

STA Review

Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association
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FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE
to Primary and Secondary
Schools in Sri Aman and
Saratok Divisions

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MALAYSIAN
TIMBER
CONFERENCE
– The Future is Now

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REGIONAL
CONSULTATION
on Enquiry Draft of MC&I
(FMC)

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Published by

Sarawak Timber Association
11 Floor, Wisma STA,
26, Jalan Datuk Abang Abdul Rahim,
93450 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia
Tel: ++ (60 82) 332 222
Fax: ++ (60 82) 487 888, 487 999
Email: sta@sta.org.my Website: www.sta.org.my

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Lee Ming Press Sdn Bhd
No. 48, Jalan Ellis, P.O Box 3068,
93760 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia
Tel : ++ (60 82) 253 303
Fax : ++ (60 82) 426 382
Email : sales@leeming.com.my

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Financial Assistance to Primary and Secondary Schools in Sri Aman and Saratok Divisions



Group photo taken after the mock cheques presentation

Sarawak Timber Association (STA), through its subsidiary company, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM), continues to play its corporate social responsibility role by collaborating with Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC). The project collaboration, started since year 2012, aims to provide a conducive environment for learning and teaching in schools. Through this project, financial assistance to both primary and secondary schools has been disbursed in Phases.

With support from the Education Department of Sri Aman and Saratok Divisions, a total of thirty-six (36) primary and five (5) secondary schools in Sri Aman Division as well as fifty-three (53) primary and six (6) secondary schools in Saratok Division had been identified to receive financial assistance under Phase Nine of this project. The financial assistance was given in a Presentation Ceremony held on 19 July 2019 at Hotel Seri Simanggang, Sri Aman.

The Presentation Ceremony was officiated by Tuan Haji Hamzah Bin Haji Morshidi, Assistant General Manager (Resource Planning) of STIDC. In his speech, Tuan Haji Hamzah hoped that the financial assistance is able to assist the schools in building human capacity through their educational activities.

The representatives from Sri Aman and Saratok Education Offices, namely Mr Zainal Bin Surat and Mr Tarmimie Bin Ali, thanked both STA and STIDC for the financial assistance given to the schools located in Sarawak especially those in Sri Aman and Saratok Divisions. They hoped that there will be a continuous support to assist the schools in carrying out the schools' activities.

Both Mr Zainal Bin Surat and Mr Tarmimie Bin Ali received mock cheques in the sum of RM97,000.00 and RM136,000.00 respectively on behalf of the identified primary and secondary schools in the Sri Aman Division and Saratok Division. The two (2) mock cheques were presented by Tuan Haji Hamzah and witnessed by Madam Thresa Aji, Administrative Officer of STAM.

As of today, this financial assistance had benefitted a total of 760 primary schools and 120 secondary schools located throughout Sarawak. Twenty-five (25) persons, including officers from Resident Offices, headmasters and teachers from primary and secondary schools located in Sri Aman and Saratok, as well as officers from STIDC attended the Presentation Ceremony.

第9期财政援助计划颁发典礼于2019年7月19日假斯里阿曼Seri Simanggang酒店举行。在斯里阿曼省和实拉卓县教育部的配合下，来自斯里阿曼省的36间小学和5间中学以及来自实拉卓县的53间小学和6间中学在该计划中受惠。

STIDC助理总经理（资源策划）哈芝哈姆扎先生（译音）为颁发典礼主持开幕礼。他在致词时希望财政援助能够通过教育活动帮助学校培养人才。截至目前为止，该财政援助计划一共受惠了位于砂拉越各处的760间小学和120间中学。

Dengan sokongan daripada Jabatan Pendidikan Bahagian Sri Aman and Saratok, sejumlah 36 sekolah rendah dan 5 sekolah menengah di Bahagian Sri Aman serta 53 sekolah rendah dan 6 sekolah menengah di Bahagian Saratok telah dikenalpasti untuk menerima bantuan kewangan di bawah Fasa Sembilan projek ini. Bantuan kewangan telah disampaikan dalam Majlis Penyampaian yang diadakan pada 19 Julai 2019 di Hotel Seri Simanggang, Sri Aman.

Majlis Penyampaian itu telah dirasmikan oleh Tuan Haji Hamzah Bin Haji Morshidi, Penolong Pengurus Besar (Perancangan Sumber) STIDC. Dalam ucapannya, beliau berharap bantuan kewangan tersebut dapat membantu sekolah dalam pembinaan kapasiti pelajar melalui aktiviti pendidikan. Sehingga hari ini sebanyak 760 sekolah rendah dan 120 sekolah menengah yang terletak di seluruh Sarawak telah memperolehi manfaat daripada bantuan kewangan ini.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The following announcement was made by the Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad (PSMB) which administers the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF):

A) REVISION OF THE TIME FRAME FOR SUBMISSION OF TRAINING GRANT AND CLAIM APPLICATIONS

The Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad (PSMB) has announced on 22 July 2019 that the time frame for applications of training grant and submissions of training claim to the Human Resources Development

Fund (HRDF) by registered employers has been revised effective 1 August 2019.

The training programmes must commence within six (6) months from the date of training grant applications are made and training claim submissions must be made not more than six (6) months from the date of the training programmes are completed.

For clarification and assistance on the above revision, members can contact PSMB centre at 1800-88-4800 or email to support@hrdf.com.my.

由人力资源发展有限公司 (PSMB) 管理的人力资源发展基金 (HRDF) 所发布的通告如本文所示。

Kenyataan yang dibuat oleh Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad (PSMB) yang mentadbir Dana Pembangunan Sumber Manusia (HRDF) adalah seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.

Malaysian Timber Conference – The Future is Now

The 2nd Malaysian Timber Conference, organised by the Malaysian Timber Council (MTC), was held on 25 July 2019 at Hilton Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. Themed “The Future is Now”, the conference shared new thought horizons and unveiled new possibilities for the timber industry. Attended by about 200 participants, the event was officiated by Puan Teresa Kok, Minister of Primary Industries.



Group photo with Puan Teresa Kok (7th from left)

potential to expand the marketplace,” she added.

Dato’ Low Kian Chuan, Chairman of MTC, in his Welcoming Remarks, encouraged Malaysian timber-based manufacturers to constantly improve and stay ahead of the competition. He acknowledged the challenges faced by the timber industry such as shortage of relevant talent pool, unreliable and declining raw material supply and technological limitations. He urged timber-based manufacturers to change their mindset because business as usual is no longer possible in order to develop and grow in this industry.

“The industry players should also aggressively move towards producing greater value-added downstream products utilising high value timbers,” Dato’ Low said.

Touching on MTC’s Five-Year Action Plan (2019-2023), he said MTC had expanded its incentive programmes to include importation of high-value timbers and to help local timber-based manufacturers to buy these timbers from local traders. The Plan also includes the Market Vendor Development Programme which will enable more established timber-based manufacturers to cluster and collectively grow with their vendors.

His positive outlook on the industry’s future was also resonated in Puan Teresa Kok’s Opening Remarks as she stated that the timber industry will continue to be of national importance.

She revealed wooden furniture as one of the country’s top revenue earners, with furniture contributing about 35% of total export earnings, followed by plywood at 21%. In order to maintain competitiveness, she hoped that Malaysian timber-based manufacturers will continue to offer differentiated products to meet new customers’ demand and lifestyle.

“Through innovation and technological advancements, timber-based manufacturers can provide better products and have the

There were two (2) keynote presentations and nine (9) papers delivered during the Conference focusing on global economic outlook, business ingenuity, workforce trends, worldwide wood supply and demand, technological development as well as community forestry initiative.

- **Opening Keynote: Breakthrough Mindsets for Breakthrough Performance**
By Mr Azran Osman Rani, CEO, Naluri Hidup Sdn Bhd, Malaysia
- **Closing Keynote: Nurturing Next Generation Leaders**
By Datuk Seri Shamsul Iskandar Mohd Akin, Deputy Minister of Primary Industries, Malaysia
- **Paper 1: How’s the Global Economy Shaping Up?**
By Mr Lee Heng Guie, Executive Director, Socio-Economic Research Centre, Malaysia
- **Paper 2: Global Forest Investment and Future of Forest Plantation**
By Dr Ivan Tomaselli, President, STCP Engenharia De Projetos Ltd, Brazil
- **Paper 3: Bad Design**
By Ms Alice Rawsthorn, Design Critic and Author, United Kingdom
- **Paper 4: Adding Value Through Branding – Product Branding and Why It Matters**
By Mr Nigel Hollis, Chief Global Analyst, Kantar Millward Brown, USA
- **Paper 5: Mega Trends and Millennial Consumer Behaviour**
By Dr Eric Leong, Head of Interior Architecture and Design School, The One Academy, Malaysia
- **Paper 6: Supply Chain and Regulatory Risks and Mitigation**

By Mr Michael O’Hara, Director, Operations and Business Development - Global Furniture, UL, USA

- **Paper 7: Community Forestry and Initiative of Community Forest Enterprise in Myanmar**

By Dr Maung Maung Than, Country Director, The Center for People and Forests (RECOFTC), Myanmar

- **Paper 8: Smart Factories and IR 4.0**

By Mr Marc Pfetzing, Senior Manager Asia, SCHULER Consulting GmbH, Germany

- **Paper 9: World Timber Markets by 2050: Demand and Supply Factors**

By Dr Jean-Marc Roda, Research Director, Institute of Tropical Forestry and Forest Products (INTROP), Malaysia

Persidangan Perakayuan Malaysia ke-2 yang dianjurkan oleh Majlis Kayu Kayan Malaysia (MTC) telah diadakan pada 25 Julai 2019 di Hotel Hilton, Kuala Lumpur. Persidangan yang bertemakan “Masa Depan adalah Sekarang”, berkongsi tentang pemikiran baru dan memperkenalkan kemungkinan baru untuk industri perakayuan. Majlis telah dirasmikan oleh Puan Teresa Kok, Menteri Industri Utama.

