

STA Review

Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association
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STA COUNCIL
MEETING
NO 1/2018



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STA ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING



14

INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF FORESTS
2018

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STA Council Meeting No 1/2018



Meeting in progress

The STA Council held its Meeting No 1/2018 on 9 March 2018 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Meeting was presided over by Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, the Chairman of the Association and attended by Dato Henry Lau, the Honorary Secretary, Mr Philip Choo, the Honorary Treasurer and twenty two members of the Council.

The Meeting received reports from the various Category Committees and Working Committees. The Meeting also approved several activities to be carried out by the Association, such as the Environmental Compliance Audit Training Courses, pilot projects for Environmental Compliance Audit for members in the category of small and medium enterprises, compilation of relevant sections of applicable laws in the form of a handbook for use by members undergoing forest management certification and briefing for members on changes in labour and immigration policies and procedures.

There was one (1) application for Membership as follows:

	Company Name	Official Category	Official Representative	Alternate Representative	Proposer	Seconder
1	Ling & Company	Sawmilling	Ms Betty Ling Hui Tee	Ms Lily Ling Hui Lee	Mr Peter Lau Hui Sing	Mr Ting Sie Hee

The Meeting also addressed administrative and financial matters of the Association as well as its three (3) subsidiary companies, namely STA Training Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd and STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd.

本会理事会于2018年3月9日假STA大厦召开本年度首次理事会会议。会议由本会主席邦曼查拿督黄启晔主持。会议接纳了各类别委员会和工作委员会的报告。理事会也批准本会即将展开的几项活动，同时商讨本会及其三间子公司的行政和财务事务。

Majlis Kounsel STA telah mengadakan Mesyuarat Bil 1/2018 pada 9 Mac 2018 di Wisma STA, Kuching dan dipengerusikan oleh Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik selaku Pengerusi Persatuan.

Mesyuarat tersebut menerima laporan daripada pelbagai Jawatankuasa Kategori dan Jawatankuasa Kerja. Di samping itu, Mesyuarat juga meluluskan beberapa aktiviti yang akan dijalankan oleh Persatuan dan menangani perkara-perkara pentadbiran dan kewangan Persatuan serta tiga (3) anak-anak syarikatnya.

STA Annual General Meeting



STA AGM in progress



The Members casting their votes



The Members signing their attendance for the AGM

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Sarawak Timber Association (STA) was held on 28 March 2018 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The AGM was attended by representatives from 181 member companies. This year is an election year whereby members attending the AGM elected the STA Council members for the term of 2018 & 2019.

During the Meeting, Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, Chairman of STA presented the Report of the Council on the activities of the Association for the year 2017.

The Meeting also dealt with matters related to subsidiary companies of the Association, namely STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Training Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd and STA Ventures Sdn Bhd.

The following is the Chairman's Message.

砂拉越木材工会于2018年 3月28日假STA大厦举办年度会员大会(AGM)，共有181位会员公司代表出席。今年是选举年，所有出席大会的公司代表都参与投票，推选本会2018年至2019年新理事会会员。

本会主席邦曼查拿督黄启晔在大会中发表2017年度本会全年活动报告。

以下是主席的信息。

Mesuarat Agung Tahunan (AGM) Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah diadakan pada 28 Mac 2018 di Wisma STA, Kuching, dihadiri oleh wakil daripada 181 syarikat Ahli. Ahli-ahli yang hadir turut memilih ahli Majlis STA bagi tempoh 2018 & 2019 dalam AGM tahun ini yang merupakan tahun pilihan raya.

Semasa Mesuarat, Pengerusi STA, Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik menyampaikan Laporan Majlis mengenai aktiviti Persatuan bagi tahun 2017.

Berikut adalah mesej Pengerusi.

Chairman's Message

Annual Report on the Workings of STA for Year 2017

It is with great pride that I highlight to you STA's works, undertaken to provide support to members of the Association in line with its objectives.

To begin with, the various initiatives undertaken by the State's forestry agencies in 2016 have kept STA busy throughout the year 2017. STA's members have regularly met to discuss and develop measures to comprehend new initiatives as well as changes introduced to policies and its unintended consequences. Similarly, a lot of efforts were made to articulate its concerns to the policy makers as STA seeks to close both the implementation and compliance gaps.

In retrospect, the untimely demise of the 5th Chief Minister of Sarawak, late Pehin Sri (Dr) Haji Adenan bin Haji Satem on 11 January 2017 had a huge impact on the forestry and timber industry as he had played a crucial role in spearheading the battle against illegal logging and steering the direction of the State's forestry and timber industry towards sustainable forest management (SFM).

The current Chief Minister, the Right Honourable Datuk Amar Abang Johari bin Tun Abang Haji Openg took over the reins of power from the late Adenan and held on to the visions his predecessors, Tun Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud and Pehin Sri (Dr) Haji Adenan bin Haji Satem had, for the forestry and timber industry. He has placed great emphasis on the development of planted forests in Sarawak to alleviate the pressure on harvesting from the natural forests and to ensure sustainability of the downstream timber industry in Sarawak. He has also advocated for more research and development (R&D) in the areas of planted forests, especially planting of indigenous species that can be harvested within five (5) years and the utilisation of such planted timber by the downstream processing sector.

STA would like to point out that it is inequitable to compare Sarawak's forest plantation industry to the mature forest plantations elsewhere in the world as growth and survival of each species are attributed to several factors such as climate and topography, which varies from one place to another. These variables coupled with other site-specific pressures that the species are exposed to, may work in combination and increase the pressure on this species to survive. Therefore, the species of trees planted in other countries may not be suitable to be planted in Sarawak. Furthermore, Sarawak's forest plantation industry is relatively young in comparison to countries such as Finland, Sweden and New Zealand and the Government as well as the industry are still exploring suitable species to be planted in the tropical climate and difficult terrains of Sarawak.

In its continuous support towards R&D activities for the benefit of the forestry and timber industry, STA, through its Forest Plantation Committee has funded several R&Ds carried out by government agencies, universities and member companies over the years in the hope of improving the quality of the planting materials and enhancing the growth of planted trees. So far, STA has funded R&D projects up to a tune of RM6.5 million covering propagation techniques of Meranti, Sawih, Kapur and Kelampayan species, physical properties of *Acacia mangium*, identification of relationship between genetic markers and favourable traits of Kelampayan, formulation of biofertiliser for Kelampayan and *Eucalyptus pellita* as well as genetic improvement of *Acacia mangium* and Batai species. STA has also, in cooperation with Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFC), conducted a weight to volume conversion factor study for both Kelampayan and *Eucalyptus pellita* to derive the conversion factor, for use in the royalty and cess assessments of these two (2) planted species.

Nonetheless, strong support from the State Government is needed to scale up these initiatives into broader strategies for the development and success of the forest plantation in the State. During a study tour to Southern China, the STA Forest Plantation Committee was impressed by the commitment of the Chinese Government in driving the development of its forest plantation. The Chinese Government does not collect royalty and cess on plantation logs, provides infrastructures and established R&D agencies dedicated to conduct research as well as provide technical support and advice. STA would like to implore to the State Government to emulate the unwavering support by the Chinese Government and resolve issues such as claims of native customary rights over land, escalating recruitment and labour costs due to Government's policy of reducing dependency on foreign workers and overlapping administrative controls as well as provide stronger R&D support in order for planting to progress. These issues have caused uncertainties and insecurities, and if not resolved, will hamper the progress of planting.

We thank the State Government for including STA in the review of the Planted Forests Policy and we hope these views would be adopted by the State Government. We also hope that we can participate and contribute in other revisions to the Forests Policies and decisions affecting the industry.

