

STA Review

Volume 203

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Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association

August 2010



3
MEETING
with Tax Review Panel



4
STA 75TH
Council Meeting



7
INTER-AGENCY
SOPs Roadshows

CONTENTS

PAGE

STA REVIEW

<i>Meeting with Tax Review Panel</i>	3
<i>Sarawak Timber Association 75th Council Meeting</i>	4
<i>The Asia Forest Partnership Dialogue 2010</i>	6
<i>Inter-Agency Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) Roadshows</i>	7
<i>Workshop on Carbon Footprint Project and Mill Visits</i>	8
<i>Workshop on Carbon Offsets and Forest Conservation</i>	9
<i>Seminar on ITTO-CITES Projects on Ramin</i>	10
<i>STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting</i>	11
<i>Educational Visit by University Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)</i>	11
<i>MEF National Conference 2010</i>	12
<i>PGDip : The Path to Forest Certification</i>	13

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REGULAR FEATURES

<i>Statistics</i>	14
<i>Rainfall</i>	28



COVER IMAGE:

Protected Tree Species in Sarawak
Family : Dipterocarpaceae
Species : *Shorea macrophylla* (De Vr.) Ashton.
Common Name : Engkabang jantung (Illipe nuts)
Natural Habitat : Found in lowland mixed dipterocarp forests and near banks of fresh water rivers

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MEETING WITH TAX REVIEW PANEL



The Tax Review Panel (TRP) paid a visit to Wisma STA, Kuching on 3 August 2010 for a dialogue session. The delegation from the TRP was led by Dato' Kamariah binti Hussain, the Chairperson of the TRP. Also present was Dato' Zaleha binti Hamzah, the Advisor to the Royal Malaysian Customs Department.

Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, STA Chairman led the Working Group on GST for the meeting with the TRP. The meeting discussed at length the outstanding issues in STA's submission on the treatment of Goods and Services Tax (GST) for the forest and timber industry in Sarawak with the TRP.

A draft guidelines for the forest and timber industry would be available for comments by the end of August 2010.

The implementation of GST at a rate of 4% to replace the current sales and services tax in 2011 had been deferred when the second reading of GST Bill was postponed to gather more feedback from the public and stakeholders. The private sector is advised to fully understand GST and be ready for its implementation by training their staff and having GST-compliant systems in place.



Photo: Meeting in progress



Photo: Press Conference after the Meeting

Panel Semakan Semula Cukai (TRP) telah mengadakan lawatan sambil sesi dialog ke Wisma STA, Kuching pada 3 Ogos 2010.

Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, Pengerusi STA mengetuai Kumpulan Kerja Cukai Jualan Barang (GST) dalam mesyuarat bersama TRP. Mesyuarat membincangkan isu-isu berbangkit berkaitan penyerahan tentang pelaksanaan Cukai Jualan Barang (GST) untuk industri hutan dan pembalakan di Sarawak kepada TRP.

Draf garis panduan kepada industri hutan dan pembalakan akan disediakan pada penghujung Ogos 2010 untuk memberikan maklumbalas.

税务审查小组(TRP)于2010年8月3日礼貌拜访本会。随后,本会在其主席邦曼查拿督黄启曙的带领下与TRP召开会议。会议详细讨论本会所呈上的砂州森林和木材业物品服务税(GST)课题上还未解决的事项。

森林和木材业准则草案将于今年8月底供各界评论。

SARAWAK TIMBER ASSOCIATION

Permanent Council Members and elected Council Members for the term of 2010 and 2011 (Council Members) met for the first time at the 75th Council Meeting on 17 August 2010 at Wisma STA in Kuching. The Meeting was presided over by Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, the Chairman of the Association with the presence of Tan Sri Datuk Sir Tiong Hiew King, the Vice Chairman, Dato Henry Lau, the Honorary Secretary, Mr Philip Choo, the Honorary Treasurer and twenty seven Council Members.

The Meeting recorded a vote of thanks to the outgoing Council Members for their service during the 2008 and 2009 term.

The Honorary Secretary presented his report highlighting events and matters that had taken place since the last Council Meeting which included the following:

- Meeting with Members in Sibuluan on 14 May 2010, to discuss issues concerning export requirements (treatment) for logs and timber products exported from Sarawak;
- Dialogue between the government agencies (namely Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Forest Department Sarawak (FDS)), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd and the Association on 29 July 2010 with regard to the implementation of the Inter-Agency Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for forestry functions in Sarawak, in particular the functional area of "Control of Log Movement";
- Dialogue between the Japan Lumber Importers' Association and the Association on 30 July 2010 to discuss the legality and sustainability requirements of the timber and timber products imported into Japan;

- Follow-up meeting on Goods and Services Tax (GST) with the Tax Review Panel to discuss the treatment of GST for forest and timber industry in Sarawak; and
- Latest update on the anti-dumping investigation by Korea Trade Commission (KTC) on Malaysian Plywood

In this Meeting, the Council Members reiterated the importance of documenting policies and work done on sustainable forest management (SFM) and related issues in the context of Sarawak, and therefore the Meeting had resolved that the Association would engage a consultant to work with the resource persons from the relevant authorities to develop Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) Teaching Kit and to collate Forestry Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures for Forest Management Certification.

