method used in this research is a case study with the consideration that case studies are holistic and systemic, and able to present in-depth and complete descriptions so that information about patterns of action can be described naturally and as they are (Suparlan: 1994). Complete, detailed, and in-depth descriptions can be obtained by extracting information from various sources during the data collection process. As stated by Creswell (1998: 37) that one of the characteristics of a case study is to use various sources of information in collecting data to provide a detailed and in-depth picture of the response to an event.



The data in this study were obtained by collecting primary data and secondary data. Primary data is data obtained or collected directly from the source in the form of interviews and field notes. Primary data is usually referred to as original data or new data that is up to date. To obtain primary data, researchers must collect it directly. Meanwhile, secondary data is data obtained from second parties in the form of information materials obtained from previously recorded and published sources. Secondary data can be obtained from various sources, such as the central statistics bureau which is usually abbreviated as BPS, book journals, reports and so on.

The data collection techniques used were 1) **Interview in Rapid-Appraisal**, study was quickly carried out as a follow-up to look more closely at the focus of the study, including taking data from conflict participants. The interview used in the rapid study is semi-structured, namely there are interview guidelines that are used as a guide for conducting interviews with informants, but the questions can develop outside of the list that has been compiled as long as the question is still relevant to the problem under study (Sugiyono, 2013: 233) . Semi-structured interviews were conducted with key informants either during site visits or in the documentation review process. In addition, interviews were also conducted with community members, local government representatives, legal officials, and facilitators.

The next data collection technique is 2) **Field observation** in the form of activities to observe the real condition of the locus of social vulnerability, the characteristics of the perpetrator, and the environment around where he lives. Then the last technique is 3) **Document Study**. Document studies were carried out by examining various written sources, digital media, and print media related to the social vulnerability issues discussed in this study. Each document is sorted, then assessed for its suitability with the topic of discussion for each problem of social vulnerability found. This documentation also plays a role as supporting information when data mining in the field is incomplete.

In accordance with the principles of interpretive qualitative analysis, data consisting of the results of observations, interviews, and document studies are analyzed



continuously during the data collection process in the field (Moleong 2000: 103, Yuswandi in Bungin (Ed.), 2004: 100). The stages of analysis of each form of data are carried out together to find the results of the research. The first stage is to perform data reduction, namely by reading the data and information that has been collected from various sources to determine the relevance of the data with the formulation of the problem to be answered. Relevant data are coded and grouped according to their relationship to the research problem.

Second, the entire data is processed and studied by utilizing social conflict theories. The results of the specified research are then abstracted and interpreted to find a better explanatory conclusion (Singarimbun and Effendi, 1989: 62). Drawing conclusions at this stage is an interpretation of a mixture of facts and field data, and is still temporary. *Third*, various interim interpretations are then made in dialogue with each other to find a reconstruction of the object of research and finally valid and strong conclusions can be drawn.

C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Meranti Islands Regency is a division of Bengkalis Regency based on Law number 12 of 2009, dated January 16, 2009. This area is located near the border of the State of Malaysia with a total area of 3. 714.19 km, which consists of four main islands and several small islands. Meranti Islands Regency is an area with great potential to develop with an abundance of natural resources such as agricultural products in the form of rice and secondary crops, plantation products, namely sago, coconut, rubber, coffee and areca nut gardens. Besides that, this area also has a forest consisting of conversion forest covering an area of 159,777 Ha, limited production forest covering an area of 52,888 Ha, mangrove forest covering an area of 25,619 Ha, an area of PPA 5,173 Ha and protected forest with an area of at least 1,996 Ha.

The demographic data is a population of 179,894 people with a male population ratio of 51.37 percent and 48.63 percent of the female population. Judging from the age level, the majority of the population of Meranti Islands Regency is of productive age.



