

# STA Review

Volume 200

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Monthly Magazine of the *Sarawak Timber Association*

May 2010



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PLANTED FORESTS  
WEEK AND EXHIBITION



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CONFERENCE



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## REGULAR FEATURES

Statistics

Rainfall



### COVER IMAGE:

Protected Tree Species in Sarawak

Family : Sonneratiaceae

Species : *Sonneratia alba* J. Sm.

Common Name : Perapat

Natural Habitat : Soil erosion control and food for wildlife such as proboscis monkeys and bats

# PLANTED FORESTS WEEK

## LAUNCHING OF PLANTED FORESTS WEEK AND EXHIBITION

The Planted Forests Week and Exhibition was launched by Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Planning and Resource Management, Director of Forests and Managing Director Sarawak Forestry Corporation on 10 May 2010 at Wisma STA.

The objective of the Planted Forests Week jointly organised by The Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA) is to create awareness among the general public on planted forests, why trees are planted, what species are used, research and development conducted and issues and challenges faced.

In his welcoming address, Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, Chairman of STA stressed the importance for the public to be aware of the objectives of planted forest. He explained that planted forests are not only about tree planting and economic dollars and cents. It involves interweaving of many facades pertinent to Sarawak's forest industry. It is also a show piece of the convergence of social, economic and environment at its best.

In his speech, Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh said that the importance of planted forests is even greater now and there is a need to rethink and look at planted forests value differently. According to a recent study by the FAO, two-thirds of potential industrial wood productions are available from planted forests. Hence, the contribution of planted forests has become increasingly critical to future wood supplies.

Datu Haji Len explained that the establishment of planted forests in Sarawak is a long-term strategy towards providing an alternative and steady source of wood material for the wood-based industries of Sarawak as forestry industries cannot depend solely on timber supply from the natural forests. Hence he urged and reminded the 42 Licence for Planted Forest (LPF) holders to achieve what the State Government has targeted, which is a total of one million hectares

of planted forests by 2020.

An exhibition from 10 to 26 May was also held in conjunction with the Planted Forests Week at Wisma STA. The exhibition showcased some of our commercial tree species found in Sarawak, various kinds of seed, common pests and diseases found in planted forest as well as timber products.

A STA Tea Talk entitled "Sarawak Planted Forests" was held on 8 May 2010 at Wisma STA. Participants from the Talk were given the opportunity to visit the Indigenous Tree Plantation Semenggoh Forest Reserve (Landeh), Kuching on 22 May 2010.

Lastly, a "Planted Forests Technical Workshop" was held on 25 May 2010 at Wisma STA.

Minggu dan Pameran Ladang Hutan dan Pameran telah dirasmikan oleh Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, Timbalan Setiausaha Tetap, Kementerian Perancangan dan Pengurusan Sumber, Pengarah Jabatan Hutan dan Pengarah Urusan Sarawak Forestry Corporation pada 10 Mei 2010 di Wisma STA.

Objektif Minggu Ladang Hutan yang dianjurkan bersama antara Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) dan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) adalah untuk mewujudkan kesedaran kepada orang awam tentang ladang hutan, tujuan menanam pokok, spesis pokok yang ditanam, penyelidikan dan pembangunan yang dijalankan serta isu-isu dan cabaran-cabaran yang dihadapi.



Photo: Datu Len Talif Salleh, Director of Forests officiating the Planted Forests Week



Photo: Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, Chairman of STA presenting a memento to Datu Len Talif Salleh



Photo: Tour of Exhibition

本會连同砂拉越林业机构 (SFC) 协办砂拉越种植林周与展览会。这由规划与资源管理部, 常务副秘书长兼砂森林局局长兼砂拉越林业机构, 执行董事, 拿督达立沙里 (译音) 于2010年5月10日在古晋, STA大厦主持开幕推展。

种植林周旨于让公众了解有关种植林, 其种植原因, 种类, 研究与发展及所面对的问题事项。与此同时, 也提供本会会员们最新的研究结果资料。

# PLANTED FORESTS WEEK

## STA TEA TALK ON “SARAWAK PLANTED FORESTS”

The Sarawak Timber Association (STA) organised a Tea Talk on “Sarawak Planted Forests” on 8 May 2010 at Wisma STA, Kuching. This talk attracted a crowd of 100 participants.

