

STA Review

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June 2010



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COVER IMAGE:

Protected Tree Species in Sarawak

Family : Simaroubaceae

Species : *Eurycoma longifolia* Jack.

Common Name : Tongkat ali

Natural Habitat : Commonly found in kerangas forests especially near the sea side, and also found in mixed dipterocarp forests

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (ECM) OF MALAYSIAN TIMBER ASSOCIATION (MTA)

The AGM and ECM of MTA were held at the Boardroom of the Malaysian Timber Council in Kuala Lumpur on 25 June 2010. All members were present except for the Malaysian Wood Moulding & Joinery Council (MWMJC).

The AGM received and adopted the Executive Committee's report on the workings of the Association during the year 2009, as well as the Honorary Treasurer's report and the audited statements and accounts of the Association for the year ended 31 December 2009.

During the AGM, the Sarawak Timber Association was unanimously appointed to take over the position of Honorary Secretary as the Timber Association of Sabah had written to the President to indicate that it is unable to take up this position.

During the ECM which followed the AGM, the following Associations were appointed to represent MTA in the various Technical Committees (TC) set up by the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities under the National Timber Industry Policy (NATIP):

- TC1 – Raw material Supply
- Timber Association of Sabah (TAS)
- TC2 – Innovation and Technology
- Malaysian Panel Products Manufacturers' Association (MPMA)
- TC3 – Marketing and Promotion
- Timber Exporter's Association of Malaysia (TEAM)
- TC4 – Human Resource Development
- Malaysian Furniture Industry Council (MFIC)
- TC5 – Financing and Incentives
- Sarawak Timber Association (STA)
- TC6 – Bumiputera Participation
- Association of Malaysian Bumiputra Timber & Furniture Entrepreneurs (PEKA)

The Meeting resolved to participate in the MTC Global WoodMart from 19-20 October 2010 by taking up a booth. All members of MTA are eligible to display their publicity and other materials in this booth. The Meeting finally resolved to take up the issue of the engagement of foreign workers by the timber industry with the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities.

Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan (AGM) dan Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Eksekutif (ECM) Persatuan Kayu Kayan Malaysia (MTA) telah diadakan di bilik mesyuarat lembaga Majlis Kayu Kayan Malaysia di Kuala Lumpur pada 25 Jun 2010.

Semasa AGM, Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak dengan sebulat suara telah dilantik untuk mengambil-alih kedudukan sebagai Setiausaha Kehormat.

Pada mesyuarat ECM, Persatuan-persatuan berikut telah dilantik untuk mewakili MTA dalam enam Jawatankuasa Teknikal (TC) yang ditubuhkan oleh Kementerian Perusahaan Perladangan dan Komoditi di bawah Dasar Perindustrian Kayu Negara (NATIP).

Mesyuarat ECM telah memutuskan untuk turut serta dalam "MTC Global WoodMart" dari 19 - 20 Oktober 2010 dengan mengambil sebuah tapak pameran. Mesyuarat akhirnya memutuskan untuk membangkitkan isu pengambilan pekerja asing oleh industri kayu kayan dengan Kementerian Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri dan Kementerian Perusahaan Perladangan Dan Komoditi.

马来西亚木材公会(MTA)于2010年6月25日假吉隆坡, 马来西亚木材理事会会议室召开常年大会及执行委员会会议。大会一致通过委任本会接替荣誉秘书一职。

执行委员会会议决定参展在今年10月19日至20日举办的MTC国际木材展 (MTC Global WoodMart)。会议也决定向国际贸易及工业部和种植与原产业部提出有关木材领域聘请外劳的课题。

SEMINAR ON BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN FRANCE

The Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) organised a seminar on Business Opportunities in France on 8 June 2010 at Islamic Information Centre, Kuching. The objective of this seminar was to provide information on key market in France and other regional markets under its coverage. The seminar was attended by representatives from various Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), trade associations and private sectors.

Mr Omar Mohd Salleh, the Director of MATRADE, urged companies to participate actively in promotional and market awareness programmes organised by MATRADE to expand export businesses. He requested member companies to update their company profiles in the Malaysia Exporters Registry to ensure that companies will receive pertinent business information from MATRADE overseas' officers. Currently, there are more than 15,000 Malaysian companies who are registered with MATRADE. These include more than 300 companies from Sarawak.

The seminar was divided into two sessions.

Session 1 : MATRADE's Assistance by Trra Banau Gilbert Taylor, Assistant Director, MATRADE

- A brief introduction about MATRADE and its functions and activities
- Malaysia's Trade Performance
- Sarawak's Trade Performance
- Challenges – Immediate and Long Term

Session 2 : Doing Business in France by Nurdiana Abdullah, Trade Commissioner in France, MATRADE

- France - An influential economic power
- French Business Culture
- Biletaral Trade: Malaysia- France
- Exporting to France and European Union (EU)
- Business Opportunities – Potential products
- Assistance from MATRADE Paris for Malaysian companies

Note: Presentation papers are available for reference at STA Resource Centre

Perbadanan Pembangunan Perdagangan Luar Malaysia (MATRADE) telah menganjurkan satu seminar tentang Peluang Perniagaan di Perancis pada 8 Jun 2010 di Pusat Maklumat Islam, Kuching. Objektif taklimat adalah untuk menyediakan maklumat tentang pasaran utama di Paris dan pasaran-pasaran daerah lain di bawah liputannya.