No	Potential Conflict in the Meranti Islands Regency	
	Variable	Merbau District
1	Source	The source of the conflict that occurred in Merbau District was land and forest
	Issue	The land conflict between PT RAPP and the community was caused by the issuance of Decree No. 327/2009 concerning the licensing of Plantation Forest Timber Forest Product Utilization Permits (IUPHHK-HT) for the management of 41,205 ha of Industrial Plantation Forest (HTI) in Padang Island. The areas included in the land map are merbau sub-districts including Bagan Melibur Village, Mekar Sari Village, Mengkirau Village, Teluk Belitung Village, so that there is an overlap between the village administrative boundaries and the PT RAPP permit area. The latest information in 2015 was obtained from the field that three PT RAPP employees were taken hostage who pegged the boundaries of PT RAPP's area and the people's land areas, this happened because the land boundary determination in Merbau District had not ended.
	Parties	Parties to a conflict are groups that participate in it, both the main parties who are directly involved and the third parties involved in the conflict. In this case, the conflicting parties are residents of Merbau District and PT

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1. Dilarang mengutip sebagian atau seluruh karya tulis ini tanpa mencantumkan sumber:
 a. Pengutipan hanya untuk kepentingan pendidikan, penelitian, penulisan karya ilmiah, penyusunan laporan, penulisan kritik atau tinjauan suatu masalah.
 b. Pengutipan tidak merugikan kepentingan Universitas Riau.
 2. Dilarang mengumumkan dan memperbanyak sebagian atau seluruh karya tulis ini dalam bentuk apapun tanpa izin Universitas Riau.

		Riau Andalan Pulp and Paper (RAPP).
4	<i>Attitudes</i>	There were rejections from residents starting from protests to the Riau DPRD to physical violence such as the blood stamp action in front of the DPRD Meranti building, the Mouth Sewing Action on November 1, 2011, to the burning of PT RAPP's eskafator on May 31, 2011.
5	<i>Behavior</i>	The residents started to fight back by stamping blood, sewing their mouths and acting anarchically, by setting fire to an excavator belonging to RAPP.
6	<i>Intervention</i>	The Minister of Forestry formed a mediation team based on SK.736 / MenhutII / 2011III / 2011 concerning the Formation of a Mediation Team to Settle Local Community Claims for Business Permits for Utilization of Timber Forest Products in Plantation Forests (IUPHHK-HT) on Padang Island. Meanwhile, the Meranti Islands Regency DPRD held a joint hearing to find a solution to the village boundary problem.
	<i>Outcome</i>	A letter came out from the Head of Bagan Melibur Village No. 445 / SPT / IX / 2015/463 regarding the assignment of a team of nine to determine the boundaries of community land and PT RAPP's IUPHHK-HT. Follow up letter from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry NO. S.356 / BPKH-XIX-3/2015.

2015 field data processing

The table above is the result of social conflict mapping conducted using the SIPABIO conflict mapping model (source-issue-parties-attitudes-behavior-intervention-outcomes) as suggested by Amr Abdalla, a sociologist from the United Nations - University for Peace, that there are two conflict mapping models, namely SIPABIO and SPITCEROW (source-parties-issue-tactics-chnges-enlargement-resources-outcome-winner / loser).



Several things can be seen from the table. First is Source (Source). Conflict is caused by different sources, thus giving birth to different types of conflict. The source of the conflict that occurred in the Meranti Islands Regency was the issue of taking over land or forest belonging to the residents of Merbau District Bagan Melibur Village, Mekar Sari Village, Mengkirau Village and Teluk Belitung Village by PT RAPP, this happened because of the issuance of Minister of Forestry Decree No. 327 of 2009 concerning the addition of HTI areas belonging to the RAPP paper company. The impact of the issuance of this letter is the entry of yards, houses and gardens belonging to residents within the PT RAPP area.

Second is an issue (issue) of conflict. The issue shows the interrelation of inconsistent objectives between the warring parties. This issue was developed by all the conflicting parties and other parties who were not identified about the source of the conflict. There is a mutual interrelation of inconsistent goals between the conflicting parties. This issue was developed by all the conflicting parties and other parties who were not identified about the source of the conflict. Conflict Issues in the Meranti Islands Regency is the grabbing of people's land and forests in Merbau District by PT RAPP. The initial issue that arose was the issuance of Decree No. 327 concerning the addition of land concessions, resulting in prolonged conflict and violence.

