



STA dan Rakan2

February 2015

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Issue 200

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

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Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management / Sustainable Tropical Plantation Management)



*Photo: (Top)
Orientation in
class and students
visiting STA
Exhibition Centre*



The Fourth Cohort of the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management / Sustainable Tropical Plantation Management) (PGDip) started its Orientation Week to University Studies from 9 to 13 February 2015 with twenty (20) students enrolled for the course. The Orientation was conducted at Wisma STA, Kuching by Professor Hugh Bigsby from Lincoln University of Christchurch, New Zealand.

Some of the topics covered during the five (5) days of Orientation include:

- (1) Literature and data searching techniques

- (2) Literature review and citation
- (3) How to read and review articles
- (4) Method and techniques for data analysis
- (5) Writing critical review

This session was also aimed to familiarise the students with the requirements for postgraduate study, the resources available throughout the course, the common computer software/tools used and the expectations for written and research work.

The first subject "FORS 635 Introduction to the Forest Industry" was delivered on 7 to 13 March 2015 at Wisma STA, Kuching followed by a field trip to Bako National Park. Some of the

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Editorial Board

Chief Editor:
Dr Peter C.S. Kho

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DF Circular 3/2015

Sarawak Timber Association has received a DF Circular No 3/2015 from the Forest Department Sarawak ref DF.681.76 (VII) – 04 dated 17 February 2015 on the felling and export ban of Menggris species (*Koompassia malaccensis*) for all Forest Timber Licences and Licences for Planted Forests. Append on the right is a copy of the DF Circular for your information.



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DF CIRCULAR NO. 3/2015

BAN ON FELL AND EXPORT OF MENGGRIS SPECIES (*Koompassia malaccensis*) FOR ALL FOREST TIMBER LICENCES AND LICENCE FOR PLANTED FORESTS

Please be informed that with immediate effect, Menggris trees shall not be allowed to be felled and exported.

However, felling of Menggris trees only for local processing under salvage operations in areas affected by hydro project and agriconversion may be considered upon application by the timber licensees for the approval of the Controller of Wildlife, Sarawak.

The Menggris logs which have been produced under the approval and permit given prior to this circular shall be for local processing only.

Please inform all the Timber Licensees and logging operators accordingly.

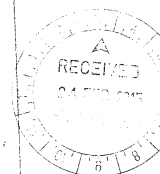
'BERSATU BERUSAHA BERBAKTI'
'AN HONOUR TO SERVE'


(HAJI SAPUAN BIN AHMAD)
Controller of Wildlife
SARAWAK

Ref. : DF.681.76 (VII) – 04
Date : 17th February 2015

To : Regional Forest Officer, Kuching/Sibu/Bintulu/Miri
Chief Executive Officer, Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn. Bhd.

c.c. : Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment
General Manager, Sarawak Timber Association (STA)
General Manager, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
General Manager, Harwood Timber Sdn. Bhd.



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Malaysian Country Specific Guidelines

The *Illegal Logging Prohibition Amendment Regulation 2013* that detailed the operational aspects of the Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012 developed by the Australian Government came into effect on 30 November 2014. The Act requires importers to carry out due diligence when importing regulated timber products into Australia.

In view of this, the Malaysian Government with consultation from the relevant stakeholders has worked closely with the Australian Government to develop a Guideline called the Malaysian Country Specific Guidelines (MCSG) to help importers in Australia understand the forestry operations and the regulatory framework of compliance to legality in

Malaysia i.e. Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak when importing regulated timber products into Australia.

The MCSG has been finalised and accepted by both Governments on 13 February 2015. A copy of the MCSG and Malaysia Quick Reference Guide can be downloaded from the website of the Australian Department of Agriculture at <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/forestry/policies/illegal-logging/information-importers>.



Did you know that.....

An approval has been granted by the Prime Minister to increase the coverage for coastal forest from the existing rate of 16.9% to 19.5% by 2020 in Vietnam. In order to facilitate the implementation of the project, five solutions were identified. The solutions range from science and technology to policy, communications, investment and land use. In 2015, the project, which will aim to grow more forests, will commence. Forest protection will be jointly carried out by the community and households.

Source: MTIB News Extracts 05/02/2015

Did you also know that....

As of 27 February 2015, the Forest Stewardship Council has 186.413 million hectares of forest are certified. There are some 29,000 certificate holders in 81 countries. FSC aims to continue increasing the certified area and the number of certificate holders. FSC will focus on certification of tropical forests, smallholder and community certification and ecosystem services and protection against climate change. Co-operation with independent researchers will be continued.