Encik Omar Mohd Salleh, Pengarah MATRADE, dalam ucapan beliau menggesa syarikat supaya mengambil bahagian secara aktif dalam aktiviti promosi dan kesedaran yang dianjurkan oleh MATRADE.

马来西亚外贸发展局(MATRADE) 于2010年6月8日假古晋, 伊斯兰资讯中心举办法国商业机会讲座会。讲座会旨于提供在法国主要与区域市场资料。

MATRADE砂分局局长, 萨利赫先生(译音) 敦促本地公司积极参与由MATRADE所举办的市场推广及宣传计划。

CEO - HRD TALK SERIES

The CEO-HRD Talk Series was held at Kuching Hilton on 15 June 2010. The participants were mainly training providers from government and private agencies, private corporations and trade associations.

The objective of this Talk is to share experiences related to business success and good practices in human resource development.

The following are the papers presented in the Talk:

1. "Human Capital Development: Harbour-Link Experience"

by Ms Lisa Chee Lai Pek, Senior Administration Manager, Harbour-Link Group Bhd.

The speaker touched on the history of The Harbour-Link Group Bhd, their experience on human capital development, training and development and the work environment.

She felt that if an organisation is to remain competitive, it has to shift from the basic chain of business to the value chain of business.

2. "Training Programmes offered by Sarawak Skills Development Centre (SSDC)"

by Mr Zainal Abiddin Bin Ahmad, Corporate Training Manager.

The speaker gave a background of Sarawak Skills Development Centre (SSDC), SSDC group of companies, types of training programmes for school leavers and unemployed graduates, and facilities provided by SSDC.

He highlighted the Government funds available for training in SSDC apart from financial assistance available from SME Corporation Malaysia, Perbadanan Tabung Pendidikan Tinggi Nasional (PTPTN), Tabung Pembangunan Kemahiran, Yayasan Sarawak, Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA), and Human Resources Development Berhad (HRDB).

3. "Maximising the Benefits of HRDF"

by Mejar (R) Van Weng Hong, Deputy Chief Executive, Human Resources Development Berhad (HRDB).

The speaker presented the history of Human Resources Development Berhad (HRDB), benefits of utilising the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF), types of training schemes and incentives, and latest changes in HRDB in year 2010.

Note: Presentation papers are available for reference at STA Resource Centre

Sesi Taklimat CEO-HRD telah diadakan di Hilton, Kuching pada 15 Jun 2010. Peserta-peserta terdiri daripada penyedia latihan dari sektor kerajaan dan agensi-agensi swasta, perbadanan-perbadanan swasta dan persatuan perdagangan. Objektif Taklimat adalah untuk berkongsi pengalaman berkaitan dengan kejayaan perniagaan dan amalan yang baik dalam pembangunan sumber manusia.

首席执行官和人力资源开发讲座系列于2010年6月15日在古晋，希尔顿酒店举行。出席者主要是来自政府与私人机构，私营公司和贸易公会的培训提供者。

讲座会的目的是供出席者交流成功商业和良好人力资源开发实践的经验。

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENTS	VENUE	ORGANISER
15 - 19 October	6 th Sabah International Expo 2010 (SIE2010)	1Borneo Hypermall, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah	Federation of Sabah Manufacturers (FSM) and the Malaysian International Chamber of Commerce & Industries (MICCI), Sabah Branch with the corporation of the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) and Ministry of Industrial Development (MID)
19 - 20 October	MTC Global WoodMart 2010	Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC)	Malaysian Timber Council (MTC)
20 - 24 October	The 7 th China ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO)	Nanning International Convention and Exhibition Centre, Guangxi, China	The people's Government of GuangXi Zhuang Autonomous Region

BRIEFING ON LACEY ACT – COMPLIANCE AND BEYOND

A briefing on 'Lacey Act – Compliance and Beyond' was held in Sibu on 7 June 2010 by the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) for the purpose of updating the timber industry on the Lacey Act pursuant to the attendance by STIDC officials at a workshop on Lacey Act organised by the International Wood Product Association in Florida USA.

After introductory remarks by Puan Dayang Nena Abang Bruce, Senior Assistant General Manager Trade Development STIDC, the briefing proceeded with the two presentations, the first by Mr Nicholas Andrew Lisse (Manager, Industrial Planning) on the Lacey Act and the second by Encik Abu Kassim Jibri (Senior Assistant, Industrial Planning) on how to complete the various forms.