The industry players were taken aback by the manifold increase in Hill Timber Premium, to RM50 per cubic metre, from RM0.80 for all species of logs harvested from hill forests and RM3.00 for logs of hill species from agri-conversion areas. In the face of depressed market, high production costs and competition from other countries, the tremendous increase in the Premium coupled with the decline in log production over the foreseeable future will make it very difficult for the industry to sustain. While STA applauds the efforts taken by the State Government to finance bright students for tertiary studies through Sarawak Foundation Fund, STA feels that the support of such noble initiative should not fall merely on the shoulder of the timber industry alone, for a burden shared is a burden halved.

Conversely, I would like to underscore the good working relationships established with forestry agencies as well as the endless supports rendered by STA for the well-being of the timber trade and industry in Sarawak on other endeavours. STA is proud to be working with the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) through a Working Committee to assist with the implementation of Natural Resources and Environment (Audit) Rules, 2008. The close cooperation between NREB and STA has led to successful launching of pilot projects, conduct of seminar on environmental management in the forestry sector, preparatory meetings as well as training on Environmental Quality Monitoring (EQM) which facilitated the implementation of Environmental Compliance Audit and helped prepare the participating member companies for self-regulation. With all the preparations well under way, the Pilot Projects involving eight (8) member companies had taken off in the first quarter of 2018.

The Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS) Standard had been finalised early 2017 with the collective efforts and tenacity of the Association, Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), SFC, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) as well as Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB), paving the way for third party verification based on the STLVS Standard. By year 2020, all logs and timber products exported from Sarawak must be verified under the STLVS Standard. The latest development in STLVS was conveyed to STA members in a series of roadshows held in Sibu, Miri, Bintulu and Kuching. STA also actively promotes the STLVS at the international arena.

STA members grasp the importance of sustainable forest management and have answered the State Government's call to undergo forest management certification (FMC). Late last year, the State Government has made it mandatory for all long term timber licences to be certified by year 2022. STA commends the commitment and efforts of its members, who are currently at different stages of the certification process. STA would like to reiterate that the State Government, represented by its forestry agencies, also has a key role to play in helping STA members to overcome the hurdles of achieving FMC such as resolving land claim issues, standardising guidelines and procedures, as well as providing training to build the capacity for skilled personnel for STA members to implement certification in their forest management units.

The process of obtaining forest management certification is not a mean feat; it is a long, costly exercise where the costs are not shared by the buyers of certified timber. With third party verification based on the STLVS Standard and forest management certification all being mandatory for long term licences, it is more reasonable that the verification based on STLVS Standard be made optional for licensees who have obtained forest management certification. STA also welcomed the intention by the State Government to work with Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) on the mutual recognition of the same components in the STLVS Standard and Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme. Nonetheless, STA believes its members will eventually realise the State Government's aspiration, if the enabling conditions are in place.

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) is currently the only Training Provider appointed under The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015. As a Training Provider, STAT has endeavoured to work closely with both FDS and SFC to ensure smooth implementation of the Rules and to extend the training of the five (5) prescribed skills sets under the Rules to all workmen in the forests, including those who are not under the employment of STA members. STAT and SFC had jointly conducted a series of roadshows in Miri, Bintulu, Sibu and Kuching to brief the industry on the implementation of the Rules under Section 51 of the Forests Ordinance 2015 as well as the skills sets offered by STAT.

STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) has undertaken several Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects with STA member companies during the year. Students studying in schools located within the concession areas of member companies had benefited from school bags and stationeries provided to them by STAM as well as better learning environment through repair works and improvements to the schools' facilities carried out by STA members with funding from STAM.

Other education initiatives by STAM included working with STIDC to improve infrastructures of rural schools in Sarawak and the award of three (3) scholarships to tertiary students and cash awards to an astounding 962 students who had excelled in their Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) and Sijil Tinggi Pelajaran Malaysia (STPM) examinations in 2016. STAM also has plans to provide education assistance to twenty (20) vocational students from Institut Latihan Perindustrian Kota Samarahan in 2018.

To accentuate STA's commitment and belief in giving back to the society, STAM had also allocated RM1.07 million to nineteen (19) social and welfare organisations in Sarawak during the year. STA hopes that this amount goes some way in assisting these organisations in financing and implementing specific projects and activities that will improve the overall quality of life and wellbeing of the needy.

On behalf of STA, I would like express our appreciation to Tuan Haji Sapuan Ahmad and Mr Wong Ting Chung, both of whom had retired from their positions as the Director of Forests and the Chief Executive Officer of the SFC, for their assistance and contributions to the timber industry.

In conclusion, the accomplishments over the past year and the work ahead depends on the dedication of STA Secretariat, supports and active participation from STA members and most importantly, the State forestry ministry and its agencies. STA is positive that these constructive endeavours undertaken collectively by parties that share the same objectives for the well-being of timber trade and industry can address the shortcomings and provide the remedy for the unrest in the industry.

STA Council Meeting No 2/2018



Election of the new STA Office Bearers in progress

The STA Council Meeting No 2/2018 was held immediately after the STA Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 28 March 2018 at Wisma STA, Kuching to elect the STA Office Bearers for the years 2018 and 2019.

The following are the thirty seven (37) newly-elected Council members and twelve (12) Permanent Council members:-

STA Office Bearers for the years 2018 and 2019

Chairman: Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik

Vice Chairmen: Tan Sri Datuk Ling Chiong Ho
Mr Tiong Chiong Ong, David

Honorary Secretary: Dato Lau Lee Kong, Henry

Honorary Treasurer: Mr Choo Kwong Hui, Philip

Forest Plantation

Mr Ling Kwong Hung, Peter (Category Chairman)
Datuk Amar Abdul Hamed Haji Sepawi
Ms Chieng Yew Luang, Margaret
Mr Ling Chii Huo
Mr Tiong Chiong Ong, David

Furniture & Other Wood Working

Mr Yek Siew Liong (Category Chairman)
Mr Yap Fui Fook

Hill Logging

Dato' Sri Law Kiu Kiong (Category Chairman)
Tan Sri Datuk Ling Chiong Ho
Dato Lau Lee Kong, Henry
Mr Cheng Hwa Tang, Desmond
Mr Chuo Kuong Ping
Mr Lau Ching Hoo, Joseph
Mr Law Hui Kong, Kenny
Mr Ling Ting Sie
Mr Ling Uong Chong
Mr Ting Jack Hui
Mr Tsen Teck Fen

Log Marketing

Dato' Tiong Ing (Category Chairperson)
Tan Sri Datuk Sir Tiong Hiew King
Datuk Yaw Chee Chik
Temenggong Dato Lau Lee Ming, Vincent
Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik
Mr Goh Tee Kiang, Collin
Mr Ho Yam Kuan, James
Ms Lau Kor Ping
Ms Lau Kor See, Adeline
Mr Ling Chai Hoe
Mr Ling Lu Kuang
Ms Wong Haw Ing, Audrey

Moulding

Penghulu Law Buong Hoo (Category Chairman)
Mr Tiong Chiong Chung

Panel Products

Mr Ling Lu Kiong (Category Chairman)
Dato Wong Kuo Hea
Dato' Sri Wong Haw Yeong, Patrick
Mr Lau Hui Siew, John
Mr Ling Chiong Sing
Mr Lau Lee Kiong, Stephen

Sawmilling

Ms Wong Haw Bing, Annie (Category Chairperson)
Mr Lau Swee Nguong
Ms Tai Hwe-Lan, Deborah
Mr Ting Sia Ing, John
Mr Wong Hee Sing

Swamp Logging

Mr Choo Kwong Hui, Philip (Category Chairman)
Mr Lau Ngi Chong

Timber Products Marketing

Mr Hii Hium Ung (Category Chairman)
Mr Lau Tee Mei, Roland
Mr Teng Kheng Hong, Augustine
Mr Teng Kheng Huh, Patrick

本会2018年度第二次理事会会议于2018年3月28日在会员大会(AGM)结束后假古晋STA大厦立即召开,推选本会2018年至2019年的执行理事。

本会37位当选理事和12位常务理事在本文中列出。

Mesyuarat Majlis STA No. 2/2018 telah diadakan sejourus selepas Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan (AGM) STA pada 28 Mac 2018 di Wisma STA, Kuching untuk memilih STA Office Bearers untuk tahun 2018 dan 2019.