Dato’ Low Kian Chuan, Pengerusi MTC dalam ucapan alu-aluannya menggalakkan pengeluar berasaskan kayu di Malaysia untuk maju dan terus bersaing. Beliau menggesa pengeluar berasaskan kayu di Malaysia untuk mengubah pemikiran mereka kerana pelaksanaan perniagaan seperti biasa adalah mustahil untuk maju dan berkembang dalam industri ini.

Pandangan positif beliau mengenai masa depan industri turut dijelaskan dalam ucapan pembukaan Puan Teresa Kok di mana beliau menyatakan bahawa industri perakayuan akan terus kekal menjadi kepentingan kebangsaan.

2 pembentangan utama dan 9 kertas kerja dibentangkan semasa Persidangan dengan member tumpuan kepada prospek ekonomi global, kepintaran perniagaan, trend tenaga kerja, bekalan dan permintaan kayu di seluruh dunia, pembangunan teknologi serta inisiatif perhutanan masyarakat.

马来西亚木材理事会(MTC)于2019年7月25日假吉隆坡希尔顿酒店举办第2届马来西亚木材研讨会。以“未来是现在”为主题的研讨会分享新思维新视野，并为木材业揭开新的前进方向。研讨会由原产业部长郭素沁小姐主持开幕礼。

MTC主席拿督卢成全在致欢迎词时鼓励马来西亚以木材为基础的制造商要不断改进并保持领先竞争优势。他敦促以木材为基础的制造商改变他们的观念，如欲在这个行业中发展和成长，现有的经营模式不可以再使用。

他对该行业未来的积极展望与郭素沁小姐的开幕致词产生共鸣。研讨会共发表2份主题演讲和9篇论文，关注全球经济前景，商业创新，劳动力趋势，全球木材供应和需求，技术发展以及社区林业倡议。

Workshop to Revisit Project Implementation Framework (PIF) for Heart of Borneo (HoB) Initiative Sarawak

The Heart of Borneo (HoB) is an initiative to create sustainable development and conservation of the ecosystem in a massive landscape of forest areas bordering Malaysia i.e. States of Sarawak and Sabah; Brunei; and Kalimantan.

On 12 February 2007, the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia; the Minister of Forestry, Indonesia and the Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Brunei, signed a jointly issued Declaration on the HoB Initiative in Bali, Indonesia. The main pillars and key elements of the HoB Initiative from the Bali Declaration are people's welfare, biodiversity conservation and protection of environmental values.

After over a decade of the HoB Initiative, the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) organised a Workshop to Revisit the Project Implementation Framework (PIF) for Heart of Borneo (HoB) Sarawak from 10 to 11 July 2019 at Hilton Hotel Kuching, Sarawak.

The objectives of this Workshop were to discuss on the way forward for HoB Sarawak; enhance engagement and involvement of stakeholders by leveraging on the HoB brand to seek funding and collaboration; share knowledge and experiences in implementing projects and programmes within the HoB area; promote the HoB brand as the State Government's Initiative and strategise its implementation beyond forestry matters; as well as provide framework for preparation of the 12th Malaysia Plan (RMK-12). This Workshop was attended by various stakeholders including government agencies, private sectors and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

In the speech by Acting Sarawak Secretary Datu Jaul Samion, which was read by his deputy, Datu Ik Pahon Joyik, he called for the State to take the opportunity to communicate and promote the efforts of FDS by leveraging on the HoB brand. He also assured the participants that the State Government, with support from the Federal Government, would continue

implementing programmes and activities within the HoB area in line with the PIF.

Three (3) presentations were delivered by officers from FDS; Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture, Youth and Sports; as well as Department of Agriculture.

Later on, the participants were divided into six (6) breakout groups. The topics of the breakout groups are as below:

Group 1: Sustainable Forest Management

Group 2: Eco-tourism based on Culture, Adventure Nature

Group 3: Conservation of Biological Diversity

Group 4: Sustainable Agriculture and Land use

Group 5: Community-based/Rural Poverty Eradication Programme

Group 6: Spatial Planning and Data Management in HoB

Each group discussed and presented on the gaps, challenges, proposed action plans and implementation strategies as well as the timeline and proposed funding which was needed from RMK-12.

砂森林局(FDS)于2019年7月10日至11日假古晋希尔顿酒店举办重访砂拉越婆罗洲之心(HoB)项目执行框架(PIF)工作坊。

此工作坊旨予商讨砂拉越HoB的未来方向，通过HoB品牌寻求资助和合作以加强利益相关者的参与，以及分享在HoB区域所实施的工程和项目的知识和经验等等。

由于砂政府代秘书拿督赵沙蒙不克出席，其致词由副手拿督伊峇宏代读。拿督赵沙蒙呼吁政府借此机会，使用HoB品牌以联系和促进FDS的努力。他也向参与者保证砂政府在联邦政府的支持下，将继续在HoB区域符合PIF下执行项目和活动。

3位分别来自FDS，砂旅游，文化，青年和体育部及砂农业局的官员发表他们的演讲。稍后，参与者分为6个分组。分组的主题如本文英文版本中所列。

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) telah mengadakan satu Bengkel untuk Mengkaji Semula Rangka Kerja Pelaksanaan Projek (PIF) bagi Heart of Borneo (HoB) Sarawak dari 10 hingga 11 Julai 2019 di Hotel Hilton Kuching, Sarawak.

Matlamat Bengkel ini adalah untuk berbincang tentang arah tuju HoB Sarawak, meningkatkan interaksi serta penglibatan pihak berkepentingan dengan memanfaatkan jenama HoB untuk mendapat pembiayaan dan kerjasama serta berkongsi pengetahuan dan pengalaman pelaksanaan projek dan program di dalam kawasan HoB.

Dalam ucapan oleh Pemangku Setiausaha Kerajaan Sarawak Datu Jaul Samion yang dibaca oleh timbalannya, Datu Ik Pahon Joyik, beliau menyeru Negeri mengambil peluang untuk berkomunikasi dan mempromosikan usaha oleh FDS dengan memanfaatkan jenama HoB. Beliau juga memberi jaminan kepada peserta bahawa Kerajaan Negeri dengan sokongan Kerajaan Persekutuan akan terus melaksanakan program dan aktiviti di dalam kawasan HoB selaras dengan PIF.

3 pembentangan telah disampaikan oleh pegawai daripada FDS, Kementerian Pelancongan, Kesenian, Kebudayaan, Belia dan Sukan serta Jabatan Pertanian.

Selepas itu, peserta dibahagikan kepada 6 kumpulan kecil. Topik untuk kumpulan kecil adalah seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.

Technical Committee Meeting for the Development of Forest Plantation No 1/2019

The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) called a Technical Committee Meeting for the Development of Forest Plantations No 1/2019 on 26 July 2019 at Menara PGRM, Kuala Lumpur. The Meeting was chaired by Mr Mohd Kheiruddin Mohd Rani, Deputy Director-General (Development and Commercial) of MTIB.

The Meeting took note on the growth performance of tree species planted through the Forest Plantation Development Programme (PPLH) implemented by Forest Plantation Development Sdn Bhd (FPDSB), using the Permanent Sample Plot (PSP) data collected in 2018 from companies involved in PPLH. The diameter at breast height, tree height and merchantable height at different ages for tree species of rubber, *Acacia* and *Neolamarckia cadamba* were shared. The Meeting then agreed that more detailed information should be analysed and presented.

A representative from FPDSB presented to the Meeting the silviculture practices implemented by planters for developing forest plantation under PPLH. The activities described cover site preparation, planting and maintenance of approved tree species including rubber (Latex Timber Clone or LTC).

The Meeting also deliberated on the requirement for soft loan application under PPLH. The Meeting supported the proposal to set the benchmark of plantable area to a minimum of 70% of the total area approved under PPLH. The Chairman highlighted that the area to be planted is either State land or private land, and not in the Permanent Forest Estate.

Mr EL Law, Chief Executive Officer of Green Afforestation International Network Sdn Bhd (Gain-Green), shared with the Meeting the trial planting experience of RevoTropix *Paulownia* trees in Malaysia, and the research works that have been conducted on this species. He highlighted its growth performance, the benefits from planting as well as the end use of the *Paulownia* wood. According to him, the planting of RevoTropix *Paulownia* trees has received recognition and trust in Malaysia. Both local and international collaboration on *Paulownia* planting are on-going too.

The Meeting was attended by representatives from both Federal and State forestry-related agencies as well as universities, companies and Sarawak Timber Association.

马来西亚木材工业局(MTIB)于2019年7月26日假吉隆坡民政大厦召开森林种植发展技术委员会本年度第一次会议。会议由MTIB副局长(发展和商业)莫哈末卡鲁丁先生(译音)主持。

会议记录在案由森林种植发展有限公司(FPDSB)管理的森林种植发展计划(PPLH)中所种植的树种的生长表现,并使用由参与PPLH的公司去年的永久样本地(PSP)数据。

FPDSB的一位代表向会议介绍种植者在PPLH中发展森林种植所使用的育林技术。Green Afforestation International Network Sdn Bhd (Gain-Green) 总执行长刘荣林先生在会议中分享立丰速生桐在马来西亚的试种植经验,以及对此树种所进行的研究工作。

Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia (MTIB) mengadakan Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Teknikal untuk Pembangunan Hutan Ladang Bil. 1/2019 pada 26 Julai 2019 di Menara PGRM, Kuala Lumpur. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Encik Mohd Kheiruddin Mohd Rani, Timbalan Ketua Pengarah (Pembangunan dan Komersial) MTIB.

Mesyuarat mengambil maklum tentang prestasi pertumbuhan spesies pokok yang ditanam melalui Program Pembangunan Hutan Ladang (PPLH) yang dilaksanakan oleh Pembangunan Ladang Hutan Sdn Bhd (FPDSB) dengan menggunakan data Sample Plot Kekal (PSP) yang dikumpul pada 2018 daripada syarikat-syarikat yang terlibat dengan PPLH.