The Lacey Act makes it unlawful to import, export, transport, sell, receive, acquire, or purchase in interstate or foreign commerce any plant, with some limited exceptions, taken or traded in violation of laws of United States and foreign laws. There is only one option if a company wishes to trade with the United States of America and that is to comply with the Lacey Act requirements, meaning:

- Declarations must be accurate (there is adequate mechanism implemented in Sarawak to assist the industry to comply with the Lacey Act)
- Be always on alert for tipsters
- Continuous monitoring and updating on the Lacey Act development

STIDC stated that US market is still an important market although it makes up only about 2% of the total export value.

Satu taklimat tentang Akta Lacey – Pematuhan dan Melebihi telah diadakan di Sibu pada 7 Jun 2010 anjuran Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA) bertujuan untuk mengemaskinikan industri kayu kayan tentang Akta Lacey selaras dengan kehadiran pegawai-pegawai PUSAKA di bengkel Akta Lacey yang dianjurkan oleh Persatuan Produk Kayu Antarabangsa di Florida USA.

砂拉越木材工业发展机构(STIDC) 于2010年6月7日假诗巫举行“莱西法案-遵守和超越”简报会以告知木材业关于STIDC官员出席由国际林产品公会在美国, 佛罗里达州举办的莱西法案研讨会最新进展。

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

Lacey Act

1.0 Background

Lacey Act is the oldest wildlife protection statute in the United States, which was first enacted in 1900 to combat trafficking in “illegal” wildlife, fish and plants. It was amended in 2008 under the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008. As of 22 May 2008, the Lacey Act makes it unlawful to import, export, transport, sell, receive, acquire, or purchase in interstate or foreign commerce any plant, with some limited exceptions, taken, possessed, transported or sold in violation of the laws of the United States, a State, an Indian tribe, or any foreign law that protects the plant [Source: Docket No. APHIS-2008-0119].

The Lacey Act, administered by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) requires that the declaration must contain, among other things, the scientific name of the plant, value of the importation, quantity of the plant, and name of the country from which the plant was harvested. If the plant species from which they are made vary and are unknown, importers will be required

to declare the name of each species that may have been used to manufacture the product.

The Lacey Act requires if a plant product is made of plant species commonly harvested in more than one country and the countries are unknown, the importer will be required to declare the name of each country from which the plant may have been harvested. For paper and paperboard products with recycled plant content, the importer will not be required to specify the species or country or harvest with respect to the recycled plant product component, but will be required to provide the average percent recycled content.

The following products are affected:

1. HTS Ch. 44 – Wood and articles of wood
2. HTS Ch. 47 – Wood pulp
3. HTS Ch. 48 – Paper and articles of
4. HTS Ch. 94 – Furniture, etc

METRIC UNITS REQUIRED ON LACEY ACT DECLARATION

The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) informed that metric units (eg. kilograms, meters, square meters) are now required on Lacey Act Declarations. The Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) will no longer accept counts of items (eg. pieces, boxes) as valid units of measurement. This was to take effect from 1 May 2010. However, due to the responses received from the industry, APHIS has agreed to defer the implementation of this requirement until 1 July 2010 to allow the industry to make necessary changes to comply with declaration procedures. For further details, please refer to the Notification from APHIS.

As previously reported, importers of products made from plants and plant materials such as wooden frames, plywood, veneered panels, kitchenware (furniture will be included after September 2010) are required to declare the plant contents in the products using Form PPQ-505.

The Secretariat had earlier circulated the above notification through STA Grapevine and STA Circular on 4 June 2010.

Pelaksanaan Unit Metrik yang diperlukan untuk deklarasi Akta Lacey yang seharusnya berkuatkuasa pada 1 Mei 2010 telah ditangguhkan pelaksanaannya sehingga 1 Julai 2010.

莱西法案宣言公制单位需求定于2010年5月1日生效。然而，这将延缓至2010年7月1日。

CTION TO LACEY ACT

2.0 Mandatory Compliance

- Fill Plant and Plant Product Declaration Form accurately at all times
- Provide correct scientific name of the plant, value of the importation, quantity of the plant, and name of the country from which the plant was harvested
- Do not trade in illegal or "tainted" plants and plant based products such as harvesting it illegally, trading it without proper duties or other fees being paid, or smuggling/stealing it
- Do not lie to the government

3.0 What happens in event of a Lacey Act related investigation?

Possible signs a company is being investigated include:

- Contact by "unknown" suppliers
- Potential "cover" buyers
- Contact by NGOs
- Visit by US Government officials/agent e.g. US Customs, APHIS

4.0 What to do when a government agency contacts?

Companies are advised to:

- Manage all activities related to government on-site contact with company personnel
- Instruct all employees and officials that they must immediately report any on-site contact with any government agent directly to their management, and follow company procedures in responding to such contacts
- Appoint an officer from the company to act on behalf of the company to liaise with the company's personnel and government agents, with the advice from the company's legal counsel, at all times.