There were three speakers namely, Haji Mohd Kassim Wasli, Assistant Director (Planted Forests Division) Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Mr Julaihi Abdullah, Research Manager, Applied Forests Science and Industry Development (AFSID), Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), and Mr Elbson Marajan, Certification and Quality Assurance Manager, Sarawak Planted Forest Sdn Bhd (SPF), Bintulu, Sarawak.

Haji Mohd Kassim Wasli and Mr Julaihi Abdullah touched on policy and legal aspects of planted forests in the State of Sarawak, including tree species and areas planted, scope of Research and Development programmes carried out by SFC in support of the establishment of planted forests such as site-species matching, tree improvement, pest and disease, seed technology, wood processing, wood properties and utilisation. Mr Elbson Marajan discussed the activities of SPF, a government-owned company responsible for the planted forests project in Samarakan, Bintulu, Sarawak.

Mr Julaihi Abdullah, mentioned that Kelampayan could be harvested between 8 and 15 years, depending on the end-use of the timber. If it is used for producing veneer, it could be harvested after 8 years, whereas for solid timber, it could be harvested between age 13 and 15. He highlighted that indigenous species such as Engkabang jantong, Kapur bukit and Belian may take 30 to 200 years before it can be harvested. Therefore, many developers of planted forests choose to plant *Acacia* as it can be harvested after 8 to 10 years. However, he commented that it is important to know what the end use, growth rate / rotation, demand and the potential return from a species before planting.

Haji Mohd Kassim Haji Wasli encouraged the private sector to consider planted forests as their alternative source for timber. An annual production comparison was made between planted forests and the natural forests. The annual production of planted forests is between 25 - 30 million m<sup>3</sup>, whereas for natural forests, it is between 11 - 12 million m<sup>3</sup>. He added that projects on planted forests had helped to increase the job market from 100,000 to 300,000 job opportunities.



Photo: Haji Mohd Kassim Wasli



Photo: Mr Julaihi Abdullah



Photo: Mr Elbson Marajan

本会于2010年5月8日在古晋，STA大厦举办砂拉越种植林座谈会。

3位讲员分别是砂拉越森林局，种植林部，助理局长，哈兹莫哈末卡辛瓦西里（译音），砂拉越林业机构 (SFC)，设立森林科学应用与工业发展单位，研究经理，朱莱西先生（译音）和民都鲁，砂拉越种植林有限公司 (SPF)，认证和品质保证经理，尔孙先生（译音）。

哈兹莫哈末卡辛瓦西里和朱莱西先生解说有关砂州种植林的政策和法规及SFC在协助种植林设立的研究与发展计划。哈兹莫哈末卡辛瓦西里鼓励私人界以种植林替代木材来源。

尔孙先生介绍负责民都鲁，沙马拉干种植林计划的一间政府全资公司，既SPF的各项任务。



Photo : A section of the participants at the Talk



# PLANTED FORESTS WEEK

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak STA telah menganjurkan sesi "Tea Talk" pada 8 Mei 2010, di Wisma STA, Kuching. Topik yang dibincangkan adalah mengenai "Ladang Hutan Sarawak".

Terdapat tiga orang penceramah iaitu, Haji Mohd Kassim Wasli, Penolong Pengarah (Bahagian Perladangan Hutan) Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS), Encik Julaihi Abdullah, Pengurus Penyelidikan, AFSID, Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), dan Encik Elbson Marajan, Pengurus Pensijilan dan Jaminan Kualiti, Sarawak Planted Forest Sdn Bhd (SPF), Bintulu, Sarawak.

Haji Mohd Kassim Wasli dan Encik Julaihi Abdullah membentangkan tentang dasar dan aspek-aspek yang mengesahkan ladang hutan Kerajaan Negeri Sarawak, dan skop program Penyelidikan dan Pembangunan yang dijalankan oleh SFC demi membantu penubuhan ladang hutan. Encik Elbson Marajan pula membentangkan tentang aktiviti Sarawak Planted Forests Sdn Bhd di mana ia merupakan syarikat yang dimiliki oleh Kerajaan bertanggungjawab untuk projek perladangan hutan di Samarakan, Bintulu, Sarawak.

Haji Mohd Kassim Haji Wasli menggalakkan sektor swasta untuk mempertimbangkan ladang hutan sebagai sumber alternatif bagi industri kayu kayan.