Wakil dari FPDSB telah membentangkan kepada Mesyuarat tentang amalan silvikultur yang dilaksanakan oleh para penanam untuk membangunkan ladang hutan di bawah PPLH. Encik EL Law, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Green Afforestation International Network Sdn Bhd (Gain-Green) berkongsi dengan Mesyuarat mengenai pengalaman percubaan penanaman pokok RevoTropix *Paulownia* di Malaysia dan kerja penyelidikan yang telah dijalankan ke atas spesies ini.

Launching of UCTS Research Centres and UCTS Research Centre Symposium

The launching of University College of research and development activities. He Technology Sarawak (UCTS) Research Centres and UCTS Research Centre Symposium was held on 18 July 2019 at UCTS Campus, Sibul.

Professor Dr Salfarina Abdul Gapor, Director of Research Centre & Development, UCTS, in her Welcoming Speech mentioned that the objective of the UCTS Research Centre Symposium is to publicise and showcase UCTS's new research centres and research laboratory to the public. Also, it is a good opportunity for UCTS researchers and industrial partners to meet and plan future activities.

Professor Datuk Dr Khairuddin Abdul Hamid, Vice Chancellor of UCTS, in his speech shared that UCTS will continue to play its role in discovering, elucidating and evaluating new knowledge, ideas and technologies via

pointed out that UCTS is moving towards achieving these objectives by setting up research centres and laboratories that cover the areas of computing, robotics, engineering and sustainable development.

Five (5) UCTS research centres and one (1) research laboratory were launched. The research centres include (i) Advanced Centre on Sustainable Socio-Economic Development; (ii) Drone Research and Applications Centre; (iii) Centre of Research for Innovation & Sustainable Development; (iv) Centre for Borneo Regionalism and Conservation; and (v) Centre of Excellence in Wood Engineered Products. The research laboratory is for Collaborative Research on Advanced Cybersecurity Knowledge.

A few memoranda of understanding were also signed between UCTS

and collaborators such as Universitas Tanjungpura, Pontianak; Mutiara Teknologi (M) Sdn Bhd, etc. A presentation by each of the head of research centres and laboratory ensued after the launching ceremony. There was also exhibition by the research centres and laboratory.

砂拉越科技大学学院(UCTS)于2019年7月18日假诗巫UCTS校园举办了UCTS研究中心和UCTS研究中心座谈会的推展礼。

UCTS研究中心与发展董事萨法丽娜博士教授在致欢迎辞时提到UCTS研究中心座谈会旨在向大众宣传和展出UCTS的新研究中心和研究实验室。除此,这也是让UCTS研究员与工业伙伴会见并计划未来活动的一个好机会。

UCTS共推展5个研究中心和1个研究实验室。在推展礼仪式之后便进行了各个研究中心和实验室主任的简报会。另外也有研究中心和实验室的展览会。

Perasmian Pusat Penyelidikan Kolej Universiti Teknologi Sarawak (UCTS) dan Simposium Pusat Penyelidikan UCTS telah diadakan pada 18 Julai 2019 di Kampus UCTS, Sibu.

Profesor Dr Salfarina Abdul Gapor, Pengarah Pusat Penyelidikan dan Pembangunan UCTS, dalam ucapan pembukaannya memaklumkan bahawa objektif Simposium Pusat Penyelidikan UCTS adalah untuk mempamerkan pusat penyelidikan dan makmal penyelidikan baru UCTS kepada orang awam. Selain itu, ia turut menyediakan peluang kepada penyelidik UCTS dan rakan industri untuk berjumpa dan merancang aktiviti pada masa depan.

5 pusat penyelidikan dan 1 makmal penyelidikan telah dilancarkan. Setiap ketua pusat penyelidikan dan makmal telah membuat pembentangan sejourus selepas majlis pelancaran. Pameran turut disediakan oleh pusat penyelidikan dan makmal.

Capacity Building for Monitoring of Environmental Status in the Forestry Sector

The *Natural Resources and Environment (Audit) Rules, 2008* [NRE (Audit) Rules, 2008] require companies in the private and corporate sectors in Sarawak to transition from conventional regulatory requirement towards self-regulation in environmental management and protection of the State. In doing so, responsibility of monitoring environmental status at project site and reporting on the project's compliance to the terms and approval conditions is transferred from environmental consultant to project proponents themselves.

To date, two (2) Pilot Projects for Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA) involving fourteen (14) STA members from the Hill Logging as well as Forest Plantation Categories have been carried out. Initiated by the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) and supported by Sarawak Timber Association (STA), these Pilot Projects are aimed to ensure smooth implementation and better understanding of the compliance audit requirements.

Recognising that monitoring environmental quality provides valuable information about the general status of environment at project site which is required to be reported in the ECA report, STA and NREB began organising Trainings on Environmental Quality Monitoring (EQM) to train personnel with proper protocols in collecting water samples, handling of water sampling equipment as well as impart knowledge on potential source of contaminants affecting the quality of river water sampled. Three (3) Trainings on EQM have been successfully organised throughout 2018.

The recently concluded 4th Training on EQM, held from 2 to 3 July 2019 at RH Hotel, Sibu, is an affirmation of the continued commitment from STA and NREB. The Training was conducted by a team of trainers from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS). With participation of 28 representatives from STA member companies consisting of forest management certification (FMC) executives, water treatment operator, chemist, forest surveyor as well as

operation manager and general manager in the 4th Training on EQM, the pool of trained personnel in the forestry and timber industry totalled to 95.

The participants were given an introduction to *Natural Resources and Environment Ordinance (NREO)* as well as *Natural Resources and Environment (Prescribed Activities) Order, 1994* by Mr Tsai Koh Fen, Senior Environmental Control Officer (Environmental Regulation Section), NREB. He highlighted that the NRE (Audit) Rules, 2008 was made in 2008 under Section 18(q) of the NREO. Ms Elizabeth Nyomek, Senior Environmental Control Officer (Compliance & Enforcement Section), NREB, further elaborated that the NRE (Audit) Rules, 2008 commenced in 2013 and is currently undergoing phased implementation with Pilot Projects in the forestry sector.

Following the presentation on legislative requirements, Mr Mathew Losey, Senior Assistant Environmental Control Officer (Audit Unit), NREB, briefed the participants on format of reporting environmental quality which is included as Chapter 5 (Environment Status) in the Internal ECA report. On the second day of Training, participants were brought to a river in Kanowit, approximately an hour's drive away from Sibu where Lead Trainer, Dr Tay Meng Guan demonstrated proper water sampling protocols.

Environmental protection is crucial and the responsibility not only lies with the authority, such as NREB. This was mentioned by Mr Justine Jok Jau Emang, Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak, NREB, who arrived from NREB Headquarters, Kuching to grace the closing of Training and deliver his Closing Remarks. He thanked STA for extending assistance continuously to its members in capacity development. He also conveyed



Group photo of the participants

his confidence that the series of Trainings conducted since 2018 have been successful in equipping industry players with necessary tools to drive to completion their transformation journey towards self-regulation in environmental management and protection in the State.

Latihan EQM ke-4 telah diadakan dari 2 hingga 3 Julai 2019 di Hotel RH, Sibu, merupakan komitmen berterusan oleh STA dan NREB. Seramai 28 wakil-wakil daripada syarikat anggota STA telah menyertai Latihan EQM ke-4 dan secara keseluruhan seramai 95 kakitangan telah melalui latihan ini.

Encik Justine Jok Jau Emang, Pengawal Kualiti Alam Sekitar Sarawak, NREB telah menyampaikan ucapan penutupan semasa Latihan dan memaklumkan bahawa perlindungan alam sekitar adalah penting dan tanggungjawabnya bukan sahaja terletak pada pihak berkuasa, seperti NREB. Beliau berterima kasih kepada STA yang memberi bantuan berterusan kepada anggota-anggotanya dalam pembangunan kapasiti.

最近于2019年7月2日至3日,假诗巫常青酒店所举办刚刚结束的第4项EQM培训肯定了STA和NREB的持续承诺。有来自本协会会员公司的28名代表参加了第4项EQM培训,林业和木材业培训员工现总数达到95人。

NREB环境质量总监贾斯丁先生,在训练致闭幕辞时表示,环境保护至关重要,责任不仅在于NREB的权威。他感谢本会不断向其会员在能力发展方面提供援助。

International Workshop On Haze and Biomass Burning in Asia



Workshop in progress

The Sarawak Tropical Peat Research Institute (TROPI), International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) had jointly organised a *Workshop on Haze and Biomass Burning in Asia* at TROPI Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, from 9 to 10 July 2019. The two-day Workshop was attended by approximately fifty (50) representatives from various government agencies, research institutions, universities, and industry sectors.

The objectives of the Workshop were to bring together scientists from different disciplines and countries, policy makers, practitioners and industry leaders to develop a joint, solution-oriented, international and interdisciplinary research agenda on biomass burning in Asia.

In her Welcoming Remarks, Dr Lulie Melling, Director of TROPI, thanked IIASA and ASM for collaborating with TROPI in hosting the Workshop. Later, in her presentation, she highlighted on the complexity of tropical peat compared to temperate peat, insufficient understanding on tropical peatland, and lack of knowledge in managing and utilising tropical peat. Therefore, the Sarawak Government had established TROPI in 2008 to undertake focused research on tropical peatland and address environmental sustainability issues. Besides that, she also stressed on the importance of the Government-University-Industry Triple Helix co-operation model when dealing with tropical peatland in Sarawak.

Dr Markus Amann, Programme Director of Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases, IIASA, led a review session on the draft outreach brochure entitled "*Haze and Biomass Burning in Asia*". Topics highlighted in the draft brochure included drivers of biomass burning in Asia as well as impacts, solutions implementation gaps, policy interventions and a coordinated interdisciplinary research agenda in addressing biomass burning.