The Council Meeting also resolved that the Association would appoint the Curtin Consultancy Services (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd to conduct a study with the goal of identifying and gaining better understanding the remuneration packages for Indonesian workers employed in veneer and plywood mills and the recruitment costs incurred by the employers in three (3) regions, namely Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. This study would take 6 months to complete (1 July 2010 to 31 December 2010).

The Meeting approved five (5) new applications for Membership and eighteen (18) applications for the conversion of Associate Membership to Membership. The Meeting also endorsed the cancellation of twenty-one (21) members who failed to renew their membership.



Photo: STA Council Members for years 2010 and 2011

ION 75TH COUNCIL MEETING

The five new applications for Membership are as follows:

No	Company Name	Official Category	Official Representative	Alternate Representative	Proposer	Second
1	WTK Reforestation Sdn Bhd	Forest Plantation	Mr Ling Kwong Hung	Mr Wong Haw Yeong, Patrick	Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik	Ms Wong Haw Bing, Annie
2	Juara Emas Indah Sdn Bhd	Hill Logging	Mr Hii Wei Wen	Mr Yong King Chik	Mr Hii King Chiong	Mr Lee Lay Hwoi
3	Raffles Ventures Sdn Bhd	Log Marketing	Mr Hii Wei Wen	Mr Yong King Chik	Mr Hii King Chiong	Mr Lee Lay Hwoi
4	Cahaya Perdana Sdn Bhd	Log Marketing	Mr Ling Lu Kuang	Mr Ling Chiong Sing	Mr Wong Kai Song	Ms Loretta Lau
5	Eden Wood Trading Sdn Bhd	Timber Products Marketing	Ms Hon Siaw Kien	Mr Tok Ah Chuan	Mr Ko Kung Hai	Mr Voon Choon Hua

The eighteen applications for the conversion of Associate Membership to Membership are as follows

No	Company Name	Official Category	Date of Approval as STA Associate Member
1	Aurostar Sdn Bhd	Hill Logging	16 August 2005
2	Chep Huat Timber Sdn Bhd	Hill Logging	16 August 2005
3	Forward Timbers Sdn Bhd	Hill Logging	5 April 2005
4	Hua Lim Holdings Berhad	Hill Logging	5 April 2005
5	Kinmaster dn Bhd	Hill Logging	16 August 2005
6	KTHS Resources Sdn Bhd	Hill Logging	16 August 2005
7	KTS Plantation Sdn Bhd	Hill Logging	5 April 2005
8	Merak Murni Sdn Bhd	Hill Logging	5 April 2005
9	Merrick Enterprise Sdn Bhd	Hill Logging	5 April 2005
10	Adat Mayang Sdn Bhd	Log Marketing	5 April 2005
11	Career Excellent Sdn Bhd	Log Marketing	5 April 2005
12	Chengon Enterprise Sdn Bhd	Log Marketing	5 April 2005
13	Malaysia Timor Mosaic Tiles Sdn Bhd	Log Marketing	16 August 2005
14	Manyew Resources Sdn Bhd	Log Marketing	16 August 2005
15	Noble Corporation Sdn Bhd	Log Marketing	16 August 2005
16	Palm Spring Estate Sdn Bhd	Log Marketing	5 April 2005
17	Sebangun Saramica Sdn Bhd	Log Marketing	5 April 2005
18	Selamat Timber Company Bhd	Log Marketing	16 August 2005

Ahli Majlis Tetap dan Ahli Majlis yang terpilih untuk tahun 2010 dan 2011 (Ahli Majlis) telah bertemu buat kali pertama pada Mesyuarat Majlis yang ke-75 pada 17 Ogos 2010 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Mesyuarat diketuai oleh Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, Pengerusi Persatuan.

Mesyuarat Majlis menyatakan bahawa Persatuan akan melantik Konsultan Perkhidmatan Curtin (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd untuk menjalankan kajian bertujuan untuk mengenalpasti dan memperolehi pemahaman yang lebih baik tentang pakej gaji untuk pekerja-pekerja Indonesia di kilang venir dan papan lapis dan kos pengambilan yang ditanggung oleh majikan-majikan di tiga (3) bahagian, iaitu Semenanjung Malaysia, Sabah dan Sarawak.

本会常务理事委员会与2010年和2011年当选理事会会员于8月17日在古晋, STA大厦召开第75届理事会会议。会议由本会主席邦曼查拿督黄啓曄主持。

理事会决定委托Curtin Consultancy Services (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd对3个地区即马来西亚半岛, 沙巴和砂拉越的单板厂和胶合板厂印尼工人薪酬待遇和雇主招聘成本进行研究。

THE ASIA FOREST PARTNERSHIP DIALOGUE 2010

The Asia Forest Partnership (AFP) was formed in 2002 at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg with the goal of assisting Asia in coping with alarming rates of deforestation and forest degradation. The AFP, as a voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership, aims to promote cooperation and catalyse action among governments, civil society and private sector to achieve sustainable forest management in Asia and the Pacific and thereby maintain and enhance the provision of forest products and ecosystem services, and their contribution to human well-being.