37 ahli Majlis yang baru dipilih 12 ahli Majlis Tetap adalah seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.

STA Board of Honorary Advisers Meeting No 1/2018

The STA Board of Honorary Advisers (BHA) met on 5 March 2018 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The meeting was chaired by its Chairman, Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, and was attended by Mr Philip Choo Kwong Hui, Company Secretary of STA Mutual Sdn Bhd, Temenggong Dato Vincent Lau Lee Ming, Mr Ho Yam Kuan, Mr Jack Anak Liam, Advisor from Forest Department Sarawak and Mr Dahrwani Muhammad, representative from Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation.

In this Meeting, amongst the many issues deliberated, the members of the BHA resolved to recommend the following decisions to the Company's Board of Directors for approval:

- i. The Education Financial Assistance for twenty (20) selected students from Institut Latihan Perindustrian Kota Samrahan to attend the Professional Certificate Courses provided by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health;
- ii. The reimbursements of costs incurred for completed projects by a STA Member Company to improve and repair the infrastructure at Sekolah Kebangsaan Nanga Tada which is located in Kanowit, Sarawak;
- iii. The provision of a Bonded STA Scholarship to a student pursuing Diploma in Forestry Programme, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Bintulu Campus; and
- iv. Financial Assistance to be given to schools and Non-profit Organizations to support their educational and charity fund raising programme activities.



Meeting in progress

本会主席邦曼查拿督黄启睇于2018年3月5日假古晋STA大厦主持本会名誉顾问董事会(BHA)本年度首次会议。

BHA成员在会议中审议多项课题，并决定向公司董事会建议及核准以下决定：

- i. 提供教育财务援助20名来自三马拉汉工业培训学院报读专业证书课程的学生
- ii. 偿还本会会员公司改善和修复Nanga Tada国立学校基础设施的费用
- iii. 提供STA协议奖学金
- iv. 提供财务援助予学校和非盈利组织以支持他们的教育和慈善筹款计划活动

Lembaga Penasihat Kehormat (BHA) STA bermesyuarat pada 5 Mac 2018 di Wisma STA, Kuching dan dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusi Lembaga, Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik.

Antara isu-isu yang dibincangkan dalam Mesyuarat tersebut, ahli-ahli Lembaga turut memutuskan untuk mengesyorkan keputusan berikut kepada Lembaga Pengarah untuk mendapatkan kelulusan:

- i. Bantuan Kewangan Pendidikan untuk dua puluh (20) pelajar terpilih dari Institut Latihan Perindustrian Kota Samarahan menghadiri Kursus Sijil Professional;
- ii. Bayaran balik kos yang ditanggung ahli STA untuk projek memperbaiki dan membaiki infrastruktur di Sekolah Kebangsaan Nanga Tada yang telah siap;
- iii. Penyediaan biasiswa terikat STA; dan
- iv. Bantuan Kewangan untuk diberikan kepada sekolah-sekolah dan Pertubuhan Bukan-Untung untuk menyokong aktiviti pengumpulan dana melalui program pendidikan dan amal pertubuhan masing-masing.

STA Mutual Sdn Bhd Board of Directors Meeting No 1/2018

STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM), a subsidiary company of Sarawak Timber Association (STA) held its Board of Directors Meeting No 1/2018 on 5 March 2018 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Meeting was chaired by its Chairman, Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, and was attended by Mr Philip Choo Kwong Hui, Company Secretary of STAM and members of the Board, Mr Lau Swee Nguong, Ms Loretta Jane Lau Mei Nah and Mr Patrick Teng Kheng Huh.

The Board endorsed the recommendations made by the Board of Honorary Advisers that met earlier. The Board also approved the Directors' Report and Audited Financial Statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2017, as well as approved the roll-over Supplementary Budgets from year 2017 to year 2018 under the Routine Expenses section of the Annual Budget of the Company.

本会旗下子公司STA Mutual有限公司 (STAM) 于2018年3月5日假古晋STA大厦召开董事会本年度第一次会议。会议由董事会主席邦曼查拿督黄启睇主持。董事会核准STA名誉顾问董事会(BHA)在其早先会议上提出的建议。董事会亦接纳截至2017年12月31日止的董事会年度报告及经审核财务报表，并批准把2017年的补充预算转至2018年。

STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM), anak syarikat Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah mengadakan Mesyuarat Lembaga Pengarah Bil 1/2018 pada 5 Mac 2018 di Wisma STA, Kuching, dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusi Lembaga, Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik. Lembaga Pengarah mengesahkan cadangan yang dikemukakan oleh Lembaga Penasihat Kehormat yang bermesyuarat terlebih dahulu dan meluluskan Laporan Pengarah dan Penyata Kewangan yang Diaudit bagi tahun berakhir 31 Disember 2017, serta anggaran Belanjawan Tambahan dari tahun 2017 hingga tahun 2018.

STA Training Sdn Bhd Board of Directors Meeting No 1/2018

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), a subsidiary company of Sarawak Timber Association (STA) held its Board of Directors Meeting No 1/2018 on 5 March 2018 at Wisma STA, Kuching.

The Meeting was updated on training activities i.e. skills training of the Company for the months of October 2017 to February 2018; the trainers/assessors of the Company made twenty six (26) trips to various camps: nineteen (19) trips for assessing and seventeen (17) trips for delivering training seminar. A total of 205 workmen had been assessed and found to be competent.

During the Meeting, the Board of Directors had deliberated matters pertaining to the Financial Incentive Scheme for Training of Forestry Workmen, and Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015.

As the Fourth Cohort of the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (*Sustainable Tropical Forest Management/ Sustainable Tropical Plantation Management*) will be having their graduation capping ceremony at Lincoln University in Christchurch, New Zealand on 13 April 2018, the Board in its meeting had also approved for one (1) Member of the Board of Directors and two (2) staff members of the Company to attend the Graduation Ceremony as well as study tour in New Zealand. The Board of Directors also approved the Directors' Report and Audited Financial Statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2017 and dealt with any matters arising therefrom.

Apart from that, the Board of Directors had also ratified the Emergency Expenditures for the months of December 2017.



Meeting in progress

本公司子公司STA Training有限公司(STAT) 董事会于2018年3月5日假古晋STA大厦召开本年度第一次会议。会议报告从2017年10月至2018年2月的培训活动;共有205名员工接受并通过评估。董事会也审议了林业员工培训财务奖励计划相关事宜以及2015年森林(员工培训)法令。

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), anak syarikat Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah mengadakan Mesyuarat Lembaga Pengarah Bil 1/2018 pada 5 Mac 2018 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Mesyuarat tersebut menerima maklumat terkini aktiviti latihan yang berlangsung dari bulan Oktober 2017 hingga Februari 2018 dan dimaklumkan bahawa sejumlah 205 pekerja telah dinilai dan didapati kompeten sepanjang tempoh tersebut. Lembaga Pengarah turut membincangkan perkara-perkara berkaitan dengan Skim Insentif Kewangan untuk Latihan Pekerja Hutan dan Peraturan Hutan (Pekerja Terlatih), 2015.

STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd Board of Directors Meeting No 1/2018

STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd (STAE), a subsidiary company of Sarawak Timber Association (STA) held its Board of Directors Meeting No 1/2018 on 5 March 2018 at Wisma STA, Kuching.

