



August 2014

For Private Circulation Only

Issue 194

STA dan Rakan2

Seminar on Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest)

This monthly news bulletin is produced by Sarawak Timber Association (STA) to disseminate information to our counterparts on training, research and other relevant areas.

While every effort has been made to ensure that the information printed in this news bulletin is accurate and correct, neither STA nor its Officers, Members or Employees shall assume any responsibilities or be made liable for any inaccuracies and errors printed; nor is such publication unless otherwise stated necessarily the views of STA, its Officers, Members or Employees.

The news bulletin is circulated to designated readers free of charge.



Photo (right): Opening speech by the Chief Minister and (below) Dialogue Session



A Seminar on Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest) was organised by Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) in collaboration with Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HSTB), Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), Sarawak Timber Association (STA) and World Wide Fund For Nature - Malaysia (WWF - Malaysia) and from 20 to 21 August 2014 at Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, Kuching. It was officiated by Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Hajji Adenan bin Haji Satem, Chief Minister of Sarawak. The Seminar was attended by 300 participants from various States and Federal Government agencies, institutions of higher learning, Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs), private sectors and the media fraternity.

The objectives of the seminar were;
1. To enhance awareness among all timber operators on Forest Management Certification (Natural

Forest) in Sarawak

2. To create good image and reputation of forest management in Sarawak

3. To share experiences and knowledge on Forest Management Certification by relevant agencies and NGOs

Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr) Hajji Adenan in his opening speech said that following his announcement in June 2013 when he was a Minister of Special Functions then, the State Government wants all timber licences in the Heart of Borneo area to be certified by 2017. The State Government will extend the tenure of the timber licences by up to sixty (60) years with the condition that the licensees go for forest certification within three (3) years. He also mentioned that failure to comply with the condition may result in the licence be terminated.

He reiterated that the only way forward for the state's timber industry is for the private sector to cooperate with

(continue on page 2)

Editorial Board

Chief Editor:
Dr Peter C.S. Kho

Editor/Secretary:
Jaime Chan

Members:
Law Hui Chau
Salfa Kamazura

(continued from page1)

the Government Agencies to adopt forest certification to combat the allegations of poor forest management in the State and to improve market share for the timber industry. He also hoped that by 2017, at least one Forest Timber Licence from each major timber licence holders will be certified.

Dato' Dr Freezailah Che Yom, Chairman of Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) mentioned in his keynote address that the implementation of sustainable forest management requires strong institutions, knowledge, skills and resources, both human and financial which are all lacking in developing tropical countries. He also mentioned that as a responsible member of the international community, Malaysia is fully supportive of the various initiatives to combat illegal logging such as the US Lacey Act, the EU Timber Regulation and similar legislation by Australia.

He appealed for greater international appreciation and understanding on the complexity and situation of tropical forests as well as the need for more international cooperation to contribute to the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests for present and future generations. He also emphasised that there must be cooperation between certification schemes and all stakeholders both at national and international levels. Datu Sudarsono Osman, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment (MRPE) in his welcoming remarks, mentioned that Forest Management Certification is a tool to measure and demonstrate compliance of our forest management practices. It would also be a commitment to combat illegal logging, practise environmental protection and a practice of good governance.

Among those present at the Seminar were Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, Second Resource Planning and Environment Minister, Datu Len Talif Salleh, Assistant Minister of Environment, Datuk Professor Dr Abdul Rahman Abdul Rahim, Director General of Jabatan Perhutanan Semenanjung Malaysia (JPSM) and Tuan Haji Sapuan Ahmad, Director of Forests.

A total of eight (8) papers covering Government policy, National and International Forest Certification

schemes, Perspectives from Auditor of forest certification, experiences from Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah Forest Certification and and Sarawak Forest Management Unit (FMU) presented in the one and a half day seminar. as summarised below.

Paper 1: *"Policy Paper on Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest) in Sarawak and Way Forward"* by Datu Sudarsono Osman, Permanent Secretary, MRPE, Sarawak

Paper 2: *"Forest Management Certification"* by Mr Yong Teck Koon, CEO, MTCC

Paper 3: *"Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest)"* by Mr Alistair Monument, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

Paper 4: *"Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest); Perspectives of Third Party Audit Process"* by Dr Yap Son Kheong, Auditor, Forestry & Landscape Advisory Services

Paper 5: *"Forest Management Certification: Experiences and Lessons Learnt (Natural Forest)"* by Dr Bernd Hahn Schilling, General Director, International Forest Management Consultant Sdn Bhd (ifmc)

Paper 6: *"Experiences & Lessons Learnt on Forest Management Certification"* by Dato' Dr Haji Abdul Rahman bin Haji Abdul Rahim, Director General, JPSM

Paper 7: *"Experiences and Lessons Learnt on Forest Management Certification"* by Mr Musa Salleh, Sabah Forestry Department (SFD)

Paper 8: *"Experiences and Lessons Learnt on Forest Management Certification"* by Mr Wong Ing Yung, Director, Zedtee Sdn Bhd, Sarawak (Anap Muput FMU)

A dialogue session, chaired by Tuan Haji Zolkipli Aton, Deputy General Manager of SF&C, SFC was held immediately after the presentations. The members of the panel for the dialogue session were representatives from MRPE Sarawak, MTCC, FSC, Forestry & landscape Advisory Services, ifmc, JPSM, SFD and Zedtee Sdn Bhd.

The dialogue session had provided the opportunity for representatives from the timber industry to seek opinions, comments and advices on the way forward on Forest Management Certification in Sarawak.



Did you know that....