The AFP organised the Ninth Meeting of the Asia Forest Partnership and Asia Forest Partnership Dialogue 2010 from 4-6 August 2010 in Bali, Indonesia in collaboration with the Governments of Japan and Indonesia, and the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), supported by the EU's European Forest Institute Forest Law Enforcement, Governance & Trade (FLEGT) Asia Regional Support Programme (FLEGT Asia), Government of the United States of America, and The Nature Conservancy.

The Ninth Meeting of the AFP was held on 4 August 2010 followed by the AFP Dialogue 2010 from 5 - 6 August 2010 titled "Forest Governance Challenges Beyond Copenhagen" examined the linkages between forest governance and reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of carbon stocks (REDD+). Governance is crucial to REDD+ to ensure long-term, real emissions reductions and equitable outcomes, while many hope that REDD+ will provide new opportunities to strengthen forest governance.

The concept of REDD+ has gained wide international support. It was highlighted that about forty (40) developing countries are now gearing up for a future global REDD+ mechanism and well over hundred (100) readiness and demonstration activities have been counted.

On behalf of the Minister of Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia (MoF, Indonesia), Dr Boen Purnama, the Secretary General of MoF, Indonesia officiated the opening of this 2-day Dialogue with the presence of Mr Tatsuya Watanabe, the Vice Chairman of AFP, Mr Takuo Sato, donor representative from the Ministry of Finance, Japan, and Ms Frances Seymour, the Director General of CIFOR. The Dialogue was attended by about 150 participants, mainly from Indonesia.

In the three plenary sessions, participants heard presentations on: national policy initiatives related to REDD+, including the REDD+ readiness in Indonesia, and forest tenure reform in China; progress related to sub-national forest carbon initiatives in Indonesia; and

synergies between national and international initiatives related to sustainable forests and REDD+, including the significance of the US Lacey Act for REDD+ efforts in Southeast Asia; and illegal logging in Indonesia and Cambodia. Participants also met in working groups to discuss the role of various actors who influence decisions on REDD+ and governance, and to address issues of legality and synergies with REDD+.



Mesyuarat ke-9 AFP telah diadakan pada 4 Ogos 2010 diikuti Dialog AFP 2010 dari 5 – 6 Ogos 2010 bertajuk "Forest Governance Challenges Beyond Copenhagen" memeriksa perhubungan antara hutan dan mengurangkan emisi dari sikketptakkn mengurangkan pengeluaran dari pembasmian hutan dan penyahgredan hutan di Negara membangun, pemuliharaan, pengurusan hutan dan peningkatan karbon (REDD+).

2010亚洲森林伙伴关系对话会-“哥本哈根超越森林治理的挑战”于2010年8月5日至6日举行。对话会审查森林管理之间的联系，减少发展中国家的毁林和森林退化排放，保护森林，森林持续管理和加强碳储量 (REDD+)。

INTER-AGENCY STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES (SOPs) ROADSHOWS

In the efforts towards enhancing their performance, forestry and timber agencies in Sarawak have developed an Inter-Agency Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for performance of forestry functions. The agencies involved are Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB).

The newly developed SOPs aimed to standardise, streamline and improve work flow, enhance operational cost-effectiveness, establish clarity of roles and responsibilities and thereby eliminate overlapping of execution and jurisdiction. This will also maintain the elements of check and balance for performance of forestry functions or operations in Sarawak.

The scope of SOPs include compliance with harvesting plan, revenue collection, control of log movement, enforcement, issuance of permits, Totally Protected Area (TPA) constitution, wildlife conservation and control of import of sawn timber from West Kalimantan, Indonesia. The exclusions are Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) operations, management of TPAs, issuance of timber licenses and timber mill registration

FDS, being the owner of this SOP will lead and take charge of its implementation.

A series of roadshows on the Inter-Agency Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for performance of forestry functions had been conducted in Sibu, Bintulu, Miri and Kuching from 25 – 30 August 2010. It was well attended by members from the timber industry in the four regions.

During the roadshows, it was announced that HTSB shall be carrying out physical checking of forest produce prior to the issuance of Transit Removal Pass (TRP) and acknowledgement on incoming shipment with effect from 1 September 2010. It was also mentioned that HTSB will not impose any additional charges on their new role.



Agensi-agens pengurusan hutan di Sarawak telah membangunkan Piawai Prosedur Pengendalian Antara Agensi (SOPs) untuk prestasi perhutanan berfungsi. Agensi-agens pengurusan hutan yang terlibat adalah Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA) dan Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB). SOPs yang baru dibangunkan menyasarkan untuk menstandardkan, menyelaraskan dan meningkatkan aliran kerja, meningkatkan keberkesanan kos operasi, mewujudkan kejelasan peranan-peranan dan tanggungjawab dan dengan itu menghapuskan pertindihan pelaksanaan dan bidang kuasa.

HTSB mengumumkan berkuatkuasa 1 September 2010, HTSB akan menjalankan pemeriksaan fizikal ke atas keluaran hutan berikutan pengeluaran "Transit Removal Pass" (TRP) dan pengiktirafan penghantaran yang baru.