On a separate note, Professor Dato' Ir Dr

Abu Bakar Jaafar from University of Technology Malaysia (UTM) cum Fellow of ASM said that a plan would be devised for collaborative interdisciplinary follow-up research activities on systems

solutions to reduce the adverse impact of biomass burning while contributing to the development target of the country. He also mentioned that Malaysia is very unlikely to be hit by haze this year. Based on the technique developed by scientists, they would be able to determine the nature and extent of the effects from haze, and thus a country would be better prepared to deal with the occurrence of haze. The next proposed workshop will be held in Thailand.

During the Workshop, there were nine (9) research papers presented as below:

- **Ground Level Concentrations of Ozone during Non-Haze Periods**
By Professor Dr Mohd Talib Latif, National University of Malaysia (UKM), Malaysia
- **Successful Governance Examples for Reducing Biomass Burning in Asia**
By Ms Kaoru Akahoshi, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan
- **Stewardship and Sustainability – the Nexus**
By Mr Ong Boon Hwee, Stewardship Asia Centre, Singapore
- **Stewarding for Sustainability**
By Dr Lulie Melling, Sarawak Tropical Peat Research Institute (TROPI), Malaysia
- **The Great EU Palm Oil Debate: Comparing Regional Framing of the Problem and Responses**
By Ms Annisah Smith, University of Malaya (UM), Malaysia
- **Major Air Pollutant Concentrations and PM2.5 Composition in Kuala Lumpur during Haze Episode in 2015**
By Professor Dr Mohd Talib Latif, National University of Malaysia (UKM), Malaysia

- **Emission of PM2.5 and BC from Agriculture Residue Burning**
By Professor Ir Puji Lestari, Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia
- **Emissions from Biomass Open Burning and their Contribution on the Haze Pollution over Bangkok Metropolitan Region (BMR)**
By Associate Professor Dr Savitri Garivait, King Mongkut's University of Technology (KMUTT), Thailand
- **Bioenergy from Biomass to Mitigate Transboundary Haze Issue and Creating an Economic Impact**
By Mr Muhammad Nurariffudin, University of Technology Malaysia (UTM), Malaysia

Institut Penyelidikan Tanah Gambut Tropika Sarawak (TROPI), Institut Antarabangsa untuk Sistem Analisis Gunaan (IIASA) dan Akademi Sains Malaysia (ASM) telah menganjurkan satu *Bengkel mengenai Jerebu dan Pembakaran Biomas di Asia* di Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, dari 9 hingga 10 Julai 2019.

Objektif Bengkel adalah untuk mengumpulkan saintis daripada pelbagai disiplin dan negara, pembuat polisi, pengamal serta pemimpin industri untuk membangunkan satu agenda penyelidikan secara bersama, berorientasikan penyelesaian, antarabangsa dan interdisiplin mengenai pembakaran biomas di Asia.

Dalam ucapan alu-aluannya, Dr Lulie Melling, Pengarah TROPI, berterima kasih kepada IIASA dan ASM kerana bekerjasama dengan TROPI untuk menganjurkan Bengkel tersebut. Dr Markus Amann, Pengarah Program Kualiti Udara dan Gas Rumah Hijau, IIASA, mengetuai sesi semakan semula draf risalah jangkaan bertemakan "*Jerebu dan Pembakaran Biomas di Asia*".

Bengkel seterusnya dicadangkan untuk diadakan di Thailand.

Semasa Bengkel tersebut, 9 kertas penyelidikan telah dibentangkan seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.

砂拉越热带泥炭研究中心(TROPI), 国际应用系统分析研究所 (IIASA) 和马来西亚科学院(ASM)于2019年7月9日至10日假砂拉越三马拉汉TROPI联合举办关于亚洲阴霾与燃烧生物质研讨会。

该项研讨会旨在将来自不同学科和国家的科学家, 政策制定者, 从业者和行业领导者聚集一起以制定一个关于在亚洲燃烧生物质并且以解决方案为导向, 国际和跨学科性的共同研究议程。

TROPI局长鲁丽美玲博士(译音)在致欢迎辞时感谢IIASA和ASM与TROPI合作举办该研讨会。IIASA空气质量和温室气体的项目主任马克斯博士(译音)主持了一份关于亚洲阴霾与燃烧生物质的外联宣传草案的审查会议。

下一届研讨会建议在泰国举行。该研讨会所发表的9张研究论文如英文版所列。

22nd Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry and Its Related Meetings



Group photo taken during the meeting. Malaysian Head of Delegation, Datuk Borhanudin Arshad (5th from right) with his delegation (Image courtesy of ASEAN Secretariat)

(CoC) Guidelines as well as status on herbal and medicinal plants.

The ASOF during its 22nd Meeting endorsed the works carried out and recommendations by the AWG-FPD, including Forest

东盟[ASEAN] 林业高级官员(ASOF)于2019年7月18日至19日假菲律宾马卡蒂市召开第22届会议。在这之前, 即7月15日至16日, 东盟林业产品开发工作组会员(AWG-FPD)已召开其会议。作为东道国的菲律宾当选为这两项会议主席, 泰国担任副主席。

AWG-FPD商讨多项课题。会议也接收东盟成员国(AMS)有关执行合法和可持续木材的东盟标准和指标(C&I), 木材认证和合法性保证体系, 东盟监管链(CoC)指南以及草药和药用植物现状的多项国家进展报告。

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations [ASEAN] Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF) met for the 22nd time from 18 to 19 July 2019 in Makati City, Philippines. Prior to the 22nd ASOF Meeting, the 22nd Meeting of the ASEAN Working Group on Forest Products Development (AWG-FPD) was held from 15 to 16 July 2019. The Philippines, as host country, was elected to become the Chair for these two meetings, with Thailand as the Vice Chair.

The AWG-FPD deliberated on various matters including:

- Progress of the publication of third volume of ASEAN Herbal and Medicinal Plants;
- Updating of documentation on Research and Development (R&D) Information Directory;
- Making ASEAN Voluntary Code of Conduct (VCoC) on Imports for Forest and Timber Companies as a key deliverable for this year; and
- Regional Mechanism on Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) of Legality of Timber.

The AWG-FPD also received country progress reports from the ASEAN Member States (AMS), namely Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam, on the implementation of ASEAN Criteria and Indicators (C&I) for legality and sustainable timber, timber certification and legality assurance systems, ASEAN Chain of Custody

Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) Work Plan implementation as well as ASEAN VCoC on Imports for Forest and Timber Companies. The ASOF also received progress reports from ASEAN Working Group on Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and Wildlife Enforcement; ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry; ASEAN Working Group on Forest Management; and ASEAN Working Group on Forests and Climate Change.

On 17 July 2019, a one-day *Seminar on Current International Issues Affecting Forestry and Forest Products: Forestry and Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)* was held at the same venue.

The ASOF noted on the recommendations of the Seminar including amongst other:

- Developing or enhancing a national policy on PES in consideration of various elements;
- Conducting impact evaluation of PES programmes and policies; and
- Enhancing partnership and resource mobilisation in developing PES including technical support and technology transfer among AMS and partners, as well as enhancing exchange of best practices, knowledge and experience including methods and tools on PES among AMS.

Thailand will host the 23rd Meeting of ASOF and its related Meetings in the year 2020 in Bangkok.

名为“影响林业和林产品的当前国际问题: 林业和生态系统服务支付(PES)”一天研讨会于7月17日在同个地点进行。泰国将成为2020年的东道国, 并会在曼谷召开第23届ASOF及其相关会议。

Pegawai-Pegawai Kanan ASEAN mengenai Perhutanan (ASOF) bertemu untuk kali ke-22 dari 18 hingga 19 Julai 2019 di Bandar Makati, Filipina. Sebelum Mesyuarat ASOF ke-22, Mesyuarat ke-22 Kumpulan Kerja ASEAN mengenai Pembangunan Produk-produk Hutan (AWG-FPD) telah berlangsung dari 15 hingga 16 Julai 2019. Filipina, negara penganjur dipilih menjadi pengerusi untuk 2 mesyuarat tersebut, dengan Thailand sebagai Timbalan Pengerusi.

AWG-FPD telah mempertimbangkan pelbagai perkara. Ia juga menerima laporan perkembangan negara daripada Negara-negara Anggota ASEAN (AMS) mengenai pelaksanaan Kriteria dan Petunjuk (C&I) ASEAN untuk kesahihan dan kemampanan kayu balak, pensijilan kayu dan sistem jaminan kesahihan, Garis Panduan ASEAN rantaian penjagaan (CoC) serta status tumbuhan herba dan ubatan.

Pada 17 Julai 2019, *Seminar sehari mengenai Isu-Isu Antarabangsa Semasa yang Mempengaruhi Perhutanan dan Produk Hutan: Perhutanan dan Bayaran Perkhidmatan Ekosistem (PES)* diadakan di tempat yang sama.

Thailand akan menjadi penganjur Mesyuarat ASOF ke-23 dan Mesyuarat lain yang berkaitan pada tahun 2020 di Bangkok.

Stakeholders Consultation On HCV Assessment Report of Gerenai FMU

The Gerenai Forest Management Unit (Gerenai FMU) located at Upper Baram of Miri Division, managed by Samling Group of Companies, is undergoing forest management certification under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS).

As part of the requirements under the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest) [MC&I (Natural Forest)] Standard, a Stakeholders Consultation on High Conservation Value (HCV) assessment report was conducted on 5 July 2019 at Binamas Building, Kuching. Representatives from Forest Department Sarawak, World Wide Fund for Nature Malaysia (Sarawak), Samling Group of Companies and Sarawak Timber Association had attended the Stakeholders Consultation.

Mr Ling Kiang Cheng, Project Manager of Samling Group of Companies, in his Welcoming Remarks thanked all

stakeholders for their time and informed that the HCV assessment for Gerenai FMU was conducted by Sarawak Forestry Corporation based on the HCVF Toolkit for Malaysia 2009. He highlighted that based on the HCV assessment report, all six (6) HCVs are present in the Gerenai FMU.