The Meeting ratified the emergency expenditures incurred for the month of January 2018 and approved the roll-over budgets from the Annual Budget 2017 of the Company as well as the request for supplementary budgets.

The Board also approved the Directors' Report and Audited Financial Statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2017, the appointment of new Attorneys to replace the resigned and/or inactive Attorneys in the Management Group of the panel of Attorneys of the Company, the renewal of service and maintenance agreements and write-off of fixed assets of the Company.

本公司旗下子公司STA Enterprises有限公司(STAE)于2018年3月5日假古晋STA大厦召开本年度首次董事会会议。

董事会核准STAE截至2017年12月31日止的董事会年度报告及经审核财务报表, 委任公司新委托代理替换辞职和不活跃的旧代理, 大厦服务与维修协议续约和公司资产核销事宜。



Meeting in progress

STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd (STAE), anak syarikat Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah mengadakan Mesyuarat Lembaga Pengarah Bil 1/2018 pada 5 Mac 2018 di Wisma STA, Kuching.

Dalam Mesyuarat tersebut, Lembaga Pengarah telah meluluskan Laporan Pengarah dan Penyata Kewangan yang telah Diaudit bagi tahun berakhir 31 Disember 2017, pelantikan peguam-peguam baru untuk menggantikan peguam-peguam yang telah berhenti dan/atau tidak aktif dalam Kumpulan Pengurusan panel peguam Syarikat, pembaharuan perjanjian perkhidmatan dan penyelenggaraan dan pembatalan aset tetap Syarikat.

Series of Roadshows on Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System Standard

A series of Roadshows on Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS) Standard was jointly organised by the Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources (MUDeNR), Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFCSB), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA) in four (4) venues across Sarawak.

The Roadshow, conducted to brief the forestry and timber industry on the State Government's policy on STLVS, STLVS Standard and its implementation were held at (i) Imperial Hotel, Miri on 12 March, (ii) Promenade Hotel, Bintulu on 14 March 2018, (iii) Kingwood Hotel, Sibu on 19 March, and (iv) Dewan Seminar STIDC on 27 March 2018, and were attended by approximately 500 participants from the industry and forestry agencies.

The Deputy Director of Forests, Tuan Jack Anak Liam introduced to the participants the STLVS Standard and informed them that the STLVS Standard allows licensee or company to engage an independent third party auditor to verify the company's compliance to STLVS requirements. He added that verification will be able to provide legality assurance to buyers on the timber and timber products exported from Sarawak. He further informed participants of the Roadshow that by 2020, only STLVS-verified timber and timber products will be allowed for export.

During the Roadshow, two (2) presentations were made by Ms Eveleen Augustine Lai, Forest Officer of FDS and Mr Afizulmizam Bin Afandi, Manager (Industrial Development) of STIDC, covering all the six (6) Principles in the Standard.

The State Government's policy requires both Forest Management Certification (FMC) and STLVS third party auditing to be carried out. However, the forestry agencies recognise that some criterion in the STLVS Standard overlaps with that of the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest) [MC&I (Natural Forest)], and that undertaking both audits will burden the licensee or company in terms of cost and time. Therefore, FDS tasked by the MUDeNR, is to discuss with Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) on mutual recognition of some of the components in STLVS and FMC to avoid duplication in auditing.



Group photo with participants of the Roadshow in Bintulu



Tuan Hamden, Acting Director of Forests (3rd from Right) addressing participants of the Roadshow in Bintulu

本会连同城市发展和天然资源部(MUDeNR)、砂拉越森林局(FDS)、砂拉越森林企业机构有限公司(SFCSB)、砂拉越木材工业发展机构(STIDC)和Harwood Timber 有限公司(HTSB)于砂州4个区域举办砂拉越木材合法性验证系统(STLVS) 标准系列巡回讲座会。

该讲座会分别于2018年3月12日在美里帝宫酒店, 2018年3月14日在民都鲁凯城酒店, 2018年3月19日在诗巫晶木酒店及2018年3月27日在STIDC研讨会大厅举行, 旨于向州林业和木材工业介绍州政府相关STLVS, STLVS标准及其实施的政策。砂拉越森林局副局长杰克利亚姆先生(译音)向参与者介绍STLVS标准, 并告知STLVS标准允许准

证持有者或公司聘请独立的第三方审核员来验证其公司是否符合STLVS要求。他补充说验证将能够为买家提供从砂拉越出口的木材和木材产品的合法性保证。

州政府的政策是要求森林管理认证(FMC)和STLVS第三方审核都要进行。

Satu siri Jelajah mengenai Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS) Standard telah dianjurkan secara bersama oleh Kementerian Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli (MUDeNR), Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFCSB), Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (STIDC), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB) dan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) di 4 lokasi di seluruh Sarawak.

Jelajah bertujuan untuk memberi penerangan kepada peserta industri perhutanan dan perkayuan mengenai polisi Kerajaan terhadap STLVS, STLVS Standard dan pelaksanaannya telah diadakan di (i) Hotel Imperial, Miri pada 12 Mac, (ii) Hotel Promenade, Bintulu pada 14 Mac 2018, (iii) Hotel Kingwood, Sibu pada 19 Mac, dan (iv) Dewan Seminar STIDC pada 27 Mac 2018. Timbalan Pengarah Hutan, Tuan Jack Anak Liam memperkenalkan Standard STLVS dan memaklumkan kepada para peserta bahawa Standard STLVS membenarkan pemegang lesen atau syarikat untuk melaksanakan audit pihak ketiga bagi mengesahkan pematuhan syarikat terhadap keperluan STLVS. Beliau memaklumkan bahawa pengesahan yang dibuat dapat memberi jaminan kepada pembeli bahawa produk kayu dan balak yang dieksport dari Sarawak adalah dari sumber yang sah.

Dasar Kerajaan Negeri adalah untuk melaksanakan kedua-dua Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan (FMC) dan pengauditan Pihak ketiga bagi STLVS.

Meeting on “Issues and Challenges Faced by the Forestry and Timber Industry”

A meeting on “Issues and Challenges Faced by the Forestry and Timber Industry” was called by Dr Haji Wan Lizozman Bin Wan Omar, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources (MUDeNR) on 2 March 2018 at Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. The Meeting was attended by representatives from Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB), Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFCSB), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA). The Meeting was held to discuss the issues and challenges faced by the forestry and timber industry that were submitted by STA to MUDeNR on 31 July 2017.

Ms Annie Ting, Senior Manager of STA presented the unresolved issues in the field of Forest Management Certification (FMC), Forest Plantation, downstream policy and training in the forestry sector, including new issues such as statutory and administrative charges and manpower. Dr Peter Kho, General Manager of STA appealed to the State Government to look into the unresolved issues faced by the forest plantation industry especially those that are beyond the control of the Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) holders. Without the assistance from the State Government, the LPFs will not be able to achieve the target of 40,000 ha planted areas for 2018 as required by the Catch-up Plan.

Dr Haji Wan Lizozman informed the Meeting that the State Government is firm with its decision to make FMC mandatory by the year 2022 and will facilitate the Forest Management Units (FMUs) to obtain FMC. In order to achieve this, the State Government tasked FDS to work with other agencies including STA to formulate the Certification roadmap for Sarawak, and to harmonise the guidelines for FMC in the “Green Book”. He agreed for STA to be one of the members of the FMC Steering Committee. He also informed the Meeting that it is mandatory for all logs and timber products exported from Sarawak to be verified under the STLVS Standard by year 2020.

Officers from FDS shared with the Meeting that a new division will be set up to handle certification matters and trainings such as on Reduced Impact Logging (RIL), Forest Resource Assessment (FRA), Permanent Sample Plots (PSPs), Community Relation Committee (CRC), Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) as well as Training for Auditors will be conducted and also offered to representatives from the industry. They added that the reference documents used for Forest Management Certification Licence Agreement (FMCLA), a document to be signed between licence holders and FDS upon achieving certification are Forests Ordinance 2015, Forest Rules and License Conditions. Furthermore, elements repeated elsewhere such as Forest Management Plan (FMP), etc have been removed from the latest draft of FMCLA.