4间砂州林业和木材机构，即砂拉越森林局(FDS)，砂拉越林业机构(SFC)，砂拉越木材工业发展机构(STIDC) 及 Harwood Timber 有限公司(HTSB)共同推展机构间的林业功能表现标准工作程序(SOPs)。SOPs主要是规划,提高效率和改善工作流程,提高运营成本效益,明白与清楚各自的角色和责任以避免执行和管辖权重叠。

于2010年9月1日起,在未发行载运移动许可证前, HTSB将负责进行木林产品的物质检查及允许外来运输。

WORKSHOP ON CARBON FOOTPRINT PROJECT AND MILL VISITS

The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) with the approval from the Ministry of Planning and Resource Management Sarawak has embarked on a pilot project on carbon footprint for plywood. This project, funded by STIDC and supported by the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA), is carried out with the assistance from the Environment and Bioprocess Technology Centre, SIRIM Berhad (i.e. the appointed consultant) and is expected to take six months to complete.

Currently, the project will focus mainly on the plywood manufacturers. Hence, STIDC organised a series of workshops on Carbon Footprint Project (CFP) in Bintulu on 3-4 August 2010 and in Sibu on 5-6 August 2010. The workshops in Bintulu were attended by more than 50 participants and 40 participants attended the ones in Sibu. The workshops were officiated by Datu Haji Sarudu Haji Hoklai, the General Manager of STIDC.

The objectives of the workshop were:

- To understand the concepts of environmental issues and the importance of sustainable development
- To understand the concepts and basic requirements of Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) and Eco-labeling
- To enable the collection of data for carrying out Life Cycle Inventory and Life Cycle Impact Assessment

The workshops were conducted by Dr Chen Sau Soon and Dr Ler Leong Tat, both from the Environment and Bioprocess Technology Centre, SIRIM Berhad, and covered the following topics:

- Trends and Drivers Towards Environmental Performance Quantification: Carbon Footprint and Ecolabels
- Concepts of LCA (ISO 14040)
- Life Cycle Inventory for Eco-Profiles – Carbon Footprint, Water Footprint
- LCA for Plywood
- Ranking the Company's Green Performance
- Common Approach towards Inventory Collection for Plywood Production

The speakers also took the opportunity to visit two plywood mills while in Bintulu to gain a better understanding of the flow of plywood manufacturing and the layout of the factories.

Perbananan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA) dengan kelulusan dari Kementerian Perancangan dan Pengurusan Sumber Sarawak telah melaksanakan projek pilot "carbon footprint" untuk papan lapis. Projek ini, dibiayai oleh PUSAKA dan disokong oleh Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) dan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA), dijalankan dengan bantuan dari Pusat Teknologi Alam Sekitar dan Bioproses, SIRIM Berhad (wakil yang dilantik) dan dijangka mengambil masa selama enam bulan untuk siap. Sehubungan itu, PUSAKA telah mengajurkan satu siri bengkel tentang Projek "Carbon Footprint" (CFP) di Bintulu pada 3 - 4 Ogos 2010 dan di Sibu pada 5 - 6 Ogos 2010.

Objektif bengkel adalah:

- Untuk memahami konsep isu alam sekitar dan kepentingan pembangunan mampan
- Untuk memahami konsep dan keperluan asas Analisis Kitar Hidup (LCA) dan pelabelan eko
- Untuk membolehkan pengumpulan data untuk menjalankan Inventori Kitar Hidup dan Penilaian Impak Kitar Hidup

砂拉越木材工业发展机构 (STIDC) 在规划和资源管理部的批准下已开始对胶合板碳足迹进行试验计划。这计划由STIDC资助并在本会及砂拉越森林机构(SFC)的支持下由SIRIM有限公司其下环境和生物加工技术中心 (即委托的顾问公司) 进行。这预计需6个月完成。故此, STIDC于2010年8月3日至4日假民都鲁及2010年8月5日至6日假诗巫举办一系列关于碳足迹 (CFP) 的研讨会。

研讨会的目的是:

- 了解环境问题和可持续发展的重要性
- 了解生命周期分析 (LCA) 和生态标签的概念与基本要求
- 启用进行生命周期列表和生命周期影响评价的数据收集



WORKSHOP ON CARBON OFFSETS AND FOREST CONSERVATION

Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) in collaboration with Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) organised a workshop on Carbon Offsets and Forest on 18 August 2010 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Workshop was officiated by Tuan Haji Ali Yusop, Acting Director of Forests who was representing Datu Haji Len Talif, the Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Planning and Resource Management, Director of Forests and Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer of Sarawak Forestry Corporation, and was attended by 100 participants from Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), SFC, WCS and Sarawak Timber Association (STA).

The Director of Forests' speech read by Tuan Haji Ali, reiterated that, "Deforestation and forest degradation make up 20% of global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emission, second only to the combustion of fossil fuels and deforestation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emission in the developing world today as trees are a large source of oxygen and remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through photosynthesis, thus functioning as a huge store of carbon. Deforestation does not only destroy these large stores of carbon, but also releases more carbon dioxide when these trees either rot or are burnt; the result is an overall increase in the concentration of atmospheric carbon dioxide, a major contributor of greenhouse gases." Malaysia has pledged to ensure at least 50% of the land area remains as forests as a show on the forest conservation effort by the country at the Rio Earth Summit.