## VISIT TO THE INDIGENOUS TREE PLANTATION SEMENGGOH FOREST RESERVE (LANDEH)

Participants from the recently held STA Tea Talk were given the opportunity to visit the Indigenous Tree Plantation Semenggoh Forest Reserve (Lankeh), Kuching on 22 May 2010. 18 people took part in this visit.

The objective of this field visit was to educate and create awareness to participants on the purpose of tree plantation. During the visit, the group was briefed by staff from Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) on the nature of the trees found in the area eg. Belian and Engkabang.

The group also visited the Lankeh Kelampayan Plantation Trial/ Provenance, where they inspected the actual layout of a tree plantation. They were briefed on the planting experience for the Kelampayan trees ie. choice of sites, common pests and diseases and methods to ensure survival of the planted seedlings.

The trip ended with a visit to SFC nursery, Sarawak Forest Tree Seedbank Centre.



Para peserta yang menghadiri "STA Tea Talk" telah diberi peluang untuk melawat Perladangan Pokok Tempatan di Hutan Simpan Semenggoh (Lankeh), Kuching pada 22 May 2010.

Objektif lawatan ini adalah untuk memberikan pendidikan dan mewujudkan kesedaran kepada orang awam tentang tujuan perladangan hutan.

出席本会于5月所举办的STA讲座会参与者受邀请于2010年5月22日参观实蒙谷森林保护区（蓝埕）本土林木种植林。

此活动旨于教育和提升大众对种植林木的意向。

# PLANTED FORESTS WEEK

## PLANTED FORESTS TECHNICAL WORKSHOP

The Sarawak Timber Association (STA) and the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) jointly organised Planted Forests Technical Workshop in conjunction with Planted Forests Week on 25 May 2010 at Wisma STA, Kuching.

The Workshop served as a platform to share the findings and outcomes from the research and development in the planted forest sector in Sarawak. It also allows holders of Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) to share their progress, problems and current issues in their respective areas.

The Workshop was attended by more than 100 participants, comprising STA Members and representatives from various government agencies and universities.

The papers presented were results of works carried out by researchers from SFC, Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) and the industry on three major species, namely *Acacia mangium*, Engkabang jantung (*Shorea macrophylla*) and Kelampayan (*Neolamarckia cadamba*). The following are the papers presented in the Workshop:

1. *Planted forest sites and tree species*  
by Mr John Sabang, Sarawak Forestry Corporation
2. *Kelampayan seed handling and seedlings production*  
by Ms Sabrina Aslan Joe, Sarawak Forestry Corporation
3. *Vegetative propagation in planted forest establishment*  
by Ms Linna Chieng, Sarawak Forestry Corporation
4. *Kelampayan tree improvement programme*  
by Mr Phui Seng Loi, Sarawak Forestry Corporation
5. *An Overview of Engkabang Jantung in Sarawak*  
by Mr Ernest Chai, Tropical Evergreen Enterprise
6. *Planting and maintenance of Kelampayan in the field*  
by Ms Evelyn Jugi, Sarawak Forestry Corporation
7. *Wood properties and utilisation opportunities of selected plantation grown species in Malaysia*  
by Dr Tan Yu Eng, Forest Research Institute of Malaysia
8. *Common insect pests in planted forests*  
by Mr Marfaisal Marzuki, Sarawak Forestry Corporation
9. *Common diseases in forest nurseries and plantations*  
by Ms Norhayati Ahmed Sajali, Sarawak Forestry Corporation
10. *Wood Properties and Utilization of Some Plantation Species Compared to Light Red Meranti*  
by Dr Alik Duju, Sarawak Forestry Corporation
11. *Drying of Acacia Mangium*  
by Dr Gan K.S., Forest Research Institute of Malaysia

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

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) dan Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) telah bersama-sama menganjurkan Bengkel Teknikal Ladang Hutan bersempena Minggu Ladang Hutan pada 25 Mei 2010 di Wisma STA, Kuching.

Objektif Bengkel Teknikal ini berfungsi sebagai satu platform untuk berkongsi hasil/ keputusan dari penyelidikan dan pembangunan yang dijalankan yang berkaitan dengan sector perladangan hutan di Sarawak. Ia juga membolehkan pemegang LPF untuk berkongsi pencapaian, masalah dan isu-isu terkini dalam kawasan mereka.