DIALOGUE ON RAISING COMPETITIVENESS AND INVESTMENT FOR THE TIMBER AND FURNITURE SECTORS IN MALAYSIA

A dialogue on 'Raising Competitiveness and Investment for the Timber and Furniture Sectors in Malaysia' was organised by the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) in Menara PGRM, Kuala Lumpur on 21 June 2010.

Dr Jalaluddin Harun, Director General of MTIB presented a paper on Timber Industry Performance, Challenges and Issues. He highlighted some of statistics on the major exports of timber products from 2000 to 2010; by products, region and types of timber products for the year 2009 and emphasised that the current ratio of primary products of 60% to value-added products of 40% will be decreased to 40% of primary products to value-added products of 60% by year 2020 under the National Timber Industry Policy (NATIP). The industry is projected to grow by 6.4% annually with exports reaching RM53 billion by year 2020 whereas investments are targeted at RM1.4 billion annually.

He identified the following issues and challenges faced by the timber industry that need to be addressed to achieve the objectives of NATIP:

- increasing the level of automation and mechanisation in the timber industry,
- easier access to financing,
- diversifying sources of raw material supply from tree plantations and oil palm trunk,
- enhancing markets, including the development and penetration of new markets,
- increasing participation of bumiputera entrepreneurs in the timber industry,
- researching and developing timber products,
- developing Industrialised Building System (IBS) for timber,
- enhancing human capital development,
- addressing escalating freight rate charges,
- encouraging timber industry to go for forest certification,
- addressing the issue of foreign workers,
- the inclusion of smallholders in the forest plantation programme,
- minimising currency fluctuations,
- providing incentive / grants for factory/mill automation,
- establishing a National Wood Carpentry and Joinery certificate course,
- organising specialised timber missions based on product type,
- encouraging more downstream processing mills, and
- encouraging existing mills to invest in new technology / machine for processing more value-added products.

The Panel for the dialogue, comprised Mr Mathialakan Chelliah, Director Wood and Paper Industries Division of the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority (MIDA); Dr Mohd. Nordin Asudalli, Deputy Director Programme Coordinator Programme of SME Corp; Mr Suhaimi Hamzah, Deputy Under Secretary Division and Planning

Division, Fund Section of Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI); Mr Shahrul Fitri Shafii, Senior Executive Development Financial Enterprise Department, Bank Negara Malaysia and Mr Leong Kin Choong, Manager and Head, Development Finance Division, Malaysian Industrial Development Finance Berhad (MIDF).

Each member of the Panel spoke about the role of the agency they represent. Issues raised by the participants included the difficulty of getting loans and insurance cover for the timber industry, the high costs of hiring foreign general workers and proposed introduction of new levy structure, to be based on the number of foreign workforce compared to the total workforce.



Photo: Members of the Panel for the Dialogue

Satu sesi dialog tentang “Menaikkan Daya Saing dan Pelaburan untuk Sektor Kayu Kayan dan Perabot di Malaysia” telah dianjurkan oleh Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia (MTIB) di Menara PGRM, Kuala Lumpur pada 21 Jun 2010.

Dr Jalaluddin Harun, Ketua Pengarah MTIB menegaskan bahawa nisbah semasa keluaran primer 60% untuk produk-produk tambahan bernilai 40% akan dikurangkan kepada 40% daripada keluaran primer untuk produk-produk tambahan bernilai 60% sebelum tahun 2020 di bawah Dasar Perindustrian Kayu Negara (NATIP).

Isu-isu yang dibangkitkan oleh para peserta termasuklah kesukaran untuk mendapatkan pinjaman dan insurans untuk industri kayu kayan, kos yang tinggi untuk mengambil pekerja asing dan mencadangkan pengenalan struktur levi baru, yang berdasarkan kepada bilangan pekerja asing berbanding dengan jumlah tenaga kerja.

马来西亚木材工业局 (MTIB) 于2010年6月21日假吉隆坡, Menara PGRM举办“提升马来西亚木材与家具业的竞争力和投资” 议论会。

MTIB总局长, 哈伦博士强调在全国木材工业政策 (NATIP) 下, 到2020年为止, 60%的初级产品流动比率至40%的增值产品将减少至40%的初级产品至60%的增值产品。

出席者提出的问题包括: 木材业获取贷款及保险保障的困难, 高成本雇用外国工人和推行基于外国工人总人数相比劳动力的新建议征费结构。

BRIEFING FOR THE 7TH CHINA-ASEAN EXPO 2010

The Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) organised a briefing for The 7th China-ASEAN Expo 2010 (CAEXPO 2010) on 29 June 2010 at Riverside Majestic Hotel, Kuching. CAEXPO is organised annually since 2004 with the objective of promoting the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA). CAEXPO has been highly credited as an important platform to promote the co-operation between ASEAN and China in the fields of trade, investment and tourism.