The Workshop aimed at familiarising Sarawak and the timber-related parties with carbon offset, Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD), and the shift towards implementing Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) in Sarawak.

The papers presented in the Workshop are as follows:-

1. **"REDD – The International Scenario and the Malaysian perspective"** by Dr Gary Theseira, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Malaysia

The speaker explained on the role of forests in combating climate change, carbon credit as a commodity, development of the carbon markets, dynamics of REDD/ REDD+ and the concerns for Malaysia.

2. **"The Framework for Voluntary Market REDD Projects"** by Dr Tom Evans, WCS Cambodia Programme

The speaker presented on the context of the voluntary market for REDD projects, the way the market works, key design principles and gave examples on such type of projects.

3. **"Experiences in developing a REDD pilot project in Cambodia"** by Dr Tom Evans, WCS Cambodia Programme

The speaker shared his experiences on Cambodia's second REDD project, which is carried out in a conservation area.



Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) dengan kerjasama Hidupan Liar (WCS) menganjurkan bengkel Imbangan Karbon dan Hutan pada 18 Ogos 2010 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Bengkel ini dirasmikan oleh Tuan Haji Ali Yusop, Timbalan Pengarah Jabatan Hutan yang mewakili Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, Timbalan Setiausaha Tetap, Kementerian Perancangan dan Pengurusan Sumber dan Pengarah Urusan/ Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Sarawak Forestry.

Bengkel ini diharap dapat membiasakan Sarawak dan pihak-pihak yang berkaitan dengan kayu kayan tentang "carbon offset", Pengurangan Keluaran dari Pembalakan dan Degradasi Hutan (REDD) dan beralih kepada pelaksanaan Mekanisme Pembangunan Bersih (CDM) di Sarawak.

砂拉越森林机构(SFC)与野生动物保护学会(WCS)于2010年8月18日在古晋, STA大厦合作举办抵消碳和森林研讨会。该研讨会由森林部副部长, 哈吉阿里先生(译音)代表森林部部长, 拿督达立沙里(译音)主持。研讨会旨于让砂拉越林业相关各方了解抵消碳, 减少毁林和森林退化排放(REDD), 以及在本州实施清洁发展机制(CDM)相关课题。

SEMINAR ON ITTO-CITES PROJECTS ON RAMIN

Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) organised a seminar on ITTO-CITES Projects on Ramin on 3 August 2010 at Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. The seminar, chaired by the Director of Forests, Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, was attended by officers from FDS, Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (SBC), and secretariat of Sarawak Timber Association.



Photo: Meeting in progress

Datu Haji Len informed the participants in the Seminar that the ITTO-CITES Project for implementing CITES listings of Tropical Timber Species aims at ensuring the international trade in CITES-listed timber species is consistent with their sustainable management and conservation. There were two projects which were being conducted in Sarawak i.e. the non-detrimental findings and the developing of DNA database, which focused on Ramin.

The papers presented in the Seminar are as follows:-

1. "Non-Detrimental Findings on *Gonystylus bancanus*: A quantitative assessment of *G. bancanus* in two selected permanent forest of Sarawak"

By Mr Ernest Chai

In his paper, Mr Chai touched on the status of peat swap forests in Sarawak, Ramin distribution, density and volume, sustainability of Ramin and the regeneration and

restorations of Ramin. The studies were conducted at Kayangeran Forest Reserve, Lawas and Saribas-Lupar PF, Sri Aman.

The findings inferred that the peat swamp forest (PSF) vegetation had been changed to different types of non-timber species after logging. Hence the Anderson's PSF classifications may no longer be applicable. It was also concluded that the Ramin timber production is expected to cease for a long time due to high felling rate. Some of the recommendations from this study were as follows:

- Remnant Ramin trees should remain in the PSF as mother trees
- A state-wide peat swamp and hill forest inventory should be conducted in Sarawak
- To further enhance the regeneration of PSF species and Ramin, proper planning of silvicultural tending should be carried out in all Permanent Forest Estate (PFE)
- FDS should consider reviewing its PSF management plans and sustainability policies
- Update all the PFE land statistics and demarcate physical boundary on ground

2. "Development of DNA Database for *Gonystylus bancanus* in Sarawak"

By Ms Bibian Diway, Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC)

The study aimed at developing DNA database as an initial stage to:

- enhance efforts of tracing and tracking Ramin timber,
- estimate genetic diversity level of Ramin populations in Sarawak, and
- determine genetic differentiation among the population

The speaker mentioned that by comparing the alleles in an individual profile with the frequency of those alleles in different populations, it is possible to identify which population a sample is most likely to have originated from.

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) telah mengajurkan seminar tentang Projek ITTO-CITES berkenaan Ramin pada 3 Ogos 2010 di Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. Seminar tersebut dipengerusikan oleh Pengarah Hutan, Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh telah dihadiri oleh pegawai-pegawai dari FDS, Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Pusat Biodiversiti Sarawak (SBC) dan seketariat dari Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak.

