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Tajuk : Latest Move Mirrors Practice In Cities In Europe, Australia And New Zealand.

## Latest move mirrors practice in cities in Europe, Australia and New Zealand

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She also saw the decision as showing that the city now practises a policy similar to that of major cities in Europe, Australia and New Zealand, which have also gazetted major nature reserves to protect the animals and plants there.

"Gazetting it (Piasau Camp) as a protected nature reserve will boost the image of Miri as a tourism city and enable the hornbills to breed in the camp.

"There could be more hornbills there, as well as other rare birds, mammals and plants.

"We the expatriates hope that the Sarawak government will also look into gazetting other special areas across the state as nature reserves," she said.

SUPP information chief Datuk Sebastian Ting told reporters here that the death of Faridah would not be in vain.

He said the fact that Taib had reacted so swiftly to protect Piasau Camp showed that the state government listened to and cared about the people.



**Three cheers for move:** Miri Shell expatriate representative Gboland (left) with Ting (fifth from left) and others unveiling the Faridah T-shirts and posters in welcoming the gazetting of Piasau Camp as nature reserve.

"The death of Faridah has generated a response beyond our imagination, with more than 6,000 people having sent comments on the Internet over the past two days.

"Petronas and Shell have also

responded swiftly and pledged some RM10mil to help turn the 150-acre Piasau Camp into a well-managed nature reserve.

"The expatriates, together with Shell auxiliary police, Sarawak

Forestry wildlife rangers, volunteers from the local communities and the village folk here, will form a committee to help beef up security in the camp," he said.

Ting thanked former deputy chief

minister Tan Sri Dr George Chan, SUPP president Tan Sri Peter Chin and Assistant Communications Minister Datuk Lee Kim Shin for their roles in getting the state Cabinet to agree to gazette Piasau Camp as a protected nature reserve.

Meanwhile, Lee said he had raised the Piasau Camp issue with Taib and state Cabinet ministers recently, adding that an ecological study had been jointly carried out by Shell, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak and Sarawak Forestry in Piasau Camp in which it was found that there were many more rare birds and plants there.

"That place is indeed very unique with more interesting things to discover.

"It will be a very important asset for tourism and nature research," he said.

The Senadin assemblyman also urged the police, Wildlife Department and Forestry personnel to enforce stricter checks from now on to stop poachers and hunters from entering Piasau Camp, which is located along the beachfront, about 12km from the city centre.