The HCV assessment report was presented by Mr Wilfred Sedau, SFM Executive of Samling Group of Companies. He shared with the stakeholders on the approach used in identifying HCVs, assessment results as well as management and monitoring actions recommended for each HCVs. The stakeholders also suggested few recommendations to improve, manage and monitor the identified HCVs.



Stakeholders Consultation in progress

Unit Pengurusan Hutan Gerenai (Gerenai FMU) yang dikelola oleh Kumpulan Syarikat Samling sedang menjalani pensijilan pengurusan hutan di bawah Skim Pensijilan Kayu Malaysia (MTCS).

Sebagai sebahagian daripada keperluan Kriteria dan Petunjuk Malaysia dalam Piawaian Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan (Hutan Asli) [MC&I (Hutan Asli)], pembentangan laporan Penilaian Nilai Konservasi Tinggi (HCV) telah dijalankan pada 5 Julai 2019 di Bangunan Binamas, Kuching.

Encik Ling Kiang Cheng, Pengurus Projek Kumpulan Syarikat Samling dalam ucapannya memaklumkan bahawa berdasarkan laporan penilaian HCV, kesemua 6 HCV terdapat di Gerenai FMU. Laporan penilaian HCV disampaikan oleh Encik Wilfred Sedau, Eksekutif SFM daripada Kumpulan Syarikat Samling.

三林集团管理的格仁乃（译名）森林管理单位（Gerenai FMU）目前正进行马来西亚木材认证系统（MTCS）旗下的森林管理认证。

作为马来西亚森林管理认证标准和指标（天然林）[MC&I (Natural Forest)]准则需求的一部分，一项高保护价值（HCV）评估报告的利益相关者咨询于2019年7月5日假古晋Binamas大厦举行。三林集团项目经理林建臣先生在其次欢迎词中强调，根据HCV评估报告，Gerenai FMU总共有6个HCVs。HCV评估报告由三林集团持续性森林管理（SFM）执行员威尔弗雷德先生呈报。

Course on Risks and Threats of Diseases to Forest Plantation in Sarawak



Participants were guided by a facilitator during ground assessment

Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), in collaboration with Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA) organised a *Course on Risks and Threats of Diseases to Forest Plantation in Sarawak* from 16 to 18 July 2019 in Bintulu. The Course, co-funded by FDS and STA, was attended by about fifty (50) participants from various State forestry agencies, Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) companies and STA Secretariat.

long term disease monitoring, as well as disease management and control strategy which include tree breeding method to develop disease resistant clones.

He added that the lack of research information and knowledge in tree plantation development including pest and disease control was one of the issues highlighted by the LPF holders which affects tree planting progress. He highlighted that the effective

The Course was officiated by Tuan Jack Anak Liam, Deputy Director of Forests, FDS. In his Opening Remarks, he informed participants that the objectives of the Course were to provide hands-on training on disease survey and identification, assessment plot establishment for

management and control of any disease depends on prompt and accurate diagnosis and identifications of the pest or pathogen. However, Sarawak is still short on experienced and trained personnel, particularly in the area of forest pathology, to perform this job. Hence, he hoped that through the Course, more trained personnel who are well-versed in the knowledge of pests and diseases will be available to help the industry.

He also pointed out that collaboration between the LPF holders and scientists from research institutions are much needed in the future for intensifying research and development (R&D) in areas of common interests in order to spur the growth of tree plantations in the State.

A total of seven (7) papers were delivered by researchers from FRIM, FDS and SFC during the theoretical session held on the first day of the Course. The papers covered the introduction and identification

of pests and diseases infecting the trees, mitigation control and management, aerial and ground surveillance of diseases, diseases severity assessment, etc.

Field practical was conducted on the second day at LPF 0014 Samling Reforestation (Bintulu) Sdn Bhd. The participants were divided into groups to perform ground assessment at *Acacia* and *Eucalyptus* tree planting plots. The data and information gathered were shared during the presentation and discussion session held on the third day of the Course.

During the three-day Course, the participants shared their knowledge and experiences in managing and control of pest and disease infection in their respective tree plantations.

砂森林局(FDS)在马来西亚森林研究所(FRIM), 砂森林机构(SFC)及本会协助下于2019年7月16日至18日假民都鲁举办砂拉越人工造林病害的风险与威胁课程。

此课程由FDS副局长杰克先生主持。副局长在致开幕词告知参与者该课程的目的是提供疾病调查和鉴定的实际操作培训, 评估小区建立疾病监测以及疾病管理和控制的长期策略, 当中包括树木育种方法以开发抗病克隆。

课程首日, 即理论课堂时, FRIM, FDS 和SFC研究员共呈现7张论文。参与者在课程次日前往三林造林(民都鲁)有限公司LPF编号0014实地考察。所收集的数据和资讯在课程第三天的呈现和讨论会期间分享。

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS), dengan kerjasama Institut Penyelidikan Perhutanan Malaysia (FRIM), Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) dan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah menganjurkan *Kursus mengenai Risiko dan Ancaman Penyakit Terhadap Ladang Hutan di Sarawak* dari 16 hingga 18 Julai 2019 di Bintulu.

Kursus dirasmikan oleh Tuan Jack Anak Liam, Timbalan Pengarah Hutan, FDS. Dalam ucapan pembukaannya, beliau memaklumkan kepada peserta bahawa objektif Kursus ini adalah untuk memberi latihan praktikal bagi kajian penyakit dan identifikasi, penubuhan plot penilaian untuk pemantauan penyakit secara jangka masa panjang serta pengurusan penyakit dan strategi kawalan yang merangkumi kaedah pembiakan pokok untuk membangunkan klon-klon yang tahan penyakit.

Sejumlah 7 kertas kerja telah dibentangkan oleh penyelidik-penyelidik daripada FRIM, FDS dan SFC semasa sesi teoretikal yang diadakan pada hari pertama Kursus. Latihan lapangan telah dijalankan pada hari kedua di LPF 0014 Samling Reforestation (Bintulu) Sdn Bhd. Data dan maklumat yang dikumpul dikongsi semasa sesi pembentangan dan perbincangan yang diadakan pada hari ketiga Kursus.

Session on Structured Internship Programme

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Research (MESTR) Sarawak organised a Synergistic Networking Session on the Structured Internship Programme (SIP) on 5 July 2019 at UCSI Hotel, Kuching. About forty (40) representatives from universities and training institutions as well as players from various industries attended the Session.

The representatives were welcomed by Dr Hajah Asmah Binti Othman, Principal Assistant Secretary of MESTR Sarawak. In her Welcoming Remarks, she pointed out that the primary objective of the Workforce Development Division of MESTR Sarawak is to facilitate the development of industry-ready workforce, particularly amongst students and graduates from universities as well as technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutions, through initiatives such as the SIP. This is to minimise the competency gap between classroom and workplace.

In carrying out the SIP, MESTR Sarawak is collaborating with Talent Corporation Malaysia Berhad (TalentCorp), a national agency under the Ministry of Human Resources.

Mr Ardi Gunsuh, an officer from the Industry Partnerships Division of TalentCorp, briefed

participants on SIP's background. SIP was started in 2014 and to date about 8,000 companies in Malaysia had registered with TalentCorp. The purposes of SIP include (i) to introduce students to the working world as early as possible; (ii) to provide practical experience and emphasise the development of specific knowledge or skills for students of higher educational institutions; (iii) to prepare graduates to become relevant to industries, thus generating more employable graduates to fill the current talent shortage in Malaysia; and (iv) to encourage companies and industries to make internship programmes more structured in terms of competency development through double tax deduction incentive. He informed that TalentCorp has yet to receive SIP applications from Sarawak companies.

Ms Nurul Nazatulshima Muhammad Sabri, an officer from the Graduate & Emerging Talent Division of TalentCorp, shared with participants on the standard guideline to be fulfilled by participating companies, process flow of the applications and endorsement of the SIP. Members who are interested in SIP can register with TalentCorp. For more details, please visit sip.talentcorp.com.my.

Kementerian Pendidikan, Sains dan Penyelidikan Teknologi Sarawak (MESTR) telah menganjurkan Sesi Rangkaian Kerjasama mengenai Program Pelatih Berstruktur (SIP) pada 5 Julai 2019 di Hotel UCSI, Kuching.

Para perwakilan telah disambut oleh Dr Hajah Asmah Binti Othman, Penolong Setiausaha Utama MESTR Sarawak. Dalam pelaksanaan SIP, MESTR Sarawak bekerjasama dengan Korporasi Bakat Malaysia Berhad (TalentCorp), agensi kebangsaan di bawah Kementerian Sumber Manusia. Encik Ardi Gunsuh, pegawai daripada Bahagian Kerjasama Industri TalentCorp, menerangkan kepada peserta mengenai latar belakang SIP. Beliau memaklumkan bahawa TalentCorp belum menerima permohonan daripada syarikat-syarikat di Sarawak.

Cik Nurul Nazatulshima Muhammad Sabri, pegawai daripada Bahagian Graduan & Peningkatan Bakat TalentCorp berkongsi dengan para peserta mengenai garis panduan yang perlu diikuti oleh syarikat terlibat, carta aliran permohonan dan pengesahan daripada SIP.

砂拉越教育、科学及工艺研究部(MESTR)于2019年7月5日假古晋UCSI酒店举办关于结构化实习计划(SIP)的协同交流会。MESTR助理秘书长哈扎阿斯玛博士欢迎每位出席者。砂MESTR也与人力资源部所属的人才机构(TalentCorp)合作执行SIP。来自TalentCorp工业合作伙伴部门官员阿迪先生向与会者简要讲解SIP的背景。他披露TalentCorp尚未收到来自砂拉越公司的SIP注册。TalentCorp毕业生和新兴人才部门官员奴鲁小姐与会者分享参与公司必须履行的标准指南, 注册程序和SIP的认可。

Regional Consultation on Enquiry Draft of MC&I (FMC)

The Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest) [MC&I (Natural Forest)] which was adopted as certification standard in 2012 to assess the management practices of natural forests under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS) is currently undergoing review process. The review is in line with the international requirement for the development of timber certification standards.

