

Occurrence of Larger Benthic Foraminifera from the Early Miocene Limestone sediment at Batu Luang, Klias Peninsula, Sabah

JUNAIIDI ASIS¹, SANUDIN HJ. TAHIR¹, BASIR JASIN² & BABA MUSTA¹

¹Geology Programme, Faculty of Science and Natural Resources, Universiti Malaysia Sabah

²No. 22 Jalan 2/4F, Section 2, 43650 Bandar Baru Bangi, Selangor, Malaysia

Corresponding author: junaidi@ums.edu.my/junaidiasis@gmail.com

Limestone unit of Setap shale formation is exposed at Batu Luang, Klias Peninsula, Sabah. the limestone consists of well-preserved larger benthic foraminifera and its significant to study the petrography, biostratigraphy and its paleoenvironment. Klias Peninsula which located at the south-western part of Sabah. The study area underlain by Paleogene-Neogene sediment namely, the Crocker Formation, Temburong Formation, Setap Shale and Belait Formation (Dayang Nor Asyilla & Sanudin 2013). The Setap Shale consists of predominantly thick dark grey mudstone with minor sandstone intercalations. The shale is occasionally calcareous, silty and may contain carbonaceous material. The Setap Formation is unconformably overlying the Temburong Formation in Labuan Island (Basir, 2002; Basir et al. 1993; Wilson & Wong, 1964). In the study area, the contact between the

Setap Shale Formation and the Temburong Formation is not exposed. Wilson and Wong (1964) reported the age of the Setap formation was Late Miocene. Basir (2002) and Basir et al. (1993) suggest that the age of the formation is Early Miocene to Late Miocene based on study at the Labuan area.

Recently we discover some significant larger benthic foraminifera from the limestone unit of the Setap Shale Formation from Batu Luang, Klias Peninsula Sabah. The significant of larger benthic foraminifera study are to give some significant age and the deposition paleoenvironment of the sediment. The purposes of this study are to classified the taxonomy of the larger benthic foraminifera species found in the limestone and to determine the age and paleoenvironment of the limestone facies.