The Meeting also discussed on the ongoing disputes and unresolved claims on native customary rights (NCR) made within FMU as well as LPF areas. The Meeting resolved to form a Conflict Resolution Committee (CRC), comprising

representatives from the FMU and communities be established. The Meeting recognised that some criterion in the STLVS Standard overlaps with the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest) [MC&I (Natural Forest)], and undertaking both audits will burden the licensee’s company in terms of costs and time. Therefore, FDS, tasked by the MUDeNR, will work together with Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) to conduct an evaluation on the mutual recognition of some of the components in STLVS and FMC to avoid duplication in auditing.

The Meeting had also agreed for FDS to work with MTCC to address the cut-off date set in the Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) Meta Standard.

砂城市发展与天然资源部常务秘书旺利佐兹曼（译音）于2018年3月2日假古晋资源大厦召开主题为“林业和木材工业面临的问题和挑战”会议。举行此次会议是为了讨论本会于2017年7月31日提交的林业和木材工业面临的问题和挑战事宜。

本会总经理许晋生博士呼吁州政府调查森林种植业所面对而未能解决的问题，尤其那些在人造林执照（LPF）持有者范围之处的问题。如果没有州政府的从旁协助，LPF持有者将无法完成“追赶计划”于2018年达到 40,000 公顷种植面积的目标。

旺利佐兹曼在会议中表示州政府坚决在2022年必须实施森林管理认证（FMC），并将促成森林管理单位（FMUs）取得森林管理认证。

Mesyuarat mengenai “Isu dan Cabaran yang Dihadapi Industri Perhutanan dan Perkayuan” telah dipanggil oleh Dr Haji Wan Lizozman Bin Wan Omar, Setiausaha Tetap Kementerian Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli (MUDeNR) pada 2 Mac 2018 di Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching untuk membincangkan isu-isu berkaitan yang dikemukakan oleh STA kepada MUDeNR pada 31 Julai 2017.

Dr Peter Kho, Pengurus Besar STA memohon Kerajaan Negeri untuk melihat isu-isu yang belum diselesaikan, justeru terus dihadapi oleh industri perladangan hutan terutamanya yang berada di luar kawalan pemegang lesen hutan tanam (LPF). Tanpa bantuan daripada Kerajaan Negeri, pihak pemegang lesen tidak akan dapat mencapai sasaran kawasan tanaman seluas 40,000 ha untuk tahun 2018 seperti yang dikemukakan dalam Pelan Menjejar Target.

Dr Haji Wan Lizozman memaklumkan bahawa Mesyuarat Kerajaan Negeri tetap dengan keputusannya untuk menjadikan Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan (FMC) mandatori menjelang tahun 2022 dan akan membantu Unit Pengurusan Hutan (FMU) dalam proses mendapatkan Sijil tersebut.

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) in conjunction with the World Wetlands Day 2018 organised the *1st Sarawak Ramsar Seminar 2018* with the theme “Wetlands for Sustainable Urban Future” on 2 March 2018 at the Hilton, Kuching. Approximately, ninety (90) participants from government agencies, private sectors and civil societies attended the Seminar.

World Wetlands Day is celebrated on every 2 February, to raise global awareness on the importance of wetlands for the people and the planet. As Sarawak moves towards a developed State by 2030, the need to conserve wetlands is becoming more critical. This is due to the importance of wetlands for sustainable urbanisation. Urban wetlands are essential to making cities liveable.

Ramsar is an intergovernmental treaty where it provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.

This Seminar, brought together experts and conservation practitioners, aimed to:

- share experiences and lessons learnt in managing wetlands and other Ramsar sites within Malaysia,
- address issues and challenges towards the effective and efficient management of the Sarawak Ramsar site, and
- explore the possibilities of inter-agencies and other stakeholders' collaboration in managing Sarawak Ramsar site.

Eight (8) papers were presented in the Seminar as follows:

Paper 1: Managing Ramsar Site in Johor – Pulau Kukup and Tanjung Piai Johor

- by Hajah Maziah Fadilah Binti Wan Mohamed,
Perbadanan Taman Negara Johor

The speaker spoke about the core business for both national parks which included conservation, research, education and eco tourism. She also briefed the participants of the Seminar on the conservation efforts such as the purchase of operation equipments to overcome the issue of oil spillage and creating continuous community awareness to the public.

Paper 2: Sabah Forestry Department - Steps in Managing Lower Kinabatangan-Segama Ramsar Site

- by Haji Hussin Tukiman, Sabah Forestry Department

The speaker briefed the participants of the Seminar on the development of a 10 year Management Plan (2011-2020) in managing its Kinabatangan-Segama Ramsar site in order to protect and restore key ecosystem services and environmental values. He also spoke about the challenges they have faced in terms of limited operational capacity which included technical skills and financial strength.



Seminar in progress

Paper 3: Forest Department Sarawak – In Managing Ramsar Site

- by Mr Suliman Haji Jamahari, Forest Department Sarawak

The speaker emphasised on the progress and achievement in managing Kuching Wetlands National Park (KWNP), the State's Ramsar site. The success stories included diverse species of fauna in the national park being recorded, activities such as tourism and community project were encouraged as well as the planting of 87,916 mangrove trees to restore the degraded mangrove forest area.

Paper 4: Flora and Fauna of Kuching Wetlands National Park

- by Professor Dr Gabriel Tonga Noweg and
Professor Dr Andrew Alek Tuen, Universiti
Malaysia Sarawak

Both presenters presented separately on the distribution of flora and fauna that can be found in Kuching Wetlands National Park (KWNP) Ramsar site and agreed that wildlife tour is the main attraction of the Site. They also mentioned that the flood mitigation channel is the major threat to the mangrove ecosystem.

Paper 5: Tourism Potential Activities at Sarawak Ramsar Site

- by Dr Bolhan Budeng, Ministry of Tourism, Arts,
Culture, Youth and Sports Sarawak

The speaker spoke about the facilities offered by Kuching Wetlands National Park (KWNP) Ramsar site which can be developed into a preferred tourism activity. He also shared with the participants of the Seminar how tourism activities can benefit both the local community and tourists in terms of economy, assessment of trained and qualified guides and added value factor such as flagship species attractions and unique cultural features.

Paper 6: Agro Pelancongan Berkonsepkan Akuakultur

- by Ms Martinah Haji Teridi, Persatuan Nelayan
Kawasan Satang Biru, Telaga Air

The speaker shared with the participants of the Seminar some of their current and proposed projects which have

been implemented such as homestay, providing fishing boats for sports activities and processing of fishery products as well as shrimp, fish and crab breeding.

Paper 7: A Preliminary Fireflies Study at Sarawak Ramsar Site

- by Mr Paulus Meleng, Forest Department Sarawak

The speaker shared with the participants of the Seminar his study on fireflies. The study aimed to come out with an inventory of fireflies as well as to identify potential areas for tourism. He also presented the types and distribution of trees which are favored by the fireflies and their distribution within the project area in the Kuching Wetlands National Park (KWNP). He emphasised on the importance of fireflies conservation because the existence of fireflies is an indication of a healthy forest.

Paper 8: Japan-Malaysia Association Proposed Mangrove Rehabilitation Program

- by Mr Arai Takuji, Japan-Malaysia Association

The speaker spoke on the efforts taken in contributing to the mangrove rehabilitation program. Examples of activities were planting of depterocarpaceae tree species, maintenance, raising seedlings and environmental education program. The Association has established a Friendship Forest Project in Sarawak in 1995 with support from FDS and the local community for reforestation purposes. In addition, research and educational activities had been conducted with the cooperation of Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) and a few local schools in 2010.