As of July 2019, four (4) Standard Review Committee (SRC) Meetings were held to review the MC&I (Natural Forest). As a result, in the Enquiry Draft of the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification [MC&I (FMC)] was formulated and is presently undergoing 2nd Public Consultation until 19 July 2019. The Enquiry Draft is a revised and merged standard that combines the requirements of both the MC&I (Natural Forest) and MC&I Forest Plantation.v2.

As part of the on-going Public Consultation on the Enquiry Draft, the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) had conducted three (3) Regional Consultations in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak respectively to update relevant stakeholders on the status of standard review, introduce the Enquiry Draft and highlight the major updates from previous standard.

The Regional Consultation in Sarawak was held on 4 July 2019 at Imperial Hotel, Kuching. It was attended by approximately 50 stakeholders from relevant forestry agencies, forest management units (FMUs) holders, non-governmental organisations, SRC members and STA Secretariat.

In his Welcoming Remarks, Mr Yong Teng Koon, Chief Executive Officer of MTCC shared that MTCC was established in 1998 to develop and operate a voluntary and independent national certification scheme known as MTCS. In 2009, the MTCS was endorsed by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). He further explained that the review of MC&I (Natural Forest) 2012 had started in October 2015 but was put on hold for about a year. This was to allow the completion of review of the PEFC international benchmark standards so that the reviewed MC&I could conform to the international requirements and continue to be endorsed and recognised in the global market.

Ms Siti Syaliza Mustapha, Senior Manager (Forest Management), MTCC, presented on the process and progress of the review as well as provided further clarification on the changes that have been made. Amongst the main changes are:

- i. Incorporation and streamlining of the requirements under Principle 10 of the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 into the corresponding Principles 1-9 of the MC&I FMC;
- ii. Inclusion of requirement on conversion of degraded forest to forest plantation that is not subjected to the cut-off date of 31 December 2010 for conversion of natural forests to other land uses;
- iii. Inclusion of Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1972, Universal Declaration on Human Rights 1948, as well as International Labour Organisation's Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention 1989 (C169);



Stakeholders participating in Sarawak Regional Consultation

- iv. Incorporation of requirements that provide guidance for internal audit and management review and improvement; and
- v. Improved clarity on the requirements for communicating claims from certified areas.

During the Regional Consultation, stakeholders raised their concerns on the inclusion of *Manual, Procedures and Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management Certification*, also known as the "Green Book", to be a verifier in the Enquiry Draft. It has been quoted as a verifier without reference to any particular manual, procedures or guidelines in the Green Book. Besides that, there were also concerns raised by the stakeholders on the inclusion of internal audit, management review and action plan into the Enquiry Draft.

Ms Siti Syaliza informed that the written comments and proposals received from the stakeholders during the 2nd Public Consultation period will be compiled and considered by the SRC at its 5th Meeting scheduled to be held in October 2019. The review of MC&I (Natural Forest) 2012 is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2019.

Sehingga Julai 2019, 4 Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Semakan Piawaian (SRC) telah diadakan untuk mengkaji semula MC&I (Hutan Asli). Berikutan itu, Draf Inkuiri Kriteria dan Petunjuk Malaysia untuk Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan [MC&I (FMC)] telah dirumuskan dan sedang melalui Perundingan Awam Kedua sehingga 19 Julai 2019.

Sebagai sebahagian daripada Perundingan Awam yang sedang dijalankan mengenai Draf Inkuiri, Majlis Persijilan Kayu Malaysia (MTCC) telah menjalankan 3 Perundingan Serantau masing-masing di Semenanjung Malaysia, Sabah dan Sarawak untuk mengemas kini pihak berkepentingan yang berkaitan mengenai status kajian semula piawaian, memperkenalkan Draf Inkuiri dan menggariskan perubahan utama.

Perundingan Serantau di Sarawak telah diadakan pada 4 Julai 2019 di Hotel Imperial, Kuching.

Semasa Perundingan Serantau, pihak berkepentingan menimbulkan kebimbangan mengenai kemasukan Manual, Prosedur dan Garis Panduan untuk Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan Mampan yang turut dikenali "Buku Hijau" sebagai pengesah dalam Draf Inkuiri.

截至2019年7月，标准审查委员会（SRC）总共召开4次审查MC&I (Natural Forest)会议。因此，马来西亚森林管理认证标准和指标[MC&I (FMC)]的咨询草案已制定，目前正在进行第二次公众咨询，直至2019年7月19日。

作为咨询草案公众意见征询持续工作的一部分，马来西亚木材认证理事会(MTCC)分别在马来西亚半岛，沙巴和砂拉越举办3次区域咨询，向利益相关者提供有关标准审查的现状、简介咨询草案、以及申明准则前后的主要更改。

砂拉越区域咨询活动于2019年7月4日假古晋帝宫酒店举行。MTCC高级经理（森林管理）茜蒂女士呈现审查的过程和进展情况，并进一步澄清已做出的更改。

29th Global Forum on Forest Governance

Chatham House has been working on the issue pertaining to illegal logging and deforestation since 2000 by undertaking research and analysis and bringing together experts and stakeholders at meetings and conferences. Additionally, their research examines the policy nexus between illegal logging, deforestation, sustainable development and green growth. This is in response to growing pressure from other land-use sectors on forests. It has been highlighted that the main global driver of deforestation is not logging for timber but clearance of forests for agriculture.

The 29th Global Forum on Forest Governance was organised by Chatham House with the kind support from the United Kingdom's Department for International Development, the Ford Foundation as well as the Food and Agriculture Organization's Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) facility.

The Forum was held from 1 to 2 July 2019 at Chatham House, 10 St James's Square, London. This annual two-day event, previously known as the Illegal Logging Update & Stakeholder Consultation Meeting, provided an opportunity for stakeholders across the forest sector including government, private sector and civil society to discuss latest developments from around the world to improve

forest governance. Good forest governance is vital for the sustainable management of forests and to enable legal timber trade.

This year's Forum included session panel discussions which highlighted progress in forest sector transparency and accountability, next steps for implementing the European Union - Honduras Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA), how timber licensing is supporting forest enforcement, interactions between forest legality and deforestation initiatives as well as efforts to promote gender equality in forest policy processes.

The topics for the session panel discussions are as below:

- Coordinating Deforestation and Legality Initiatives
- Ghana's Progress Towards a Legal and Sustainable Forest Sector
- Honduras – Next Steps for Implementing the Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA)
- Forest Sector Transparency
- Progress in Forest Sector Enforcement
- Supporting Legal Compliance: Successful Approaches to Support the Private Sector
- Gender Equity in Forest and Land-Use Policy-Making

Forum Global mengenai Tadbir Urus Hutan ke-29 telah dianjurkan oleh Chatham House dari 1 hingga 2 Julai 2019 di Chatham House, 10 St James's Square, London.

Acara tahunan selama 2 hari ini telah memberi peluang kepada pihak berkepentingan merentas sektor perhutanan termasuk kerajaan, sektor swasta dan masyarakat sivil untuk membincangkan perkembangan terkini di seluruh dunia bagi memperbaiki tadbir urus hutan.

Forum kali ini merangkumi sesi perbincangan panel yang menekankan perkembangan ketelusan dan akauntabiliti di sektor hutan, langkah-langkah seterusnya dalam melaksanakan Perjanjian Kesatuan Eropah - Perjanjian Kerjasama Sukarela Honduras (VPA), bagaimana pelesenan kayu menyokong penguatkuasaan hutan, interaksi di antara kesahan hutan dan inisiatif penebangan hutan serta usaha untuk mempromosi kesamarataan jantina dalam proses pembuatan dasar hutan.

Topik-topik semasa sesi perbincangan panel adalah seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.

查塔姆研究所于2019年7月1日至2日假伦敦圣詹姆斯广场10号查塔姆研究所举办了第29届森林治理全球论坛。

该项为期2天的年度活动是为了提供来自森林界的利益相关者包括政府，私人业界以及民间社会一个讨论来自世界各地的最新发展以改进森林治理的机会。

今年的论坛包括了强调森林界的透明度和问责制、实施欧洲联盟与洪都拉斯自愿合作协定(VPA)的下一步、木材许可证如何支持森林执法，森林合法性与森林砍伐倡议之间的相互作用以及努力促进森林政策进程中的性别平等的会议小组讨论。

会议小组讨论的课题如英文版所列。

HRDF STC Meeting No 1/2019 on Wood-based and Furniture

The Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF) governed under the *Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad Act 2001* (PSMB Act 2001) and within the purview of the Ministry of Human Resources Malaysia, has re-established Sectorial Training Committees (STCs) to cover nineteen (19) industry sectors across Malaysia, including wood-based and furniture. STC is established as an advisory and consultative committee of HRDF with regard to training needs by the industry for the following objectives:

- To assist in establishing Industrial Skills Framework (IndSF);
- To recommend industrial based recognition and certification; and
- To advise on studies on high level strategic orientation and activities of the industry where deemed necessary.

The first Meeting of STC on Wood-based and Furniture was held on 8 July 2019 at Wisma HRDF, Kuala Lumpur. The members comprised representatives from Malaysian Timber Industry Board; Federal International Holdings Berhad; and timber associations, namely Sarawak Timber Association, Sabah Timber Industries Association, Malaysian Furniture Council, Malaysian Wood Industries Association and Timber Exporters' Association of Malaysia.

The Meeting was presided over

by interim Chairman, Mr Poobalan A/L Murugesan, Head of Industrial Skills Framework Unit of HRDF. The Meeting was briefed on the background of STCs and its objectives, terms of reference, meeting procedures as well as roles and responsibilities. The term of appointment for STC member is two (2) years based on the calendar year and each member can serve up to a maximum of 2 terms.