The Expo co-sponsored by the Ministries of Commerce/Trade and Industry of China and the 10 ASEAN countries as well as the ASEAN Secretariat, will be held in Nanning, Guangxi, China from 20 - 24 October 2010.

This year's theme is "China-ASEAN Free Trade Area (CAFTA) and New Opportunities" and five exhibition themes/pavilions will be set up, i.e. Pavilion of Commodity Trade, Pavilion of Investment Cooperation, Pavilion of Trade in Services, Pavilion of Advanced Technology and Pavilion of Cities of Charm, with the Pavilion of Trade in Services as a new highlight of the year.

In 2009, a total of 100 Malaysian companies participated in the 6th CAEXPO under the industry clusters such as Food and Beverages, General Products by Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), Malaysia Brands and Government Agencies. Malaysia's participation in the expo recorded a total sale of RM204.5 million.



Photo: Briefing in progress

Perbadanan Pembangunan Perdagangan Luar Malaysia (MATRADE) telah menganjurkan satu taklimat tentang Ekspo China-ASEAN 2010 yang ke-7 (CAEXPO 2010) pada 29 Jun 2010 di Hotel Riverside Majestic, Kuching. CAEXPO diadakan tiap-tiap tahun sejak 2004 dengan objektif untuk mempromosikan Kawasan Perdagangan Bebas ASEAN-China (ACFTA).

Ekspo yang ditaja bersama kementerian-kementerian perdagangan / perniagaan dan industri China dan 10 negara ASEAN serta Sekretariat ASEAN, akan diadakan di Nanning, Guangxi, China dari 20 - 24 Oktober 2010.

大马外贸发展局于2010年6月29日假古晋，河滨酒店为第七届中国-东盟博览会 (CAEXPO 2010) 举办讲解会。自2004年起，CAEXPO已成功举办六届。这旨于宣传东盟-中国自由贸易区。

CAEXPO 2010将于2010年10月20日至24日在中国广西南宁展开，并由中国商业/贸易及工业部，东盟10国及东盟秘书处联合主办。

STA CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING

The STA Certification Committee met for the second time this year on 14 June 2010. The Meeting chaired by Dato Henry Lau, the Committee Chairman, deliberated on the following:

- legality verification,
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA),
- the review of Malaysia Criteria and Indicators (MC&I) 2002,
- report by the Fact Finding Team on their findings,
- conflict resolution in Forest Management Unit (FMU), and
- issues related to the Native Customary Rights (NCR)



Photo: Meeting in progress

Jawatankuasa Pensijilan telah mengadakan perjumpaan untuk kali ke-2 tahun ini pada 14 Jun 2010.

STA认证委员会于2010年6月14日在古晋举办今年以来的第二次会晤。

DAILY WAGE FOR GENERAL WORKERS FROM INDONESIA

STA had on 8 July 2010 released a press statement on Daily wage for General Workers from Indonesia. The press statement is as follows:

Sarawak Timber Association (STA) has been constantly engaged with the Consulate General's office of the Republic Indonesia in Kuching to discuss an appropriate daily wage for Indonesian general workers employed in the Forestry Industry in Sarawak, particularly for those employed in veneer and plywood mills.

STA and the Acting Consul General of the Consulate General of the Republic Indonesia in Kuching, Bapak Rafail Walangitan had on 31 March 2010 reached a mutual agreement for an independent study to be carried out on the existing remuneration of the Indonesian workers. The independent study shall cover Sarawak, Sabah and West Malaysia and it will be conducted by a renowned local university. The result of the study will provide a valid reference to both parties to establish appropriate and equitable remuneration for Indonesian workers. In view of the importance of the study and in order to ensure the reliability and dependability of the study, the independent study will require six (6) months from 1 July 2010 to 31 December 2010 to complete.

In the meantime, members of STA has decided to provide a daily wage of RM12 per day to the Indonesian general workers beginning 1 July 2010 until the completion of the study.

Chairman
Sarawak Timber Association

TRAINING COURSE ON ISPM No. 15 - HEAT TREATMENT FOR AUDITORS

Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFCSB), the Plant Protection and Quarantine Branch of Department of Agriculture (PPQ, DoA), Sarawak and the Sarawak Timber Association (STA) jointly organised a 3-day heat treatment course for twenty four Officers from the Plant Protection and Quarantine Branch, Department of Agriculture, Sarawak. The course was held at the Centre for Modern Management (CMM), Semenggoh near Kuching from 22 - 24 June 2010.



Photo: Course in progress

These Officers, upon completing the Course, will be responsible for auditing heat treatment (HT) facilities in Sarawak. The topics covered in this Course include An Introduction to ISPM No.15, Application Procedure for Registration of HT Facility, Roles of Auditors, Types of Audits, Procedure and Documentation, An Introduction to Heat treatment, Types of Heat Treatment Facility, Types of Recording System and Stamping of Wood Packaging Material.