The Seminar ended with the special keynote address by Professor Dr Shigeru Kato, Advisor to the President of Walailak University, Thailand on "Mangroves Restoration Program in Thailand" and a closing ceremony.

Mr Hamden Bin Mohammad, Acting Director of Forests, FDS in his closing speech said that Sarawak is proud for its Kuching Wetlands National Park (KWNP) for being listed as one of the Ramsar sites in an effort towards global conservation. He said that ongoing efforts of replanting mangrove seedlings should be done to restore the mangrove forest area within KWNP that had been damaged. He also thanked the public, private sectors and media for their active participation in promoting the initiative and invited other organisations to participate in the 100,000 mangrove trees journey initiative by FDS. He then presented certificates to bodies and organisations who have contributed to the planting of mangrove seedlings for the 100,000 mangrove trees journey initiative.

为配合2018年全球湿地日，砂森林局于2018年3月1日假古晋希尔顿酒店举办第一届砂州拉姆塞尔研讨会（Ramsar），主题为“为未来城市打造可持续性湿地”。

每年的2月2日为全球湿地日，主要是为了提高全球湿地对于人类及地球的重要性的醒觉。随着砂拉越迈向2030年成为发达国家，保护湿地也随之变得必要及重要。

Ramsar为一项跨政府条约，引导国家实施举措与国际合作保护湿地与善用湿地及其资源提供了框架。

研讨会旨予：

- 共享管理湿地及马来西亚其它Ramsar相关区的经验。
- 处理面临的问题与挑战
- 探讨跨机构与其它利益相关者合作管理砂Ramsar区的可能性

研讨会上所呈现的8 篇论文列在本文中。

砂森林局局局长韩丹莫哈末先生（译音）致闭幕词时说，古晋湿地国家公园(KWNP)被列为其中一个Ramsar区是一项通往全球湿地保护的助力，也是砂州的骄傲。他也感谢民众、私人机构及媒体的大力宣传及邀请其它组织参与由该局发起的十万红树林种植活动。

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) telah menganjurkan Seminar Ramsar Sarawak 2018 yang Pertama dengan tema "*Tanah Lembap untuk Masa Depan Bandar yang Mampuan*" pada 2 Mac 2018 di Hilton, Kuching.

Seminar tersebut dianjurkan bersempena dengan Hari Tanah Lembap Sedunia 2018 yang dirayakan setiap 2 Februari untuk meningkatkan kesedaran global tentang kepentingan tanah lembap untuk rakyat dan planet. Kepentingan memulihara tanah lembap di Sarawak adalah kritikal selaras dengan arah tuju yang dihalai, iaitu ke arah negara maju menjelang 2030.

Ramsar merupakan perjanjian antara kerajaan yang menyediakan kerangka kerja untuk tindakan nasional dan kerjasama antarabangsa untuk pemuliharaan dan pemanfaatan tanah lembap dan sumbernya.

Seminar ini bertujuan untuk (i) menggalakkan perkongsian pengalaman dan pengetahuan yang diperolehi dalam pengurusan tanah lembap dan tapak Ramsar lain di Malaysia, (ii) menangani isu dan cabaran serta (iii) meneroka kemungkinan kerjasama antara agensi dan pihak berkepentingan lain dalam menguruskan tapak Ramsar di Sarawak.

Lapan (8) kertas kerja telah dibentangkan dalam Seminar seperti yang tersenarai dalam artikel ini.

Encik Hamden Bin Mohammad, Pemangku Pengarah Hutan dalam ucapan penutupan beliau berkata Sarawak berbangga kerana Taman Negara Tanah Lembap Kuching telah disenaraikan sebagai salah satu tapak Ramsar dalam usaha ke arah pemuliharaan global. Beliau juga mengucapkan terima kasih kepada orang ramai, sektor swasta dan media atas penyertaan aktif mereka dalam mempromosikan inisiatif tersebut dan menjemput organisasi lain untuk mengambil bahagian dalam inisiatif FDS untuk menanam semula 100,000 pokok bakau bagi memulihkan kawasan hutan bakau.

The forests, covering one third of the Earth's land mass, provide valuable ecological, economic, social, and health benefits. On 21 December 2012, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the resolution which declared that 21 March of each year is to be observed as the International Day of Forests (IDF) around the world. Before this, the commemoration was known as World Forestry Day. The change was done to reaffirm and raise awareness amongst people the importance of all types of forests and trees for the good of current and future generations.

The year 2018 marked another memorable state-level IDF celebration for Sarawak. Themed *"Forest and Sustainable Cities"*, which puts emphasis on making our cities greener, healthier, happier places to live, this year's official launching ceremony was held on 31 March 2018, at Sekolah Kebangsaan (SK) Abang Haji Matahir, Sarikei. The event was attended by approximately 400 participants including representatives from the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB), Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources (MUDeNR), Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), local government officers, teachers, students, and members of the media. Sarawak Timber Association (STA) was represented by Mr Peter Ling Kwong Hung, STA Council member, Dr Peter Kho, STA General Manager as well as staff members of STA Secretariat.

The Deputy Chief Minister of Sarawak Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan who is also the Second Minister of Urban Development and Natural Resources cum Minister of Industrial and Entrepreneur Development in his opening speech said that the State Government acknowledges the value and importance of the forests and the various roles they perform. According to him, the Government is committed in managing its forests holistically, which is reflected in the implementation and enforcement of various strategies such as Permanent Forest Estate (PFE), Totally Protect Area (TPA), curbing illegal logging activities, Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS), and Sustainable Forest Management (SFM). He also called upon all timber industry players to align themselves to these changes and be prepared to adopt new processes.

After his speech, the Deputy Chief Minister was invited to officially launch the State's IDF 2018 celebration, where he unveiled a *Vatica adenanii* sapling and the book *"Kuching Wetland National Park"*. As part of STA's corporate social responsibility (CSR), Mr Peter Ling presented three (3) sets of computers which were handed over by the Deputy Chief Minister to Mr Hishammudin Bin Gimin, the Headmaster of the school hosting the event. During the function, a total of 110 primary and 12 secondary schools in the Sarikei, Meradong, Julau and Pakan Districts also received financial assistance from a project collaboration between Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and STAMutual Sdn Bhd (STAM), a subsidiary company of STA. The project has been administered by STIDC since year 2012, aiming to provide a more conducive environment for learning and teaching in schools through improving facilities in the selected schools. The financial assistance had been



Launching of IDF 2018 by Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan (4th from right)

disbursed in phases, which Sarikei, Meradong, Julau and Pakan Districts were under Phase Seven. So far, a total of 516 primary schools and 90 secondary schools had received financial assistance from this fund. The financial assistance disbursed under Phase Seven has been increased from RM1,000.00 to RM2,000.00 for primary schools and for secondary schools from RM2,000.00 to RM5,000.00.

At the presentation ceremony, Mr Radin Foji Bin Radin Abdul Rahim, Sarikei District Education Officer received a mock cheque in a sum of RM113,000.00, while Mr Ismail Abang Mahamud, Meradong District Education Officer, received a mock cheque in a sum of RM84,000.00, and Mr Asas anak Ranggau, Education Officer of Julau and Pakan District, received a mock cheque in a sum of RM83,000.00. The respective number of schools to receive the fund is summarised below:

No	District	Recipient	Amount (RM)
1.	Sarikei	44 primary and 5 secondary schools	RM 113,000.00
2.	Meradong	32 primary and 4 secondary schools	RM 84,000.00
3.	Julau & Pakan	34 primary and 3 secondary schools	RM 83,000.00
Total:			RM 280,000.00

All mock cheques were presented by Tuan Haji Hashim Bin Haji Bojet, Deputy General Manager of STIDC and witnessed by the Deputy Chief Minister together with Datu Len Talif Salleh, Assistant Minister of Urban Planning, Land Administration and Environment, Datuk Seri Huang Tiong Sii, Member of the State Legislative Assembly for Repok, Dr Haji Wan Lizozman Bin Wan Omar, Permanent Secretary of MUDeNR, Mr Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad, Acting Director of FDS, Dato' Mohammad Ridza Awang, Deputy Director-General of Forest Department Peninsular Malaysia, Mr Mohammad Junaidi Bin Mohidin, Sarikei Resident, Mr Peter Ling, and Dr Peter Kho.