The Meeting took note of HRDF's strategic initiatives map with the vision of "Every Malaysian employees trained". Representatives from timber associations highlighted that there will be differences in the training needs within the timber industry and requested for a proper study to be conducted to identify correct training needs for the timber industry based on the three (3) regions in Malaysia, i.e. Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.



Group photo with interim Chairman (4th from left)

Mesyuarat pertama STC berasaskan kayu dan perabot diadakan pada 8 Julai 2019 di Wisma HRDF, Kuala Lumpur.

Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusi sementara, En Poobalan A/L Murugesan, Ketua Unit Rangka Kerja Kemahiran Industri HRDF.

Wakil-wakil daripada persatuan perkayuan menekankan terdapat perbezaan keperluan latihan di dalam industri perkayuan dan meminta kajian dijalankan untuk mengenalpasti keperluan latihan khusus yang diperlukan oleh industri perkayuan di 3 Wilayah di Malaysia, i.e. Semenanjung Malaysia, Sabah dan Sarawak.

木材和家私STC于2019年7月8日假吉隆坡HRDF大厦召开首次会议。会议由代主席兼HRDF工业技能体系部门主任普巴兰先生主持。

木材协会的代表强调木材行业的培训需求会有所不同，并要求进行适当的研究，以找出马来西亚三个区域，即马来西亚半岛，沙巴和砂拉越的木材业的正确培训需求。

Visit by MESTR Sarawak



Group photo with officers from MESTR Sarawak, Madam Hajah Khaninah Haji Ariff (2nd from left) and Ms Ting Poh Poh (1st from right)

Two (2) officers from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Research (MESTR) Sarawak, namely Madam Hajah Khaninah Haji Ariff and Ms Ting Poh Poh, visited the Sarawak Timber Association (STA) on 29 July 2019 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The objectives of the visit were to give a presentation on the background of Sarawak Workforce Information System (SWIS) and its data entry process, as well as to encourage STA members to attend a series of briefings conducted by MESTR Sarawak in Bintulu, Kuching, Miri and Sibu from August until September 2019.

The Sarawak Government through MESTR Sarawak has

developed an online system, namely SWIS, which serves to collect workforce data for the effective and efficient planning of workforce development in the State. This is also to assist educational institutions and industry players in terms of obtaining input on courses and programmes to meet manpower requirement.

砂教育，科学和技术研究部(MESTR)2位官员于2019年7月29日拜访本会。此拜访旨予汇报有关砂拉越劳动信息系统(SWIS) 与其数据输入过程，并且鼓励本会会员参与MESTR在8月至9月份所举办的系列讲解会。为了有效和高效率地规划砂州的劳动发展，砂政府通过MESTR已研发一在线系统，即SWIS。

2 pegawai daripada Kementerian Penyelidikan, Sains dan Teknologi (MESTR) Sarawak telah melawat Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) pada 29 Julai 2019 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Objektif lawatan adalah untuk berkongsi mengenai latar belakang Sistem Maklumat Tenaga Kerja Sarawak (SWIS) dan proses kemasukan data serta menggalakkan ahli-ahli STA untuk menghadiri siri taklimat yang dianjurkan oleh MESTR Sarawak dari Ogos hingga September 2019. Kerajaan Sarawak melalui MESTR Sarawak telah membangunkan sistem dalam talian iaitu SWIS untuk perancangan pembangunan tenaga kerja negeri yang berkesan.

Briefing on National Anti-Corruption Plan 2019-2023

After the 14th Malaysian General Election, the Cabinet Special Committee on Anti-Corruption (JKKMAR) chaired by the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tun Dr Mahathir Bin Mohamad, decided that there was a need to formulate a comprehensive anti-corruption plan to address and combat corruption issues in the country. Following this, a document called the National Anti-Corruption Plan (NACP) 2019-2023 was developed to outline integrated course of actions in eradicating corruption.

The vision of NACP is to create a nation free from corruption through three (3) goals including (i) Accountability and Credibility of Judiciary, Prosecution and Law Enforcement Agencies; (ii) Efficiency and Responsiveness in Public Service Delivery; and (iii) Integrity in Business.

On 4 July 2019, the Sarawak Integrity and Ombudsman Unit (UNION) and Office of the Chief Minister of Sarawak with support from Malaysian Institute of Integrity (IIM) and Companies Commission of Malaysia (SSM), organised a Briefing on the NACP at Imperial Hotel, Kuching.

In his Opening Speech, Datuk Haji Talib Zulpilip, Minister in the Chief Minister's Department (Integrity and Ombudsman), said the Briefing was aimed at disseminating the message that the Malaysian Government is committed in eradicating corruption and people are encouraged to report acts of corruption. Acknowledging that eradicating corruption would take time, he said that Malaysia ought to look up and learn from countries that had succeeded in doing so. He also added that combatting corruption cannot be done by a few individuals or the government alone, and that enforcement agencies also need to be revamped in terms of attitude. He noted that Sarawak was the first State in the country to sign the Integrity Pledge in year 2014.

Three (3) presentations were given during the Briefing:

- **Enhancing Corporate Governance by Understanding Legal Liabilities "Act or Resign"** by Mr Mohd Nur Lokman Bin Samingan, Senior Assistant Commissioner, Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC)

The speaker explained the definition of corruption, and provided several illustrations of which individuals or businesses committed offences related to corruption. He also shared information needed to report corruption including (i) date, time and venue of the incident; (ii) identity of the offender and intermediary (if any); (iii) what is happening; (iv) witnesses of the incident; and (v) documents involved in the incident.

- **Role and Responsibility of Public and Private Sectors in the Implementation of NACP** by Mr Mohd Ismail Abdul Jalil, Director of NACP Section, IIM

The speaker presented on the background of NACP and the relevancy of its six (6) strategies in implementing NACP. According to the speaker, the four (4) highest causes of corruption are administrative failure (36.43%), conflict of interest (33.12%), weak internal control and compliance (18.97%), as well as lack of transparency (6.45%).

- **Establishment of Integrity and Governance Unit (IGU)** by Mr Mohamad Bin Ahmad @ Puteh, Deputy Director of Agency Integrity Management Division, MACC

The speaker pointed out that the order of setting up an IGU at all government-linked companies (GLCs) and corporations owned by ministries and government



Datuk Haji Talib Zulpilip giving the Opening Speech

departments came into effect on 5 October 2018, with a two-year grace period starting from the date of the order. The IGU will be placed under the company's board of directors, while execution and reporting are to be supervised by MACC. He also further elaborated on the functions and implementation of IGU.

Through NACP, the Government hopes to achieve the aspiration of the country being known for its integrity and not corruption. The NACP document is available for download on the National Centre for Governance, Integrity and Anti-Corruption (GIACC) website integrity.my/giacc/.

砂廉政与投诉事务部 (UNION) 以及砂首长办公室为支持马来西亚诚信研究所 (IIM) 以及马来西亚公司委员会 (SSM), 于2019年7月4日假古晋帝宫酒店举办一项2019-2023年国家反贪计划 (NACP) 简报会。

砂首长署助理部长 (廉正投诉事务) 拿督达立朱菲立在其致词时说, 该汇报会是为传播政府积极打击贪污的讯息, 并鼓励人民投报贪污行为。他补充说, 要打击贪污不能只依赖少数人或政府, 执法机构也需要修正, 尤其态度方面。

简报会共呈现三份简报, 如本文所列出。透过NACP, 政府希望实现成为廉政无贪污国家的愿景。NACP文件可在国家治理、廉政和反贪污中心 (GIACC) 网站下载。

Pada 4 Julai 2019, Unit Integriti dan Ombudsman Sarawak (UNION) dan Pejabat Ketua Menteri Sarawak dengan sokongan Institut Integriti Malaysia (IIM) dan Suruhanjaya Syarikat Malaysia (SSM) menganjurkan Taklimat mengenai Rancangan Pencegahan Rasuah Negara (NACP) 2019-2023 di Hotel Imperial, Kuching.

Dalam ucapan pembukaannya, Datuk Haji Talib Zulpilip, Menteri di Jabatan Ketua Menteri (Integriti dan Ombudsman) berkata Taklimat bertujuan untuk menyebarkan mesej bahawa Kerajaan komited dalam membasmi rasuah dan rakyat digalakkan untuk melaporkan perbuatan rasuah. Beliau juga menambah bahawa memerangi rasuah tidak boleh dilakukan oleh beberapa individu atau Kerajaan sahaja dan agensi penguatkuasaan juga perlu dirubah dari segi sikap.

3 pembentangan telah disampaikan semasa Taklimat seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.

Melalui NACP, Kerajaan berharap untuk mencapai aspirasi negara yang dikenali kerana integriti dan bukannya rasuah. Dokumen NACP boleh dimuat turun di laman web Pusat Tadbir Urus, Integriti dan Anti Rasuah Kebangsaan (GIACC).

STIDC Official Visit to Anji, China

The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) organised an official visit to Anji, Zhejiang Province, China from 23 to 27 July 2019 to obtain latest information regarding the development of bamboo industry in Anji and to explore collaboration opportunity for the establishment of bamboo industry in Sarawak.

A total of twenty-two (22) delegates from government agencies as well as private sectors including STA Secretariat joined the official visit. The delegation was led by Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, Assistant Minister for Urban Planning, Land Administration and Environment.



Group photo taken after the briefing by MATRADE at Westin Hotel, Shanghai

In Anji, the delegation visited villages planting bamboo and a company specialising in manufacturing, designing and exporting a wide range of bamboo products including flooring, panel, furniture and cutting board. More than 90% of the bamboo products produced by the company are exported to Australia, Brazil, Canada, New Zealand and the United States.

