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# STA dan Rakan2

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

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## Enforcement on Legal Source of Timber at Wood-based Mills in Sarawak



Photo: Briefing in Miri

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) conducted a series of Briefings to all operators of wood-based mills in Sarawak covering sawmills, veneer and plywood mills as well as any other timber processing mills at RH Hotel in Sibuan on 29 February 2016, STIDC Auditorium in Kuching on 3 March 2016 and Mega Hotel in Miri on 10 March 2016.

The objectives of the Briefings were to inform and remind all operators of wood-based mills to use only legal source of timber for manufacturing and trading as well as the offences/penalties stated in the State Forestry Laws and Regulations i.e. Forests Ordinance 2015 (Cap. 71).

Tuan Haji Sapuan Ahmad, the Director of Forests in his welcoming remarks mentioned that the State Government under the leadership of the Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Dr Haji Adenan Satem, the Chief Minister of Sarawak is committed to combat illegal logging and ensure all the wood-based mills in Sarawak purchase, use and sell legal timber. He further informed the participants of the Briefings that stern actions will be taken against those found in possession of unlawful logs / timbers

through hefty penalties including imprisonment and revocation of mill licence.

The Director in his presentation stressed that all operators must only use legal logs in their mills and for exports as well as to keep all documents in place with respect to the logs kept in their mills, such as Transit Removal Pass, Royalty Pass, Shipping Pass, Land Transportation Pass and Log Specification Form for inspection whenever requested by a forest officer. He also informed the participants of the Briefings that the renewal criteria for sawmills / timber yards will be based on (i) whether the mill is active in production, (ii) safety of the mill structure, and (iii) whether the mill has committed any offence(s) under Sections 62 and 96 of the Forests Ordinance 2015 (Cap. 71). FDS will continue to monitor closely and maintain strict enforcement to ensure only legal timber enters to the supply chain.

The briefing session in Miri was conducted by Mr Hamden Mohammad, Senior Assistant Director of FDS on behalf of the Director of Forests.

## WISDEC Courses 2016

The Wood Industry Skills Development Centre (WISDEC) Selangor and Sabah are organising the following courses:

No	Course	Date	Fee (RM)	Venue
1	Application of CAD in Furniture Design (Basic)	9 - 12 May	742.00	Selangor
2	Application of CAD in Furniture Design (Advanced)	23 - 26 May	742.00	Selangor
3	Creative Finishing in furniture industry and wood based product	25 - 28 July	742.00	Selangor
4	Furniture making (sofa)	8 - 11 Aug	742.00	Selangor
5	Furniture making (garden furniture)	22 - 25 Aug	742.00	Selangor
6	Furniture making (Kitchen cabinet)	19 - 22 Sept	742.00	Selangor
7	Furniture finishing	3 - 6 Oct	742.00	Selangor
8	Knock down furniture	17 - 20 Oct	742.00	Selangor
9	Creative and inovative strategy marketing	7 - 10 Nov	742.00	Selangor
10	Jigs and fixtures making	21 - 24 Nov	742.00	Selangor
11	Furniture making (kitchen cabinet)	14 - 17 MAY	530.00	Sabah
12	Acacia Timber Processing	30 July -1 Aug	397.50	Sabah
13	Furniture making (garden furniture)	20 - 23 Aug	530.00	Sabah

For more information, please contact:

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## Discussion cum Training Session on the Requirements of the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2

The Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) has written to Sarawak Timber Association (STA) on 11 March 2016 on the article published in page 10 of the STA Review Volume 268 January 2016 issue entitled "Discussion cum Training Session on the Requirement of the MC&I Forest Plantation. v2", to clarify a statement which said that "However, LPF areas that have entered into second rotation of planting are acceptable for certification." (*second last sentence of the fifth paragraph*).

plantation established from conversion area after the stipulated deadline to be eligible for certification. The timber from the LPF areas that have entered into second rotation of planting is eligible to be considered as PEFC controlled sources, provided that it meets all the other requirements for controlled sources. Discussion on the status of plantation established areas converted after 31 December 2010 deadline is still on-going.

According to MTCC, an agreement has not been reached amongst PEFC members to allow any



### Did you know that.....

Planting trees around rivers could reduce the height of flooding in towns by up to 20%, new research suggests. A study for the Environment Agency concludes that trees round a feeder stream can slow the rush of rainwater and save properties from flooding. But it warns that natural flood prevention methods do not always work.

Source: 11 March 2016, <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-35777927>

## Did you also know that....

India's Ministry of Finance (MOF) imposed anti-dumping tax on medium-density fibreboard imported from Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia and China, as revealed by the nation's Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties, DGAD. The products shipped from Sri Lanka will have to pay USD 11.83 (EUR 10.50) to USD 26.49 for every cubic metres; while the rate for Thailand and Malaysia-originated fibreboard stood at USD 45.27 and USD 36.1 per cubic metres respectively. Meanwhile, China has the highest rate, with the anti-dumping tax recorded at USD 46.09 every cubic metres.