Datu Haji Len memberitahu para peserta dalam Seminar bahawa Projek ITTO-CITES untuk melaksanakan senarai Spesis Kayu Kayan Tropika CITES bertujuan untuk memastikan perdagangan antarabangsa dalam senarai spesis kayu kayan CITES adalah konsisten dengan pengurusan dan pemuliharaan mampan.

砂拉越森林部 (FDS) 于2010年8月3日假古晋, Wisma Sumber Alam举办ITTO-CITES白山杉计划研讨会。该研讨会由森林部部长, 拿督达立沙里 (译音) 主持。本会秘书处, 砂拉越森林机构(SFC)与砂拉越生物多样性中心 (SBC) 也各派代表出席此研讨会。

拿督达立沙里通知出席者关于ITTO-CITES计划实施CITES之热带木材种类列表的目的是确保CITES所列出的木材种类的国际贸易可与持续管理和森林保护达成一致。

STA FOREST PLANTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The STA Forest Plantation Committee met on 10 August 2010 at Wisma STA, Kuching, chaired by Mr Peter Ling Kwong Hung the Committee Chairman.

The meeting deliberated on issues related to forest plantation and achieved the following decisions:-

- To write to Director of Forests on simplifying the procedures for harvesting of timber for trees planted under Licence for Planted Forest (LPF) and to do away with any cess charges.
- To write to Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd to counter-propose the endorsement fee for pole size timber.
- To form a Working Committee on Tax Incentives for forest plantation development and source for a trainer to conduct the forest plantation fire fighting courses for member companies.



Photo: Meeting in progress

Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Perladangan Hutan telah diadakan pada 10 Ogos 2010 di Wisma STA, Kuching, dipengerusikan oleh Encik Peter Ling Kwong Hung, Pengerusi Jawatankuasa.

STA人工造林小组在其小组主席，林光訓先生的主持下于2010年8月10日假古晋，STA大厦召开会议。

EDUCATIONAL VISIT BY UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA SARAWAK (UNIMAS)

On 28 August 2010, a group of twenty-one final year students led by a lecturer, Ms Wong Sin Yeng from the Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, University Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) visited the Sarawak Timber Association (STA) and STA Exhibition Centre. The purpose of the visit was to familiarise and gain better understanding of the timber industry, wood science and the technologies involved. Dr Lee Hua Seng, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of STA, gave an introduction to STA and briefed the group on the roles and activities of the Association.

The visit ended with a tour of STA Exhibition Centre. The group had an informative session while exploring what the Exhibition Centre has to offer.



Photo: Students at the Centre

Pada 28 Ogos 2010, sekumpulan 21 pelajar tahun akhir diketuai oleh pensyarah, Cik Wong Sin Yeng dari Fakulti Sains dan Teknologi Sumber, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) telah mengadakan lawatan ke Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) dan Pusat Pameran STA. Tujuan lawatan adalah untuk membiasakan diri dan mendapatkan pemahaman yang lebih baik tentang industri kayu kayan, sains perkayuan dan teknologi yang terlibat.

砂大资源科学与技术学院，黄欣燕讲师（译音）带领一组21位大学生于2010年8月28日拜访本会及参观本会展览中心。这次参观旨在熟悉和了解木业及木材相关科学和科技。



Photo: Group photo

MEF National Conference 2010 was held at Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel, Kuala Lumpur from 3 – 4 August 2010. Dato' Azman Shah Datuk Seri Harun, the President of Malaysia Employers Federation (MEF) delivered the welcoming address and informed that the theme of this year's Conference "Accelerating Growth with the New Economic Model – Opportunities and Challenges" seeks to undertake the critical issues in delivering effective business strategies.

He informed that the National Economic Advisory Council (NEAC) aims to provide ideas and direction to transform Malaysia into a high income economy. He added that MEF has been working very closely with NEAC in the development of human capital and is represented in many of the NEAC's sub working groups on developing quality workforce and reducing dependence on foreign labour.

Some of the issues and recommendations identified by the working groups were:

1. to upgrade the skills of the majority of the local workforce who are uncertified and considered unskilled or low-skilled;
2. to promote and strengthen performance-linked wage system through legislation; and
3. to revamp the present set of labour laws which are outdated and too rigid.

Senator Tan Sri Amirsham A Aziz, the Chairman of NEAC delivered the keynote address and informed participants on the strategic reform initiatives proposed by the New Economic Model (NEM). He urged the employers within National Key Economic Areas (NKEAs) to work together with the Government to upgrade the skills of workforce and advised companies to be innovative in producing higher-end products and services in order to venture into the international market.

He added that NEM believes that

the import of low cost labour is to be rationalised and better managed through means of a levy system for the targeted industries where there is a requirement for such workers.