Before the function ended, the Deputy Chief Minister and all invited guests were given a guided tour to the mini exhibition booths, followed by a tree planting ceremony, and releasing of the pigeons. Other activities of the day included a blood donation drive and charity sales of local products.

The IDF 2018 celebration was also an opportunity for forestry agencies and STA to foster a closer and positive rapport through a number of friendly sports tournaments. The inter-agency games including badminton, bowling, blowpipe, futsal, and golf were organised throughout the month of March. The results of each tournament are as follows:

Tournament	Date of Event	Organiser	Venue	Winner
Badminton	17-18 March 2018	HTSB	Thumb's Up Badminton Academy, Sibu	1. STA
				2. HTSB
				3. STIDC
Bowling	21 March 2018	STIDC	Megalanes Emart, Kuching	1. STIDC
				2. FDS
				3. MUDeNR
Futsal	24 March 2018	FDS	Arena Sukan, Kuching	1. STIDC(M), HTSB(W)
				2. FDS(M), FDS(W)
				3. MUDeNR(M), STIDC(W)
Blowpipe	25 March 2018	SFC	SFC Office, Kuching	1. FDS
				2. SFC
				3. HTSB
Golf	25 March 2018	STA	Kelab Golf Sarawak, Kuching	1. STIDC
				2. FDS
				3. STA

Tahun 2018 menandakan satu lagi sambutan IDF peringkat negeri yang tidak dapat dilupakan untuk Sarawak. Bertemakan “Hutan dan Bandar Lestari”, yang memberi penekanan terhadap menjadikan bandar-bandar lebih hijau, sihat dan mesra, majlis perasmian tahun ini telah dilangsungkan pada 31 Mac 2018 di Sekolah Kebangsaan (SK) Abang Haji Matahir, Sarikei.

Timbalan Ketua Menteri Sarawak Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan yang juga Menteri Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli II merangkap Menteri Pembangunan Perindustrian dan Usahawan dalam ucapan pembukaannya berkata bahawa Kerajaan Negeri mengakui nilai dan kepentingan hutan serta peranannya yang pelbagai. Menurutnya, komitmen Kerajaan dalam menguruskan hutan secara menyeluruh diterjemahkan melalui pelaksanaan dan penguatkuasaan pelbagai strategi.

Sebagai sebahagian daripada tanggungjawab sosial korporat (CSR) STA, Encik Peter Ling menyumbangkan 3 set computer yang diserahkan oleh Timbalan Ketua Menteri kepada Encik Hishammudin bin Gimin, guru besar SK Abang Haji Matahir. Semasa majlis itu, sejumlah 110 buah sekolah rendah dan 12 buah sekolah menengah di Daerah Sarikei, Meradong, Julau dan Pakan turut menerima bantuan kewangan daripada projek kerjasama antara Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (STIDC) dan STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM), sebuah anak syarikat STA.

Sambutan IDF 2018 turut berperanan sebagai landasan bagi agensi-agensi perhutanan dan STA untuk memupuk hubungan rapat dan positif melalui beberapa pertandingan sukan antara agensi yang diadakan sepanjang bulan Mac seperti badminton, bowling, sumpit, futsal, dan golf.



Recipients of computers and financial contributions

砂拉越于今年再一次举办值得纪念的国际森林日 (IDF) 州级庆典。以“森林和可持续城市”为主题，其重点是让我们一起把城市打造成更绿色化、更健康、更快乐的居住场所。庆典的开幕仪式于2018年3月31日假泗里街阿邦哈志马达赫国民小学举行。

砂拉越副首席部长拿督阿玛阿旺登雅 (译音)，同时也是砂第二城市发展天然资源部长兼工业与企业部发展部长致词时表示，州政府重视森林的价值和重要性全面及其各种功能。他称，政府执行多项策略计划以更全面的管理森林。为履行企业社会责任，本会由理事会成员林光训先生代表赠送三台电脑给主办庆典的学校，并由副首席部长递交与该校校长希沙姆丁吉明先生(译音)。在会上，本会属下子公司STA Mutual有限公司连同砂木材工业发展机构(STIDC) 透过项目合作，捐助资金给坐落泗里街、马拉端、如楼以及巴干县的110小学和12所中学。

2018年国际森林日庆典期间举办的一系列友谊体育赛事也促进了本会和多个林业机构建立友好及密切关系的机会。其三月份进行的比赛项目包括羽毛球、保龄球、吹管、室内足球和高尔夫。



Futsal tournament group photo



Golf tournament group photo



Badminton Champion: STA Team represented by Ta Ann Group



Bowling tournament group photo

Meeting on Industry 4.0 Awareness Programme for the Timber Industry

A meeting on Industry 4.0 Awareness Programme for the Timber Industry was organised by the Ministry of Industrial and Entrepreneur Development Sarawak (MIED Sarawak) on 14 March 2018 at Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. The Meeting was attended by representatives from Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources (MUDeNR), Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFCBSB), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), University Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA). The Meeting was chaired by Mr Suria Bin Bujang, Principal Assistant Secretary of MIED Sarawak.

The objectives of the Meeting were to encourage the timber industry to adopt Industry 4.0 and establish ways to increase the export of timber from Sarawak.

Mr Suria informed the Meeting that the timber industry is moving towards automation systems with minimal input from human operators, by utilising cyber-physical systems such as machines and robotics which is in line with the Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR4) strategy.

The Meeting saw active participation from members, discussing the latest technologies that can ensure the value-added timber products meet international standards and penetrate more overseas markets. In addition, the Meeting acknowledged the importance of R&D for timber industry. Taiwan was highlighted as one of the countries with the strongest R&D and Mr Suria hoped that industry players can learn from them. The Meeting also discussed the possibility of setting up a centre to monitor and test timber products against international standards before granting approval to industry players to mass produce these items for export. However, industry players are faced with problems such as limited resources and funds for R&D and hoped that the Government can assist them, in terms of coming out with favourable policies and funds.

The Meeting emphasised the importance of sustainability and forest conservation and at the same time improving the chain supply management of timber industry through the utilisation of the latest technology in line with Industry 4.0.

The Meeting concluded that there is a need for collaboration between STA and MUDeNR in organising a series of roadshows on effective engagement and information on implementing Industry 4.0 in different regions of Sarawak.

由砂工业与企业发展部举办，一项关于木材工业醒觉计划4.0之会议于2018年3月14日假古晋自然资源部大厦举行。会议由该部首席助理秘书苏里亚（译音）先生主持。

举办该项会议宗旨为鼓励木材工业采纳相关领域的醒觉计划4.0及建设更多方式以增加砂木材出口。

苏里亚（译名）先生在会议上告知，透过利用网络物理系统如机械与机器人，使得木材工业得以迈向自动化系统，达至最低劳动力操作。这也与工业革命4.0策略（简称IR4）之目的平行。

会议总结砂拉越木材公会与砂城市发展与天然资源部有必要携手举办一系列有关有效资讯互动路演，以便在砂拉越不同地区落实该项4.0计划。

Satu mesyuarat mengenai Program Kesedaran Industri 4.0 untuk Industri Perkayuan telah dianjurkan oleh Kementerian Pembangunan Perindustrian dan Usahawan Sarawak (MIED Sarawak) pada 14 Mac 2018 di Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Encik Suria Bin Bujang, Ketua Penolong Setiausaha MIED Sarawak.