Source: MTIB News Extracts (Vol.14/04/16)

## Technical Meeting on Planted Forest Research Programme

A technical meeting on Planted Forest Research Programme was organised by SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFC) from 16 to 17 March 2016 in Bintulu. Representatives from the Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) holders that had signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SFC in January 2016 and STA Secretariat attended the Meeting.

The opening remark was delivered by Mr Wong Ting Chung, Chief Executive Officer of SFC. According to Mr Wong, the Meeting was a follow-up to the MoU signed between SFC and various LPF holders in January 2016 to carry out the collaborative research and state-wide planting trials for a few selected species. He informed the participants of the Meeting that the purpose of the Meeting is to provide a platform for SFC and LPF holders to share information as well as to discuss ideas and solutions for the development of planted forests. He also announced that the State Government, through SFC has committed RM10 million to the Planted Forest Research Programme with the goal to identify species that are suitable for local planting conditions and superior seed sources, alongside with the improved silvicultural management techniques. He also updated the Meeting that there are seven (7) LPF holders that have established trial planting plots of different tree species in their respective plantation areas under this Planted Forest Research Programme.

A total of ten (10) papers were presented during this technical meeting. They are as follows:

**Paper 1: Overview of the SFC/LPF Collaborative Research Programme** by Dr Glen Mitchell, SFC

**Paper 2: Research and Development (R&D) by Jaya Tiasa Forest Plantation Sdn Bhd and Collaboration with SFC** by Mr Hii Sii Yew, Jaya Tiasa Forest Plantation Sdn Bhd

**Paper 3: Trial Establishment - Progress and Plans for 2016/2017** by Dr Glen Mitchell, SFC

**Paper 4: Jaya Tiasa Holdings Bhd /SFC Taxa/Seed Source Trial Review** by Mr Maradi Tamin, Jaya Tiasa Forest Plantation Sdn Bhd

**Paper 5: Trial Research Management Database** by Dr Chris Garside, Forest Solutions Malaysia Sdn Bhd

**Paper 6: Assessment of Plantation-Grown *Eucalyptus pellita* in Borneo, Malaysia for Solid Wood Utilisation** by Dr Roger Meder, Meder Consulting

**Paper 7: Raising Seedlings for Research Trials** by Dr Paul Macdonell, Forest Solutions Malaysia Sdn Bhd

**Paper 8: Site Selection and Preparation** by Dr Paul Macdonell, Forest Solutions Malaysia Sdn Bhd

**Paper 9: Trail Design and Field Layout** by Dr Paul Macdonell, Forest Solutions Malaysia Sdn Bhd

**Paper 10: Trial Establishment** by Dr Paul Macdonell, Forest Solutions Malaysia Sdn Bhd

Dr Mitchell also led a discussion on the action plans under the Planted Forest Research Programme. The participants of the Meeting raised their concerns as well as the needs on R&D for forest plantation development and proposed a few strategies to SFC on creating a sustainable R&D programme. The highlighted R&D activities among others are the study on pests and diseases, fertiliser trials, site characterisation and species matching as well as utilisation of planted material. The participants of the Meeting also hoped to have continuous funding and assistance from SFC in the R&D for planted forest and highlighted the importance of having a centralised research resource, which can be shared and utilised for the benefit of all the planters.

The group visited to the Borneo Tree Seeds and Seedlings Sdn Bhd (BTSSSB) trial site, located in LPF 0002 on the second day of the Programme where they were briefed on the procedures on raising seedlings in the nursery, layout design of the trial sites as well as the seed source trials for *E. pellita*, *Acacia mangium*, *Neolamarckia cadamba* and *Falcataria moluccana*. Techniques on pitting, planting, fertiliser application and chemical weeding were also demonstrated during the field visit.





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## **Briefing on the One-Stop Compliance Centre**



*Photo: Opening remarks by Datu Dr Haji Yusoff Hanifah, Chairman of SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation Sdn Bhd*

Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, STA Chairman welcomed Datu Dr Haji Yusoff Hanifah, Chairman of SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFC) and his delegation of eight (8) officers to Wisma STA on 1 March 2016 to brief STA Council Members on the One Stop Compliance Centre (OSCC). Tuan Haji Zolkipli Mohamad Aton, Deputy General Manager of Sustainable Forestry & Compliance made the presentation.

The OSCC is an initiative by the Chief Minister of Sarawak to curb illegal logging, log smuggling and leakages in forest revenues. A total of forty eight (48) OSCCs will be set

up in two phases statewide, following the success of the four (4) pilot projects of OSCC implemented at Lubok Antu, Engkamop, Koyan-BNP1 and Tuyut. In the first phase, twenty seven (27) OSCCs will be set up in various licence areas within the State and these OSCCs shall commence operation on 1 April 2016. SFC shall now monitor the harvesting operations and carry out royalty assessment and marking of logs within the licence areas. The second phase involving another twenty one (21) OSCCs is expected to be implemented by the last quarter of this year.

During the Briefing, Dato Henry Lau, STA Honorary Secretary informed the delegation from SFC that the timber industry players are supportive of the Government's initiative to implement the OSCCs throughout Sarawak and hope this initiative will not cause a delay in operations on the ground.