

## A. Background

Madagascar is the fourth largest island in the world after Greenland, Papua New Guinea, and Borneo. It is a State that located in the Indian Ocean and separated by the Mozambique Channel from the African continent about 400 km. Madagascar has a total area of 58, 704,100 hectares, and reached 8, 863,420 hectares of forest and non-forest wide reached 49, 840,680 ha, while the total population is about 22 million, with a growth of 2.9% per year.

Madagascar's Ecosystem is one of the richest on Earth both in fauna and flora. Madagascar is well known for the exceptional biodiversity of its macro-flora and fauna (Leah C. Blasiak *et al.* 2014). According to Jacques Millot, more than 90% of Madagascar's fauna are endemic. On the other hand, Madagascar has 12,000 plants species of which 90% are endemic. This ecosystem is located in the forest with an area of 8, 863,420 million ha, which the rainforest is the largest forest in Madagascar that has an area of 3, 870,076 hectares.

Among these plants, there is a species that called rosewood, which is belonged to the rainforest type. Rosewood constitutes a rare wood core value and has function as being the place where the animals live, like Simpona, Indri-indri and many others. Thus, it is necessary to protect and preserve it, especially if it is associated with a world heritage area. People are exploiting the rosewood illegally within the world heritage area. The Environmental ASAS 5 stating that there are two types of natural resources, namely natural resources that procurement can stimulate the use and have no stimulation of use (Prabang Setyono, 2014) ;related to this, rosewood constitutes a species that can stimulate the use. Several lines of evidence strongly suggest that most of this confiscated wood was logged within the two largest protected areas in the region, Marojejy National Park and Masoala National Park (Patel, 2007). Madagascar's forests have long been under intense and rapidly increasing pressure from various sectors of society, including members of impoverished communities living around protected areas and well organized criminal networks with extensive international links (Derek Schuurman and Porter P. Lowry II, 2009).

Large quantities have been harvested and exported at an increasing rate over the last decade, almost entirely from illegal logging in protected areas, in

particular Masoala and Marojejy National Parks, which comprise part of the newly - established *Atsinanana* UNESCO World Heritage Site in the SAVA (Sambava - Antalaha - Vohémar - Andapa) region of northeast Madagascar (Derek Schuurman and Porter P. Lowry II, 2009).

It is said illegal because the illegal logging is defined as the harvest, transport, sale or purchase of timber in contravention to national laws (John Innes, 2010). The Malagasy Law No. 97-017 of 8 August 1997 revising forest legislation has cited in article 17 that however, strict nature reserves, national parks, special reserves and protected forests in the respect of international conventions as well as land and water areas defined in Article 2 are not likely to distraction. Whereas, the logging in question has been operated, as it mentioned above, in the protected area as Marojejy and Masoala the national parks. Therefore, Ministry of Water and Forest brought out the November 2000 order No 12704/2000, which orders to stop extracting any kind of wood without exception in protected areas, whether made by the people or company. Again, Decree No. 2010-141 (March 24, 2010) prohibits all phases related to any of logging activity. Ordinance 2011-001 of August 8, 2010 weighs heavy criminal penalties on those who continue any form of activity with regard to the Rosewood chain. Still, numerous are the facts proving the illegal exploitation of rosewood of Madagascar. According to the investigations conducted by Environmental Investigation Agency and Global Witness in 2009 uncovered the illegal harvest of about 100 to 200 rosewood trees per day in northeastern Madagascar, which means in provenance of Marojejy and Masoala and also the place around the sites.

The studies related to the forestry issues are multiples in Madagascar, including rosewoods. But for not to say none, only few of them is directly related to how resolve rosewood problem in particularly. Because most of data on its concerning are about confirming and explaining the exploitation and exportation but not about how to solve the problem by its roots. As result, the illegal logging activity still remains. Many timbers of rosewood from Madagascar were intercepted out of the country. For instance, on June 4, 2014 at 17:43 *tananeews* published that the Singapore authorities has intercepted a cargo of 3000 tons of rosewood, more than 29,000 logs. And many similar cases are available.

The problem is that the number of rosewood decreases exponentially. According to the Ministry of Water and Forest, between 87% of the exploited forests, 60% is for the rosewood only(Brodbeck, 1999 cited in Randriamalala and Zhou). Currently it is already suffering a serious degradation due to illegal operations.

Although the presence of laws related to the protection of forest, the exploitations still continue until now. Instead, the number of exploiters has increased. In 2009, operators numbered 13. But in 2012, that number had increased from 19 to 103, or 542% (Hery F. Randriamalala, 2013).

This means that the government's strategy used against the illegal exploitation of forest still has large gaps, particularly on the issue of rosewood, which located in a world heritage.