The papers presented in the Conference are as follows:-

Paper 1:

"The New Economic Model – New Ways of Doing Things"

- by Datuk Nicholas S. Zefferys, member of National Economic Advisory Council (NEAC) and President of American Malaysian Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM)

Paper 2:

"Establishing a Business Friendly Environment – Challenges and Opportunities"

- by Dato' Ir. Andy Seo Kian Haw, member of the Special Taskforce to Facilitate Business (PEMUDAH) and Vice President of the Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM)

Paper 3:

"Talent Management For High Income Economy"

- by Encik Suhaimi Sulong, Senior General Manager Human Resources Division of Maxis Berhad

Paper 4:

"Managing Performance – Towards High Income Policy"

- by Puan Hasnah Ismail, Chairman of Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad (PSMB)

Paper 5:

"Raising Wages Through Higher Productivity – The Singapore Experience"

- by Mr Kee Chia Choon, Acting Executive Director of Singapore National Employers Federation (SNEF)

The following panel discussions transpired during the conference:-

1. The New Economic Model (NEM) – Are we ready?

Panelists

- Tan Sri Datuk Mustafa Mansur, President of the Federation of Malaysia Manufacturers (FMM)
- Tan Sri Dato' Dr Mohd Noor Ismail, President of the Malayan Agricultural Producers Association (MAPA)
- Encik Chua Tiam Wee, National President of the Small and Medium Industries (SMI) Association of Malaysia
- Encik Christopher S Raj, President of the Association of Hotel Employers (AHE) & Vice President of MEF

Majority of the panelists felt that Malaysia is lagging behind other Asian counterparts and requires a lot of "catching-up" to achieve higher level of industrialisation, a high income economy and a developed nation status.

2. Transition to High Income Economy – Impact on Competitiveness

Panelists

- Encik Marzunisham Omar, Director of Economics Department, Bank Negara Malaysia
- Encik Mustafar Maarof, Vice President of Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC)
- Encik Jack Meredu Ak Ko, Director of Industrial Relations Department Federal Territory, Kuala Lumpur, Ministry of Human Resources (MoHR)
- Encik A Ramadass, Vice President of MEF

MEF stated that high income economy should be achieved through Performance Linked Wage System (PLWS) and not the setting of national minimum wage as wages should be determined by free market forces. MEF felt that the Government should establish National Wages Council to deliberate on the wage and wage guidelines on an annual basis and the guidelines should encourage the adoption of PLWS, cost competitiveness, productivity and rewards for employees for their contribution.

PGDIP : THE PATH TO FOREST CERTIFICATION

Persidangan Nasional MEF 2010 telah diadakan di Hotel Sunway Lagoon Resort, Kuala Lumpur dari 3 – 4 Ogos 2010. Dato' Azman Shah Datuk Seri Harun, Presiden Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) telah menyampaikan ucapan alu-aluan dan memberitahu bahawa tema Persidangan tahun ini Pertumbuhan yang mendadak dengan Model Ekonomi Baru – Peluang dan Cabaran” adalah untuk membantu mengatasi isu-isu kritikal dalam menyampaikan strategi perniagaan yang efektif.

MEF bekerja rapat dengan Majlis Penasihat Ekonomi Nasional (NEAC) dalam pembangunan modal insan untuk mengembangkan kualiti tenaga kerja dan mengurangkan pergantungan ke atas tenaga kerja asing.

Senator Tan Sri Amirsham A Aziz, Pengerusi NEAC menggesa para pekerja untuk bekerja bersama-sama dengan Kerajaan untuk meningkatkan kemahiran tenaga kerja dan menasihati syarikat-syarikat agar lebih berinovasi dalam mengeluarkan produk-produk yang bertahap tinggi dan menyediakan perkhidmatan yang baik dalam usaha untuk mencapai pasaran antarabangsa.

马来西亚雇主联盟(MEF)于2010年8月3日至4日假八打灵再也举办MEF全国大会。MEF主席，拿督阿斯曼莎（译音）在其致词上称今年大会主题“与新经济模式加速增长- 机会与挑战”。这旨于提供有效的业务策略处理关键议题。

MEF与国家经济顾问委员会(NEAC)紧密合作于发展人力资本开发高质量的员工和减少对外国劳工的依赖。

NEAC主席，上议员丹斯里阿密山（译音）敦促雇主与政府合作以提高员工技能及劝勉公司采用革新方式生产顶端场品和服务以攻打国际市场。



A critical part of the process towards forest certification is ensuring that procedures and practices meet the requirements of the certification system that is being used. One way of determining whether a forest operation is ready for certification is to do a self-audit before the real auditors

are invited. For this reason, learning how to carry out an audit was the focus of the latest teaching module for students from the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management) (PGDip), a degree run jointly by Lincoln University, New Zealand and Sarawak Timber Association (STA) through its wholly-owned company STA Training Sdn Bhd.

The group of eleven PGDip students were in Deramakot Forest Reserve in Sandakan, Sabah from 8 – 13 August 2010. The trip was led by Associate Professor Hugh Bigsby from Lincoln University, and Mr Gan Boon Keong, a technical consultant who works in auditing and forest certification from Logfisher International Sdn Bhd. Deramakot Forest Reserve has been Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified for a number of years, providing a good location for observing well-established forestry systems that are compatible with forest certification. In this Reserve, logging is done using crawler tractors practising Reduced Impact Logging (RIL), and forest managers must also plan around local populations of orangutan and pygmy elephants.