Objektif Mesyuarat adalah untuk menggalakkan industri perkayuan mengguna pakai Industri 4.0 dan mewujudkan pendekatan untuk meningkatkan eksport kayu dari Sarawak. Encik Suria memaklumkan bahawa industri perkayuan sedang bergerak ke arah sistem automasi dengan input minimum dari pengendali manusia, dengan menggunakan sistem siber-fizikal seperti mesin dan robotik sejajar dengan strategi Revolusi Perindustrian Keempat (IR4).

Mesyuarat menyimpulkan bahawa terdapat keperluan di antara STA dan MUDeNR untuk menganjurkan satu siri roadshow mengenai penglibatan dan maklumat pelaksanaan Industri 4.0 di Sarawak.

Meeting with Head of East Malaysia Region of Human Resources Development Fund

Officers from the STA Secretariat met with Ms Tinah Jerome, Head of East Malaysia Region of the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF) on 15 March 2018 at Wisma STA, Kuching to discuss how HRDF can facilitate STA members in their human capital development in terms of training, re-skilling and up-skilling as well as leadership development.

Ms Tinah briefed the Meeting on the HRDF initiatives; namely (1) 1Malaysia Outplacement Centre (1MOC), (2) Train and Replace Programme (T&R), (3) Graduates Enhancement Programme for Employability (GENERATE), (4) Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Up-Skilling Programme and Certification, (5) Value-added Programmes identified by the Sectorial Training Committees (STCs), and (6) Special Fund for Industrial Association Programme and Rural Accelerated Industrial Skill for Employment (RAISE) to address and facilitate human capital development.

Dr Peter Kho, General Manager of Sarawak Timber Association (STA) explained that there is a need to improve the human talent to increase the efficiency of the manufacturing process of timber products as the current rising costs in terms of minimum wage, raw material, limited resources, etc. have affected the industry. He said currently the employers in Malaysia do not have a structured training plan as training is conducted on an adhoc basis. Moreover, employers are reluctant to send employees for training as employees expect a pay rise after the training and if there is no increase in their salaries, they would resign and seek employment with other companies. When employers lost their staff after training, this will affect their productivity. Currently, there is also an acute shortage of skilled labour in the market. In addition, most training programmes conducted are not directly relevant to the forestry and timber industries.

Dr Peter Kho inquired about the status of the Regional Training Committee (RTC). He suggested RTC to look into three (3) aspects of forestry and timber industries; namely (a) manufacturing, (b) plantation and (c) forestry.

He also highlighted that STA members are unable to access to the training programme under 30% pool fund as most training programme are not relevant to the forestry and timber industries. He added that STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), a subsidiary company of STA, has been offering skills training development to STA members since 2004 as requested by the State Government. STAT worked together with Forest Industries Training & Education Council (FITEC), New Zealand to develop the Sarawak Modular Training Framework for the forestry and timber industries. Training in twelve (12) prescribed activities such as tree felling, log extraction, log loading, clear fell site preparation, mechanical site preparation, harvesting and etc are currently been offered.

Ms Tinah explained that the 30% pool fund is fully funded by HRDF for the industrial association programme. She informed the Meeting that other industries i.e. hotel and steel in Sarawak have already utilised the 30% pool fund but

not the forestry and timber industries. She requested STA to submit the training proposals together with the profile of the training providers who are registered with HRDF to her for consideration. She also encouraged STA members to register with HRDF to tap on the initiatives in training provided by HRDF. She further informed the Secretariat that if STA organises any events for its members, STA can invite HRDF to give a briefing on the 30% pool fund, initiatives and schemes.

Both parties agreed to work together to come out with a relevant training for the forestry and timber industries using the 30% pool fund.

砂拉越木材公会秘书处职员与东马区人事发展基金（简称HRDF）主要负责人蒂娜（译名）小姐于2018年3月15日假该会大厦讨论有关HRDF如何透过培训、技能再培训以及技能提升培训至领导能力发展，促进该会会员的人力资本开发。

砂拉越木材公会总经理许晋生博士解释说基于成本的提升，就最低薪、原材料、有限资源等而言，都在影响该项领域，因此有必要提高员工才能以提升木材产品生产过程的效率。

他也指出，由于大多数培训计划与林业和木材工业无关，该会会员无法享有30%的集合资金下的培训计划。

STA Secretariat bertemu dengan Cik Tinah Jerome, Ketua Dana Pembangunan Sumber Manusia (HRDF) Wilayah Malaysia Timur pada 15 Mac 2018 di Wisma STA, Kuching untuk membincangkan bagaimana HRDF dapat membantu ahli STA dalam pembangunan modal insan dari segi latihan, kemahiran semula dan peningkatan kemahiran serta pembangunan kepimpinan.

Dr Peter Kho, Pengurus Besar Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) menjelaskan bahawa terdapat keperluan untuk meningkatkan bakat manusia bagi meningkatkan kecekapan proses pembuatan produk kayu berikutan peningkatan kos semasa dari segi gaji minimum, bahan mentah, sumber terhad, dan sebagainya yang telah menjejaskan industri.

Beliau juga menekankan bahawa ahli STA tidak dapat mengakses program latihan di bawah 30% dana terkumpul kerana kebanyakan program latihan tidak berkaitan dengan industri perhutanan dan perkayuan.

Cik Tinah minta STA untuk mengemukakan cadangan latihan bersama profil penyedia latihan yang berdaftar dengan HRDF kepadanya untuk dipertimbangkan. Beliau turut menggalakkan ahli STA mendaftar dengan HRDF untuk menikmati inisiatif dalam latihan yang disediakan oleh HRDF.

Kedua-dua pihak bersetuju untuk bekerjasama bagi mewujudkan latihan yang berkaitan untuk industri perhutanan dan perkayuan dengan menggunakan 30% dana terkumpul.

STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 1/2018



Meeting in progress

The STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 1/2018 was convened on 6 March 2018 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Meeting was chaired by its Chairman, Mr Peter Ling Kwong Hung and attended by seven (7) Committee Members.

Members of the Committee were briefed on the progress of the research and development (R&D) projects funded by STA i.e. Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP) Discovery Research, Biofertiliser Formulation Research, *Falcataria moluccana* Research and Kelampayan Tissue Culture Research.

The Meeting then discussed the results of the studies/survey conducted in collaboration with State Forestry Agencies; namely weight to volume conversion factor studies for planted tree species, conventional drying study on *Acacia mangium* and planted logs production volume survey.

The Meeting also deliberated on issues/matters related to the forest plantation certification, the revision of the planted forest policy, the planted forest endorsement fees and transportation fees, etc.

人工造林小组在其主席林光训先生主持下于2018年3月6日假STA大厦召开本年度首次小组会议。

委员会成员获知目前由本会所资助的研究与开发项目的进展情况。会议随后讨论砂州林业机构合作的研究事项结果，同时也审议有关森林种植认证的相关课题事项、人工林政策的修订、人工林的执照费以及运输费。

Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Perladangan Hutan STA telah berlangsung pada 6 Mac 2018 di Wisma STA, Kuching dan dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusi Jawatankuasa, Encik Peter Ling Kwong Hung.

Dalam Mesyuarat tersebut, Ahli Jawatankuasa dimaklumkan tentang kemajuan projek penyelidikan dan pembangunan (R&D) yang dibiayai oleh STA. Mesyuarat turut membincangkan hasil kajian/tinjauan yang dijalankan dengan kerjasama Agensi-Agensi Perhutanan Negeri di samping isu/perkara berkaitan dengan pensijilan perladangan hutan, semakan dasar hutan tanam, yuran sokongan hutan tanam dan bayaran pengangkutan.