Source: <http://www.fsc.org/>



Stakeholder Consultation Workshop for the Heart of Borneo Project Implementation in Kubaan-Puak

A stakeholder Consultation Workshop for the Heart of Borneo Project (HoB) Implementation in the Kubaan-Puak area was organised by Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) in collaboration with World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) on 25 February 2015 at Lot 10 Boutique Hotel, Kuching. The Workshop was attended by approximately fifty (50) participants from various government agencies, private sectors, Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and institutional academia.

The goal of the Workshop is to brief the participants of the Workshop on the initiative of transboundary connectivity landscape that could connect all the national parks for the three countries namely, Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia (Sabah and Sarawak) and Kalimantan Indonesia. In 2012, the 6th Trilateral HoB Meeting in Kuching had raised the notion of transboundary connectivity between Sungei Ingei Conservation Forest in Brunei Darussalam and Mulu National Park in Sarawak as well as to expand the notion to include Kubaan-Puak area for further connectivity into Pulong Tau National Park in Sarawak and Kayan Mentarang National Park in Kalimantan.

According to Dr Henry Chan, Head of Conservation WWF Sarawak, the German Ministry for Food and Agriculture has approved the request from WWF to develop the Brunei to Kalimantan and Sabah through Sarawak component of the Corridor, with a focus on Kubaan-Puak.

Kubaan-Puak area is located strategically in between Mulu National Park and Pulong Tau National park in the Baram region of Sarawak. The area is in the preparation stage for Forest Management Certification by Ta Ann Group of Companies.

During the Workshop, four (4) papers were presented as follows:

1. "Central Forest Spine - Re-establishing Ecological Connectivity in Peninsular Malaysia" by Dr G Balamurugan, ERE Consulting Group
2. "Kinabalu ECO-LINC" by Dr G Balamurugan, ERE Consulting Group
3. "Essential of Forest Certification" by Dr Bernd Hahn Schilling, International Forest Management Consultant Sdn Bhd
4. "Fauna Survey Trip in Kubaan-Puak" by Mr Rambli Ahmad, Sarawak Forestry Corporation

The Workshop has identified and listed several critical issues which need to be addressed. The issues are the availability of fund, the party to lead the project implementation and management as well as to produce a comprehensive plan of the implementation which will benefit all stakeholders concerned, be it the community, the industry, government agencies, environmentalists and the environment itself.

* * * *

(continued from page 1)

topics covered in this subject include: *Transect A and B; Data collation; Forest management concepts; Global forest types; Management context; Wood processing; Forest policy; Wood products trade; International NGO perspective; as well as Markets and current issues.*

Members of STA who wish to further their knowledge in future subjects may attend it on a Continuing

Education basis (i.e. single subject only). No fees will be charged for attending this subject but participants shall be responsible for the cost of travel to the venue of the course, accommodation and other travel-related expenses. Those interested to attend this subject is kindly advised to contact Dr Peter Kho or Ms Suzie Adee at 082-332222.



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Technical and Industrial Visit by the Wood Industry Skills Development Centre

The Wood Industry Skills Development Centre (WISDEC) paid a visit to Sarawak Timber Association (STA) on 11 February 2015 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The purpose of the visit was to have a better understanding of the development of wood industry and training in Sarawak as well as to share experiences between WISDEC and STA.

WISDEC was established as a training centre under the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) with the objectives to provide an industry-oriented skills training, to produce adequate skilled manpower for the wood-based industry, to expedite technology transfer through technical training and to provide technical advisory services in furniture manufacturing.

The delegation of eight (8), headed by Mr Azhar Ayub, the Training Industry Officer of WISDEC, comprises officers from WISDEC and the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) as well as industry personnel from Peninsular Malaysia. Dr Peter Kho, the General Manager of STA, welcomed and gave a brief presentation on the background of STA to the members of the delegation. The delegation was also briefed on the "Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science in

Natural Forest (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management/ Plantation Management)" courses and the skills training managed by STA Training Sdn Bhd, a subsidiary company of STA.

The delegation was later given a tour to STA Exhibition Centre, which showcased information relating to the industry through interactive touch screen kiosks, plasma screens, Multimedia and Research Assistant (MARIA) database search terminals and physical exhibits.