In this teaching module, the focus was on the process of auditing. This was done in the context of selected criteria and indicators in the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification [MC&I (2002)] relevant to logging. The fieldwork was based on an audit of three components of logging namely, pre-harvest planning, felling operations and post-harvest activities. At the end of this subject, students will have a broader understanding of the concepts and techniques relevant to moving forest operations to a point where they can achieve forest certification.

Sekumpulan 11 pelajar dari kursus Diploma Lulusan Ijazah dalam Sains Gunaan (Pengurusan Hutan Tropika Mampan) (PGDip), telah berada di Hutan Simpan Deramakot di Sandakan, Sabah pada 8 – 13 Ogos 2010. Lawatan ini diketuai oleh Professor Madya Dr Hugh Bigsby dari Universiti Lincoln, dan Encik Gan Boon Keong, konsultan teknikal pengauditan dan pensijilan hutan dari Logfisher International Sdn Bhd.

Modul pembelajaran pada kali ini memfokuskan kepada proses pengauditan. Ianya dilaksanakan berdasarkan konteks kriteria dan indikator yang dipilih dalam Kriteria dan Indikator Malaysia untuk Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan [MC&I (2002)] yang berkaitan dengan pembalakan.

11位持续性热带森林管理，应用科学研究生(PGDip)于2010年8月8日至13日前往沙巴，山打根，特拉玛格森林保护区（译音）。该课程由纽西兰林肯大学，副教授，彼时毕博士（译音）及Logfisher国际有限公司，审计和森林认证，技术顾问，甘文强先生（译音）连同指导。

这次的教学单元着重于审查程序，特别是有关森林管理认证马来西亚认证标准 [MC&I (2002)] 伐木相关标准和指标。

Wishing all Members and Readers
From the Chairman, Council Members and Management of STA

Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri

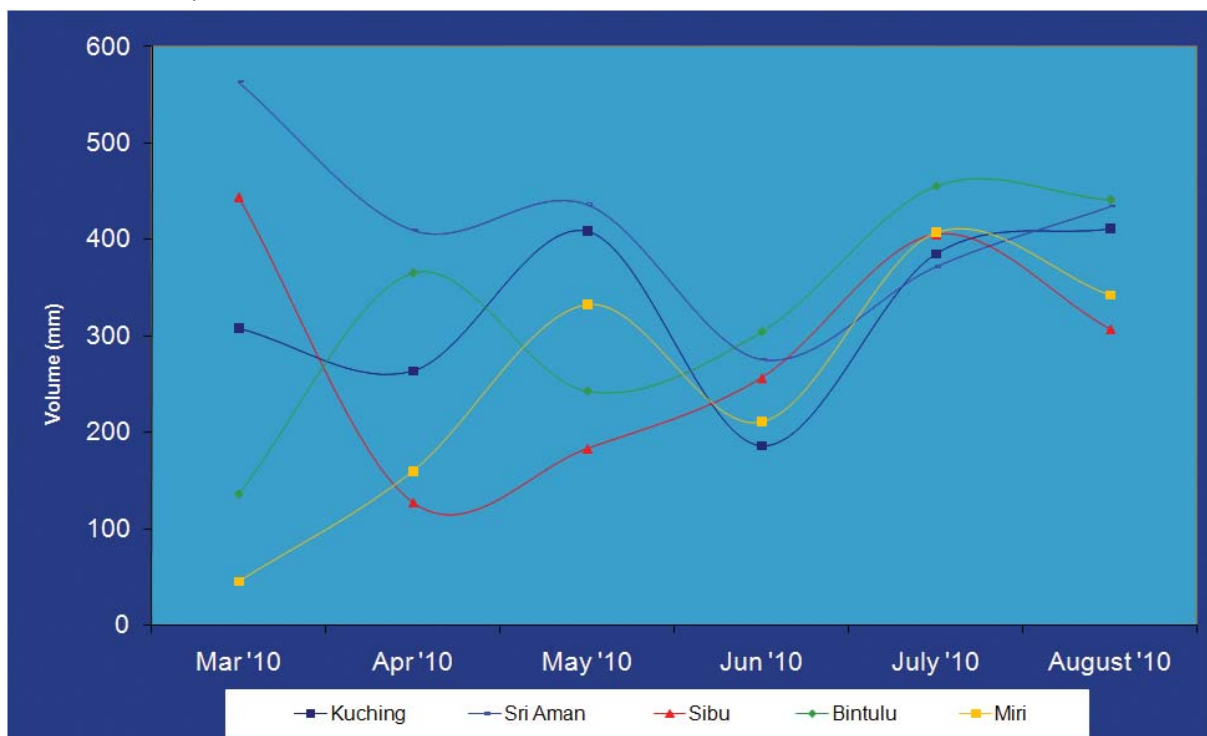
Pengerusi, Ahli-Ahli Majlis serta kakitangan STA ingin mengucapkan



Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri
kepada semua ahli STA dan para pembaca

STA主席，理事会与职员在此祝愿所有会员和读者开斋节快乐

RAINFALL : MARCH - AUGUST '10 KADAR HUJAN BULANAN



Source : Malaysian Meteorological Services