The course concluded with a visit to two different heat treatment facilities in Kuching.



Photo: Participants with Course Facilitators

Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFCSB), Bahagian Perlindungan Tumbuhan dan Kuarantin, Jabatan Pertanian (PPQ, DoA), Sarawak dan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah bersama-sama menganjurkan Kursus Rawatan Haba selama 3 hari kepada 24 orang pegawai-pegawai dari Cawangan Perlindungan dan Kuarantin, Jabatan Pertanian, Sarawak.

Pegawai-pegawai ini, selepas selesai kursus tersebut, akan bertanggungjawab untuk menjalankan audit kemudahan rawatan haba (HT) di Sarawak.

砂拉越林业机构，砂州农业局种植检疫及保护部(PPQ, DoA)与本会特别为24位PPQ, DoA官员联办为期3天的高温处理课程。这些官员完成课程后，将负责稽核砂州高温处理设备。

INTER AGENCY WORKING GROUP MEETING



Photo: Participants at the Inter Agency Working Group meeting

The Inter Agency Working Group, comprising senior officers from Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFC), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA) met at the Damai Beach Resort on 28 June 2010 presided over by Puan Dayang Nena Abang Bruce, Senior Assistant General Manager, Trade Development, STIDC.

The Group deliberated at length on the following:

- inputs for the ASEAN Chain-Of-Custody Guidelines;
- the details of the Sarawak Chain-of-custody; the proposal to use the Sarawak Chain-of-custody as a base system to address the issue of legality requested by Japan;
- the declaration of restrictive species extracted under permit from the Director of Forests Sarawak, in compliance to the US Lacey Act;
- update on issues discussed at the Technical Working Group 3 meeting on Promotion and Marketing for the National Timber Industry Policy (NATIP) held on 15 June 2010;
- update on the position paper in response to the alleged Dumping of Malaysian Plywood in Korea by the Korean Trade Commission;
- details of the pilot carbon footprint project on plywood manufactured in Sarawak;
- the Familiarisation Programme for representatives from the Media and Industry from India;
- proposed topic for Advertorial in the Timber Trade Journal;
- update on forest certification; and
- operational issues on the requirement to fumigate logs for export and the termination of use of temporary anchorage area in Tanjung Manis Integrated Port

Jawatankuasa Antara Agensi, terdiri daripada pegawai-pegawai kanan dari Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA), Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFC), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB) dan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah bermesyuarat di Damai Beach Resort pada 28 Jun 2010 dipengerusikan oleh Puan Dayang Nena Abang Bruce, Penolong Pengurus Besar Kanan, Pembangunan Perdagangan, PUSAKA.

机构工作小组会员；即Harwood Timber 有限公司, 砂拉越森林局, 砂拉越林业机构, 砂拉越木材工业发展机构(STIDC)及本会的高级职员在STIDC贸易发展, 高级副总经理, 蕾娜女士 (译音) 的主持下于2010年6月28日假达迈, 海滩度假村召开会议, 商讨各项议题。

MALAYSIAN TIMBER CERTIFICATION COUNCIL (MTCC) AND THE COUNCIL OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THE ENDORSEMENT OF FOREST CERTIFICATION SCHEMES (PEFC) STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE

The Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) and the Council of the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC) co-hosted a Stakeholder Dialogue in Corus Hotel, Kuala Lumpur on 16 – 18 June 2010 which focused on the development of forest certification initiatives in the Asia Pacific region and the revision of the PEFC requirements for forest certification systems. It was attended by about 110 participants from the Asia Pacific region.

The Dialogue was part of the PEFC's Standards Revision process. Over the past two years, PEFC which is the world's largest forest certification scheme has been revising its forest management standards, requirements for developing national certification standards, and requirements for group certification, a tool that is of specific importance for family and community forest owners.

During the Dialogue, Mr Ben Gunneberg, Secretary-General of PEFC International talked about the challenges in forest certification such as expansion of certification, distribution of certification which is mostly concentrated in Western Europe and North America and market access, noting that the PEFC standards revision needs to ensure that the meta standard requirements are flexible enough to accommodate national processes. This will result in national certification requirements that are feasible, realistic and cost-effective, resulting national certification standards and systems that are robust enough to provide confidence to deliver key market and stakeholder expectations.

Four other speakers presented their country's experience in establishing their national forest certification schemes. They were:

1. Mr Harnarinder Singh
 - Senior Manager, Malaysian Timber certification Council
 - Implementation of the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme
2. Mr Wei Wang
 - Deputy General Director, The State Forestry Administration of China
 - Development of the Chinese Forest Certification Scheme
3. Mr Agus Setyarso
 - Chairman, Lembaga Ekolabel Indonesia
 - Lembaga Ekolabel Indonesia

4. Dr Hans Drielsma

- Board Member, Australian Forestry Standard
- Australian Forestry Standard

Dr Hans Drielsma who is also the Chair of Revision Working Group of PEFC Council Board and Mr Ben Gunneberg guided participants through the following four documents.