Third are Parties (Parties Involved). Parties to a conflict are groups that participate in it, both the main parties who are directly involved and the third parties involved in the conflict. The conflicts that occurred in Meranti Islands District were residents of Merbau District including Bagan Melibur Village, Mekar Sari Village, Mengkirau Village and Teluk Belitung Village and PT RAPP. PT RAPP claims that 41,205 hectares of land are legal HTI areas which are managed based on the Minister of Forestry Decree No. 327 of 2009, however the residents also insist on defending their villages that have been added to the HTI area because they have occupied the island of Padang since childhood.



Fourth Attitudes are feelings and perceptions that influence the behavior patterns of conflict actors. Attitudes can come in both positive and negative forms. Residents of Merbau District objected from protests to the Riau DPRD to physical violence such as the blood stamp action in front of the Meranti DPRD building, the Mouth Sewing Action on November 1, 2011, to the burning of the eskafator belonging to PT RAPP on May 31, 2011. There were even three PT RAPP employees hostage due to and pegging in Bagan Melibur on November 1, 2015.

Fifth Behavior (Behavior) Behavior is an aspect of social actions of parties in conflict, both in the coercive and non-coercive form. The social conflicts in the Meranti Islands Regency were both conservative and non-conservative. PT RAPP's non-conservative action was to secretly enter the residents' plantations and put poles in their plantations without the knowledge of the residents and the local government so that the villagers arrested and held PT RAPP employees hostage. The stakes were carried out on the basis of fixing the stakes claiming they were from RAPP and working on Marhadi's orders from RAPP. They set boundary markers with maps from forestry. After the incident, PT RAPP took a conservative action in the form of socialization regarding land remapping at the Grand Meranti hotel in October 2015.

Sixth, *Intervention* or interference is an act of a third party which is neutral in nature, meaning that it does not take sides with any party. The parties that intervened were the Ministry of Forestry and the DPRD of Meranti Islands Regency. The Ministry of Forestry has established The Mediation Team for Settlement of Local Community Claims Against Business Permits for Utilization of Timber Forest Products in Plantation Forests (IUPHHK-HT) in Padang Island, Kepulauan Meranti Regency, Riau Province. SK.736 / Menhut-II / 2011 dated December 27, 2011. Meanwhile, the Meranti Islands Regency DPRD held a joint hearing to find a solution to the problem of the Bagan Melibur Village-Lukit Village Boundary which resulted in a conflict over PT RAPP's canal excavation work on Padang Island on the day Tuesday, 20 May 2014 took place at the Meranti Islands DPRD building.



Seventh *the output* that is the end result is the impact of various actions taken by the parties to the conflict in the form of a situation. The last data obtained in November was that the team of nine was determining the boundaries. This is according to orders from the Head of Bagan Melibur Village No. 445 / SPT / IX / 2015/463 regarding the assignment of a team of nine to determine the boundaries of community land and PT RAPP's IUPHHK-HT. Follow up letter from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry NO. S.356 / BPKH-XIX-3/2015.

In addition to social conflicts due to problems of struggle over natural resources that occurred in the district. Merbau, Meranti Islands Regency also has two potential social conflicts as summarized in the following table:

Table 1.2
Potential Conflict Meranti Islands Regency

Potential Conflict in the Meranti Islands Regency		
Variable	Potential Conflict 1	Potential Conflict 2
Source	Basic Needs (Staple Food)	General Election in 2015



2	<i>Issue</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The price of basic food is expensive because it comes from outside districts such as from Riau, West Sumatra and even from the island of Java. - Many illegal goods are imported from Malaysia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The boundaries in several areas of the Meranti Islands Regency are unclear considering the age of the formation of the district which is still young, referring to Decree Number 100 / PH / 58.32 dated 18 December 2008. - Confusion of population registration which may result in multiple Permanent Voters List (DPT).
Parties involved).	Parties involved).	Community, entrepreneurs / traders	Among supporters of the candidate pairs of regents and deputy regents

Source: 2015 field data processing

Conflict is an unavoidable phenomenon in life because it is an inherent part of human existence, meaning that the potential for social conflict cannot be avoided, starting from the intra-personal, interpersonal, to the level of groups, organizations, communities and countries. can run into conflict. The reasons for this can vary, ranging from social, economic, power, and so on, and are manifested in the development and change of human life itself.