During the third day, the delegation travelled to Shanghai and was welcomed by Mr Syed Mohamad Fairus Shaik Ismail, Trade Commissioner from Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE), Shanghai. He briefed the delegates on the recent development of Eastern China's market. He also provided an overview of the China market in year 2018 which included tier cities distribution, buying power of China, key economic indicators of its market, figures on the bilateral trade between Malaysia and China as well as the major goods exported by and imported to China. Meanwhile, Ms Ginny Lee, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of JinBaoMen Group, provided a brief introduction on the e-commerce platforms offered by the company.

In a discussion held following the briefing, Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh explained that the furniture industry in Sarawak is a niche market, with furniture making depending on wood species the forest has to offer. Nevertheless, Sarawak is currently on its way to expand the furniture industry with a target to achieve export value of RM6 billion by the year 2030. The Sarawak Government has identified bamboo as a potential alternative material for furniture making.

On the other hand, Datuk Haji Mohd Naroden Bin Haji Majais, Assistant Minister for E-Commerce cum Assistant Minister for Entrepreneur and Small, Medium Enterprise (SME) Development, raised his concern on the entry barriers to China market. He suggested that Sarawak and China should collaborate in promoting and developing e-commerce as well as establish a collection centre to gather buyers' goods in the future as ways to ease barriers issue.

During the last day of the visit, the delegation toured a furniture products company in Kunshan. The company has a showroom that showcases different types of customised wooden products, mostly kitchen, bedroom and living room furniture. A discussion was held with Mr Shen Zhong Min, founder of the company, to discuss the potential of establishing a furniture factory in Sarawak.

砂拉越木材工业发展机构 (STIDC) 从2019年7月23日至27日官方拜访了中国浙江省安吉县。该拜访是为获取安吉竹子工业发展的最新资讯以及探索在砂拉越设立竹子工业之合作契机。

该代表团是由砂城市发展、土地行政及环境助理部长拿督连达立夫领导。在安吉县，该代表团参访了种植竹子的村庄以及专门制造、设计及出口大批竹子产品的公司。

拜访第三天，该代表团前往上海并获得驻上海大马对外贸易发展局 (MATRADE) 分行贸易专员赛义德莫哈末先生迎接。他向出席的代表汇报了有关中国东部市场的近期发展，并提供了2018年中国市场的概观。

拿督连达立夫解释说砂拉越目前正走向扩张其家私工业并拟定于2030年达至马币6亿的出口价值。砂拉越政府已确定竹子具潜能替代木材料作为家私制造。

在拜访的最后一天，该代表团参访了一家坐落于昆山的家私产品公司。

Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan kayu Sarawak (STIDC) telah menganjurkan lawatan rasmi ke Anji, Wilayah Zhejiang, China dari 23 hingga 27 Julai 2019 untuk mendapatkan maklumat terkini tentang perkembangan industri buluh di Anji dan untuk meneroka peluang kerjasama bagi penubuhan industri buluh di Sarawak.

Delegasi diketuai oleh Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, Menteri Muda Perancang Bandar, Pentadbiran Tanah dan Alam Sekitar.

Di Anji, delegasi melawat kampung penanaman buluh dan sebuah syarikat yang terlibat dalam pembuatan, merekabentuk dan mengeksport pelbagai produk buluh.

Pada hari ketiga, delegasi melawat Shanghai dan disambut oleh Encik Syed Mohamad Fairus Shaik Ismail, Pesuruhjaya Perdagangan dari Perbadanan Pembangunan Perdagangan Luar Malaysia (MATRADE), Shanghai. Beliau memberi taklimat kepada perwakilan mengenai pembangunan terkini pasaran di China Timur serta gambaran keseluruhan pasaran China pada tahun 2018.

Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh menjelaskan bahawa Sarawak kini sedang dalam proses untuk mengembangkan industri perabotnya dengan sasaran untuk mencapai nilai eksport sebanyak RM6 bilion menjelang tahun 2030. Kerajaan Sarawak telah mengenalpasti buluh sebagai bahan alternatif yang berpotensi untuk pembuatan perabot.

Pada hari terakhir lawatan, delegasi melawat syarikat perabot di Kunshan.

Briefing on Minimum Wages Order (Amendment) 2018

The Department of Labour Sarawak (JTK Sarawak) and the National Wages Consultative Technical Committee (NWCTC) under the Ministry of Human Resources (MoHR) held a *Briefing on the Minimum Wages Order (Amendment) 2018* at Merdeka Palace Hotel & Suites, Kuching on 1 July 2019.

The aim of this Briefing was to provide understanding on the existing regulations to employers and employees as well as to obtain feedback on the minimum wages (MW) implementation. About 180 representatives from the employers group and employees group attended the Briefing.

Mr Elvis Edmund Emus from the National Wages Consultative Council (NWCC) Secretariat, gave a presentation on existing regulations such as the process of fixing the MW, justification of increasing the MW, its enforcement and penalty for violation.

Mr Ahmad Haziq Bin Azmi, an officer from MoHR, informed the participants that the Ministry is currently conducting a study to identify the impact of MW implementation on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), and the result of this study will be part of the input that will assist the Malaysian Government in making decisions on the implementation of the Minimum Wages Order (MWO). The study is conducted under the provisions of Section 25 of the NWCC Act 2011. Based on the NWCC Act 2011, NWCC shall review the MWO at least once in every two years. He also explained about the questionnaire that has been provided to employers and employees of SMEs for the purpose of the study.

The Question and Answer session was chaired by Professor Emeritus Datuk Dr Zakaria Bin Abdul Rashid, Deputy Chairman of NWCTC; Professor Dr Nurhani Aba Ibrahim from Universiti Teknologi MARA; and supported by Mr Aminuddin Bin Abdul Rahman from NWCC Secretariat.

Some of the inputs and views by participants on the impact of MW implementation are as below:

1. Representatives from the manufacturing sector highlighted that lack of infrastructure and international port in Sarawak have made transportation costs in Sarawak higher than Peninsular Malaysia. With the implementation of MW policy coupled with other continued increasing labour related costs and production costs, the manufacturing sector has lost their competitiveness in both local and international markets. It has led to Peninsular Malaysia being the preferred place for investment from both local and foreign investors. It was also pointed out that many factories had closed down in Demak Laut area. NWCC representatives were invited to visit the area.
2. Representatives from the manufacturing sector also pointed out that the increase of MW by 40% after the revision of the MWO 2018 from RM920 to RM1,100 does not correspond with the productivity in the manufacturing sector. Moreover, additional labour costs incurred by the employers will be passed down to the consumers, resulting in the increase of product prices and ultimately inflation in the country.
3. NWCTC was requested to look into zones, regions and sectors since different sectors have different gross domestic products (GDPs) and employers in different zones and regions face different difficulties. Some sectors

such as oil and gas and banking will not have any problem in meeting the increased MW. However, agriculture sector in contrast has lower GDP and may face difficulty in meeting the increased MW. Likewise, certain zones with active economic activities will have no issue with the increased MW rate, but not those that have less economic activities. NWCTC was urged to look into the GDP data for different sectors and regions of employers to have better understanding of the impact of MW, in order to provide a more pragmatic review to NWCC.

4. NWCTC was informed that the increase of MW does not commensurate with the increase of employee's productivity and performance, and was requested to look into it. NWCTC was also requested to exclude the data for oil and gas industry when measuring the employee's productivity and performance for Sarawak.
5. NWCTC was asked to urge the Government to fulfill their manifesto which is to subsidise 50% of the increased MW.
6. NWCTC was requested to share the statistics on the impact of MW implementation for the past two (2) years.

砂劳工局 (JTK Sarawak) 以及人力资源部 (MoHR) 旗下国家工资咨询技术委员会 (NWCTC) 于 2019 年 7 月 1 日假古晋独立皇宫酒店举办一项关于 2018 年最低薪金制 (修订) 法案简报会。

该简报会的目的是为提供雇主及员工关于现有规则的理解以及向他们获取所实施的最低薪金制 (MW) 的反馈。来自 (NWCTC) 秘书处的艾维斯先生向出席者呈现了现有规则。

MoHR 官员阿末哈兹先生通知出席者该部门目前正展开一项研究, 以识别实施 MW 对中小企业 (SMEs) 的影响。简报会也设有问与答环节。出席者针对 MW 实施影响所提供的一些意见及反馈也在本文英语版列出。

Jabatan Tenaga Kerja Sarawak (JTK Sarawak) dan Jawatankuasa Teknikal Perundingan Gaji Nasional (NWCTC) di bawah Kementerian Sumber Manusia (MoHR) mengadakan *Taklimat mengenai Perintah Gaji Minimum (Pindaan) 2018* di Hotel Merdeka Palace & Suites, Kuching pada 1 Julai 2019.

Tujuan Taklimat adalah untuk memberi persefahaman tentang peraturan sedia ada gaji minimum (MW) kepada majikan dan pekerja serta mendapatkan maklum balas mengenai pelaksanaannya.

Encik Elvis Edmund Emus daripada Sekretariat Majlis Perundingan Gaji Kebangsaan (NWCC) membentangkan mengenai peraturan sedia ada.

Encik Ahmad Haziq Bin Azmi seorang pegawai daripada MoHR memaklumkan kepada peserta bahawa Kementerian sedang menjalankan kajian untuk mengenalpasti kesan pelaksanaan MW ke atas Perusahaan Kecil dan Sederhana (PKS). Semasa Taklimat, terdapat sesi Soal Jawab. Beberapa input dan pandangan oleh para peserta mengenai kesan pelaksanaan MW adalah seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.



Wishing all STA Members and Readers

Happy National Day

From the Chairman, Council Members, Management and
Staff of STA, STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd,
STA Mutual Sdn Bhd and STA Training Sdn Bhd

Pengerusi, Ahli-Ahli Majlis, pihak Pengurusan dan Kakitangan STA,
STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd dan
STA Training Sdn Bhd ingin mengucapkan

Selamat Hari Kemerdekaan

kepada semua ahli STA dan para pembaca

主席，理事会，管理委员会，秘书处，STA Enterprises有限公司，
STA Mutual有限公司及 STA Training有限公司全体职员预祝各位会员及读者国庆日快乐