PEFC ST 1001:20xx	Standard Setting – Requirements
PEFC ST 1002:20xx	Group Forest Certification – Requirements
PEFC ST 1003:20xx	Sustainable Forest Management Standards – Temperate, boreal and plantation forests
PEFC ST 1003:20xx	Sustainable Forest Management Standards – Tropical natural forests

These documents had been published for public consultation since the middle of April 2010, with the exception of PEFC ST 1003:20xx Sustainable Forest Management Standards – Tropical Natural Forests which was published in June 2010.

The participants were subsequently divided into four roundtables discussion groups to brainstorm the documents stated above. The outcome of the discussion was presented to all participants in plenary.

The next stage of the revision is for the Working Group (WG) to consider all comments from public consultation and to deliver to the PEFC Board of Directors (BoD) a final draft in September 2010. The PEFC BoD will then consider the final draft and recommend it to PEFC General Assembly for formal voting or return it to the WG. The PEFC General Assembly will formally vote on the final draft documents.

Opportunities still exist for participants and the general public to participate in the review process and provide comments online. Information on how to do this may be obtained from the website of PEFC <http://www.pefc.org>.

The Dialogue ended with a field visit to Compartment 18 of Bukit Lagong Forest Reserve, Kanching Recreational Forest and Compartment 7 of the Kanching Forest Reserve to look at the condition of the residual stand after a second rotation harvesting, some cut stumps, the condition of the feeder road and skid trails as well as the planting of trees to rehabilitate temporary log landing and skid trails.



Photo: PEFC Stakeholder Dialogue



Photo: The field visit

Majlis Pensijilan Kayu Malaysia (MTCC) dan Majlis untuk Program Pengesahan Skim Pensijilan Hutan (PEFC) mengajurkan bersama-sama dialog pemegang saham di Hotel Corus, Kuala Lumpur pada 16 – 18 Jun 2010 yang memberikan tumpuan pada pembangunan inisiatif-inisiatif pensijilan hutan di rantau Asia Pasifik dan semakan syarat-syarat PEFC untuk sistem pensijilan hutan.

Pada dialog berkenaan, Encik Ben Gunneberg, Setiausaha Agung PEFC Antarabangsa berucap tentang cabaran-cabaran dalam pensijilan hutan seperti perkembangan pensijilan, taburan pensijilan yang kebanyakannya bertumpu di Eropah Barat dan Amerika Utara serta akses pasaran, mencatatkan bahawa semakan piawaian PEFC perlu memastikan bahawa keperluan piawaian meta adalah cukup fleksibel untuk diaplikasikan oleh proses-proses kebangsaan.

Malaysia Timber Certification Council (MTCC) and the PEFC Malaysia Chapter jointly organized a stakeholder dialogue at Hotel Corus, Kuala Lumpur from 16 to 18 June 2010. The dialogue focused on the development of forest certification initiatives in the Asia-Pacific region and the review of PEFC requirements for the forest certification system.

PEFC总干事，本·古恩伯先生（译音）在此对话会中讨论有关森林认证的艰难；譬如认证扩展，偏于西欧和北美及开放市场的认证分配，PEFC标准修订需确保元标准需求有足够的伸缩性以适用于国际进展。

EDUCATIONAL VISIT BY COSMOPPOINT



On 24 June 2010, a group of forty-four students led by four lecturers from Cosmopoint International College of Technology, Kuching visited the Sarawak Timber Association (STA) and STA Exhibition Centre. The purpose of the visit was to familiarise and gain a better understanding on the roles and functions of STA, and to have an overview of the timber industry in Sarawak.

Dr Peter Kho, the General Manager of STA gave an introduction to STA and briefed the group on the roles and activities of the Association. The visit ended with a tour of STA Exhibition Centre where the lecturers and students had the opportunity to explore the different types of information offered at the centre.

Pada 24 Jun 2010, sekumpulan 44 pelajar diketuai oleh 4 orang pensyarah dari Kolej Teknologi Antarabangsa Cosmopoint, Kuching telah mengadakan lawatan sambil belajar ke Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) dan Pusat Pameran STA. Tujuan lawatan adalah untuk membiasakan diri dan mendapatkan pemahaman yang lebih baik tentang peranan dan fungsi STA, serta mendapatkan gambaran tentang industri kayu kayan di Sarawak.