Conflicts always arise over imbalances in relationships, for example struggles for social status, power struggles, wealth, inequality of power, discrimination, suppression of rights to natural resources, and crime. Table 1.2 shows that the two potential conflicts in Meranti Islands District have different sources and issues. The first potential conflict originates from the existence of basic necessities (sembako) with the issue of the high price of people's daily needs.



If seen from the motive is economic motive, namely there is a situation where people in the Meranti Islands district have different abilities to meet their daily needs. This happens because these basic necessities are imported from outside the Meranti Islands regency, such as Pekanbaru, Java and West Sumatra. The close proximity to neighboring countries, namely Malaysia, has resulted in many illegal imports being carried out by entrepreneurs or individuals. This happens because the costs of expediting goods from Malaysia are cheaper. Disperindag-UKM also does not have data related to export and import in the Meranti Islands regency. Even though the export-import activity has been going on for a long time in this area.

The Head of the Meranti Islands Cooperative and SME Industry Trade Office (Disperindagkopukm), has long submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Trade so that the Meranti Islands could supply goods from the ports in Tanjungbalai Karimun and Batam, but until now they have not received permission even though it has been repeatedly submitted. This condition occurs because according to him this is outside the authority of the region and the minister who has the authority. Thus, in this case the parties involved are the community, and entrepreneurs or traders. In addition, if seen from its form, this conflict is included in social class conflict, namely between the general public and traders or entrepreneurs who have the power to set prices by considering the difficult conditions in obtaining staple goods.

Second is a potential conflict of a political nature originating from the holding of simultaneous regional elections. Politively motivated conflict is the existence of differences in political interests that exist in society and has the potential to create clashes in the power struggle process which can then lead to social conflict. In accordance with Law Number 1 of 2015 concerning Stipulation of Government Regulations in Lieu of Law Number 1 of 2014 concerning the Election of Governors, Regents and Mayors into Laws and also Law Number 8 of 2015 concerning Concurrent Pilkada in Riau Province, the implementation of Simultaneous Pilkada in 2015 will be held in 8 Regencies and 1 City, there are four Regencies / Cities whose term of office ends in 2015. One of the regions that will carry out the regional elections is the Meranti Islands Regency,



Conflicts that are prone to arise are caused by the young age of the Meranti Islands Regency which was only formed in 2010 according to the Governor of Riau Province Decree Number 100 / PH / 58.32 dated 18 December 2008 concerning the Approval of the Riau Provincial Government for the Establishment of the Meranti Islands Regency. His relatively young age not only affects the experience of holding simultaneous regional elections, but also on related administrative aspects, namely that there are still many regions with unclear boundaries. Unclear boundaries not only have the potential to lead to territorial struggle but also in the form of population registration which can confuse the number of the Permanent Voters' List (DPT) or the possibility of doubling the number of DPT.

D. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the explanation of the results of research and discussion, it can be concluded that 1) Social conflicts that occur originate from seizure of natural resources in the form of seizure of land or forest with the issue of management of Industrial Plantation Forest (HTI) covering an area of 41,205 ha on the island of Padang. This conflict does not only have economic motives but also social motives, 2) KMeranti Islands district has the potential for social conflict, namely conflicts with economic and political motives. Conflicts with economic motives originate from the existence of daily necessities with the issue of expensive basic necessities due to supplies from outside the region, 3) potential political conflicts were also found with the problem of the simultaneous post-conflict local elections in 2015. The issue is about the absence of poultrices. boundaries in several regions as well as aspects of population registration that have the potential to generate multiple voters.

Thus, to prevent social conflict from identified potential conflicts, the following steps should be taken: 1) For the central government, regional level 1 and level two regions immediately determine the boundaries of PT RAPP and people's lands, 2) To anticipate The occurrence of ethnic, religious and political conflicts means that customary institutions must play a more role, 3) Builder permanent boundaries between HTI



managed by PT RAPP and people's land, 4) Provided assistance for forums for inter-ethnic / religious and ethnic communication.

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