The national forest certification systems of Luxembourg, Malaysia, Slovenia, Spain and Switzerland have all successfully achieved re-endorsement by PEFC. This re-endorsement confirms that these five systems continue to meet PEFC's globally recognized Sustainability Benchmarks and ensures that certified forest owners and companies in these countries continue to benefit from the global acceptance of PEFC.

Source: 13 August 2014, PEFC

Did you also know that....

Indonesia's national airline, Garuda Indonesia it will start mixing palm oil-based biofuel with its jet fuel as part of an initiative to "reduce" carbon emissions. The crude palm oil would be mixed into aviation turbine fuel starting in 2016. Garuda currently uses 1.8 billion liters of aviation turbine fuel a year. Consumption is expected to reach 2 billion liters in 2016.

Source: 28 August 2014, mongabay.com



6th Meeting of the APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

China successfully hosted the Sixth (6th) Meeting of Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade (EGILAT) from 6 to 8 August 2014 in Beijing with attendance of sixteen (16) member economies namely, Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, and USA. The Meeting was presided over by Mr Xia Jun, the Chair of EGILAT.

Mr Liu Dongsheng, the Deputy Administer of State Forestry Administration of China, delivered the opening remarks. He reiterated the importance for member economies to enhance cooperation to address concerns of illegal logging and its associated trade and to promote sustainable forest management and rehabilitation as well as to promote the trade of legal timber and timber products.

The Meeting explored ways of engaging with other sub-committees and working groups, such as Sub-Committee on Custom Procedures as well as Anti-

Corruption and Transparency Working Group, in future meeting to promote cross-fora collaboration to achieve the objectives respectively.

The Meeting discussed at length the draft Timber Legality Guidance Template. Subsequently the Meeting resolved to give more time for member economies to study it and to give comments. The Meeting also deliberated on how to catalogue related work in respect of the efforts taken by member economies to address illegal logging and associated trade for the purpose of publication as well as the operational and financial matters of EGILAT.

A field trip was organised on 8 August 2014 to the Badaling Forest Farm to understand its forest management as well as to visit to the Forest Experience Centre. The Badaling Forest Farm has a total area of 2,940 hectares with various forest species including syringe reticulate forest and scattered mixed forest, natural apricot forest and other natural forest species. It lies between the Juyongguan and Badaling of the Great Wall.

* * * * *

T-KIOSK Demonstration

TIMEPIECE, the Innovative and Creative Circle group from the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) Central Region paid a visit to Sarawak Timber Association (STA) on 13 August 2014 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The group led by Mr Paul Lau Ngie Hung, Regional Manager (Central Region) consists of nine (9) members, gave a demonstration to the Secretariat of STA on an innovative product called T-KIOSK.

The T-KIOSK innovated by TIMEPIECE through a project entitled "Longer Retrieval Time for Identified Wood Samples", is a creative one-stop resource unit displaying wood samples. It is a useful tool for those in the timber industry players, timber-related Government agencies, educational institutions and general public to retrieve information such as common name(s), anatomical

features and common uses of known wood samples as well as a verification tool for claimed species of wood samples supplied.

Besides that, the short time in capturing the anatomical features and verifying the wood samples against the information stored in the wood samples database of T-KIOSK is an innovative way of using gadgets and technology in ensuring the proper and correct use of timber. Currently, the T-KIOSK is available at all STIDC offices.



**Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak
Sarawak Timber Association**

11 Floor, Wisma STA, 26, Jalan Datuk Abang Abdul Rahim, 93450 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.
Telephone: ++(60 82) 332 222 Facsimile: ++(60 82) 487 888, 487 999
E-mail: sta@sta.org.my Website: www.sta.org.my

Indonesia's Business Forum: Establishing Indonesia and Sarawak's Business, Trade and Labour Cooperation

An Indonesia's Business Forum entitled "Establishing Indonesia and Sarawak's Business, Trade and Labour Cooperation" was organised by the Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia Kuching on 26 August 2014 at Imperial Hotel, Kuching. Approximately eighty (80) participants attended the Forum.

The objective of the Forum was for businessmen from West Kalimantan and Sarawak to explore business investment and trade opportunities between the two regions.

The opening remarks were delivered by Bapak Djoko Harjanto, Consul-General of the Republic of Indonesia in Kuching. He informed participants of the Forum that there may be some changes in the government policies with the newly elected president of Indonesia, Bapak Joko Widodo, who is expected to be sworn in on 20 October 2014, for a term of five (5) years.

The five (5) papers presented during the Forum were:

1) *"Trade and Investment opportunities in West Kalimantan"* by Bapak Dr Cornelis, MH Governor of West Kalimantan

2) *"Introduction to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI)"* by Mr Abdul Aziz Sharkawi, Director MITI, Sarawak

3) *"Information on the 29th Indonesia TRADEXPO in Jakarta"* by Ibu Puntodewi Fajarini, Trade Attache, the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, Kuala Lumpur

4) *"Introduction to the Ministry of Industrial Land Development (MID)"* by Madam Rozaini Mohamad Zahir, Principal Assistant Secretary MID, Sarawak

5) *"Potential and Placement Opportunities for Workers"* by Bapak Mustafa Kamal, Labour Attache, the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, Kuala Lumpur

The speakers discussed and exchanged views with participants of the Forum on various issues such as government policies, immigration rules, procedure on the placement, hiring of foreign workers, as well as trade and investment opportunities in Sarawak and Indonesia.

During the Questions and Answers session, participants of the Forum sought clarifications on the procedures of acquiring land in Indonesia for business purposes, implications of ASEAN Free Trade Area policy when fully implemented in 2015, transparency of Government's policy, and labour force.