Cosmopoint International College of Technology 44位学生在该院4名讲师的带领下于2010年6月24日拜访本会及参观STA展览中心。这旨于了解本州木材业和本会的角色及职能。

ALLEGED SEXUAL ABUSE OF PENAN WOMEN AND GIRLS

STA had on 12 July 2010 released a press statement on Alleged Sexual Abuse of Penan Women and Girls. The press statement is as follows:

Sarawak Timber Association (STA) views with great concern of the recent independent fact-finding mission report released by "Penan Support Group, FORUM-ASIA and Asian Indigenous Women's Network (AIWN)" (AIWN Report) of the alleged sexual abuse of Penan women and girls. STA had previously stated its stance on the matter through a press release on 16 September 2009 when a report was first released by the National Task Force relating to the alleged sexual abuse to Penan women and girls. The Association hereby reiterates that any form of sexual abuse cannot be tolerated and the STA is committed to assisting any sexually abused victims to the best of its ability. In this regard, the STA is willing to provide such resources as may be necessary to enable a transparent and vigorous investigation into the allegations of sexual abuse of any Penan women and girls or indeed of any other ethnic communities.

STA notes that the AIWN Report raises several issues which are seen as obstacles to the investigation of claims of sexual abuse. Two of the issues relate to language difficulties and costs of transportation. In this regard, the STA stand ready to provide the resources necessary to retain interpreters and provide transportation, accommodation and subsistence to bring any victim to lodge police reports to facilitate investigations.

In addition, the STA will also provide such funds as may be necessary for medical services and counselling of any victims of sexual abuse.

One of the main objectives of the STA is to promote, ascertain and protect the continuous well-being of the timber trade and industry in the State of Sarawak. It is an essential part of such objective that a safe atmosphere should be maintained for all communities associated with the timber industry. To this end, the STA will provide all necessary practical and financial support to ensure that a full and transparent investigation of claims of sexual abuse are pursued.

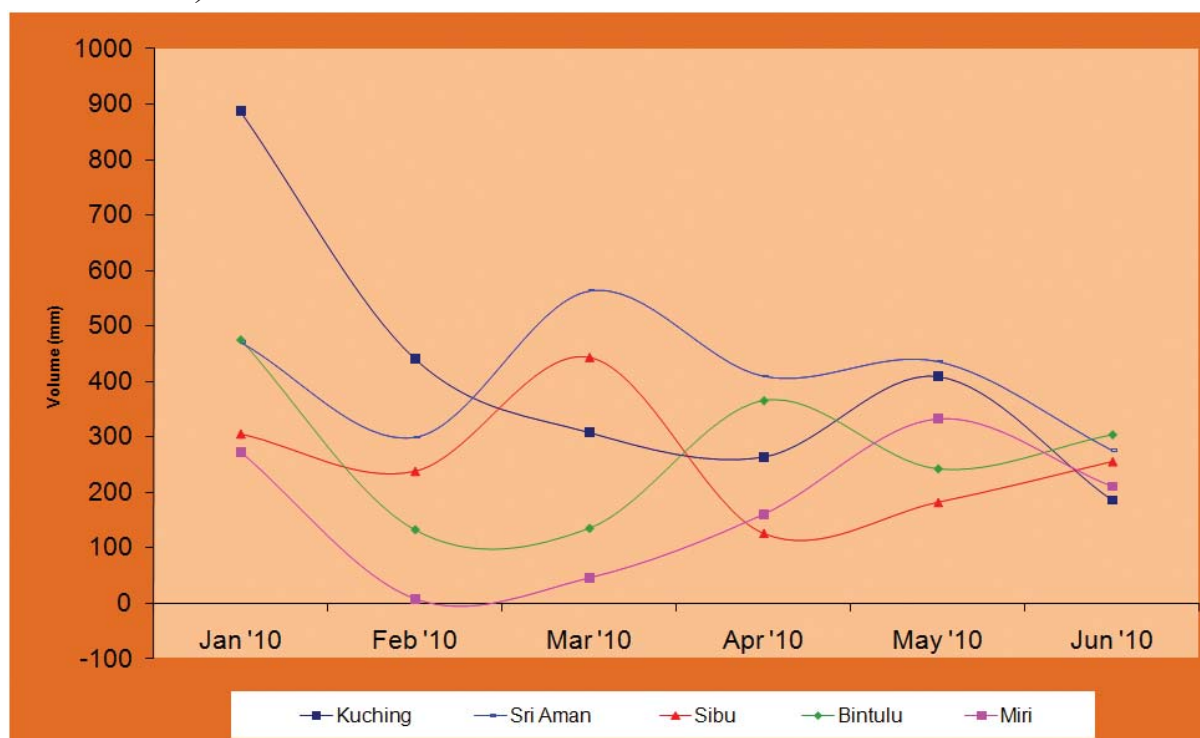
Therefore, STA calls upon the police to promptly and thoroughly investigate the alleged rape and sexual abuses of Penan women and girls as a matter of priority to ensure justice prevails.

STA's contact as follows:

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Chairman
Sarawak Timber Association

RAINFALL : JANUARY - JUNE '10 KADAR HUJAN BULANAN



Source : Malaysian Meteorological Services