

# CERAMAH TEKNIK TECHNICAL TALK

## Setap and Temburong are separate formations

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**Abstract:** Until today confusion is still perpetuated about the status of the Temburong and Setap formations. Colleagues who are exclusively familiar with northern Sarawak or only with Brunei-southwestern Sabah stratigraphy tend to lump the Setap Formation (mainly of lower Miocene age and deposited as shallow-marine mudstone-dominant sediments) together with deep-marine Temburong Formation (of upper Oligocene) under one Setap Formation label. Those advocating “only Setap” existence have dismissed the older paleontological evidence in their “Setap” as reworked fossils. Liechti et al. (1960) made no mention of a Temburong Formation, which came into existence a few years later by Brondijk (1962) resulting from work in the upper Temburong River area. Sandal (1966) described both Setap and Temburong stratigraphic units, but the latter is absent on the accompanying geological map. As map units, the Setap is recognized by its yellow-brown hues and the Temburong as mainly dark grey shale-dominant sequences. Recent field observation in both mentioned areas and seismic evidence from the Baram Delta elucidate the probable cause of confusion and firmly establish the Setap and Temburong as separate formations.