Kertas kerja yang dibentangkan adalah hasil kerja yang dilakukan dan penemuan oleh penyelidik dari SFC, Institut Penyelidikan Perhutanan Malaysia (FRIM) dan industri berkaitan tentang tiga spesis utama iaitu *Acacia mangium*, Engkabang jantung dan Kelampayan.

本会与砂拉越林业机构 (SFC) 于造林周在5月25日假STA大厦联合举办种植林技术研讨会。

技术研讨会旨在作为一个共享有关本州种植林研究成果和进展的平台。与此同时, LPF持有者也分享各LPF的进展, 问题和当今课题。

所发表的研究论文为SFC研究员, 马来西亚森林研究机构 (FRIM) 与工业界对三大树种, 即 *Acacia mangium*, Engkabang jantung 和 Kelampayan 所进行的研究成果。



Photo : Workshop in progress



# HILL LOGGING CATEGORY AND COMMITTEE MEETING

Members of the STA Hill Logging Category met on 3 May 2010 at Wisma STA Kuching to elect Committee Members for the year 2010 and 2011. The following are the newly-elected Committee Members:

CHAIRMAN:	Mr Law Kiu Kiong
VICE CHAIRMAN:	Mr Lau Buong Tung
SECRETARY:	Mr Wong Ing Yung
TREASURER:	Mr Desmond Cheng
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	Datuk Wong Kie Nai Mr Law Lee Thian Mr Ling Chii Huo Mr Yong Nyan Siong Mr Kenny Law Hui Kong

The Meeting agreed to appoint a representative from the following Group of Member Companies (subject to their acceptance):

- (1) Ta Ann Group;
- (2) Rimbunan Hijau Group; and
- (3) Shin Yang Group.

After the election, Mr Law Kiu Kiong the Committee Chairman presided over a meeting of the committee. The Chairman reiterated that the objective of Hill Logging Committee is to safeguard the interests of the Hill Logging Members, in particular issues related to operations, training of workers, image of companies, safety at work place and avoidance of work hazards. These are to be carried out with full cooperation and support of the Forest Department Sarawak, Sarawak Forestry Corporation and timber-related agencies.

Among the issues discussed were DF Circular No 1/2010 on Increase of Security Deposit, Request for Assistance to conduct Research on Hand-Arm Vibration Syndrome among the Foresters in Sarawak, Export Requirements (Treatment) for Logs and Timber Products, and Implementation of Section 54B of the Forests Ordinance (Sarawak Cap 126).

The Meeting made proposals on issues pertaining to the Increase of Security Deposit. These will be raised at the next STA Council Meeting for endorsement and submission to the Director of Forests for consideration. The Meeting concluded that the proposed research on hand-arm vibration syndrome amongst chainsaw operators in Sarawak which will be carried out by a Senior Lecturer from University of Malaya, could be beneficial to participating Member Companies in terms of their corporate social responsibility to their workers.

The Meeting was informed that all logs and timber products exported to most countries, including India, China and Vietnam must be fumigated. In Malaysia, fumigators must be registered with the Department of Agriculture (DoA) under the Malaysian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme (MAFAS) to carry out the fumigation. A phytosanitary certificate for the consignment can then be issued, stating the dosage of methyl bromide used in the treatment of the logs. Some STA Member Companies faced difficulties in obtaining a phytosanitary certificate. In view of the urgency of the problem, STA and DoA had arranged a dialogue in Tanahmas Hotel Sibul on 14 May 2010 to address this issue.



Ahli Kategori Pembalakan Bukit telah bermesyuarat pada 3 Mei 2010 di Wisma STA Kuching untuk memilih Ahli Jawatankuasa yang baru bagi tahun 2010 dan 2011.

Encik Law Kiu Kiong Pengerusi Jawatankuasa menekankan bahawa objektif Jawatankuasa ini adalah untuk melindungi kepentingan Ahli-ahli Pembalakan Bukit, terutamanya isu-isu yang berkaitan dengan operasi, latihan pekerja, imej syarikat, keselamatan di tempat kerja dan mencegah pekerjaan yang membahayakan.

Mesyuarat telah membuat cadangan tentang isu-isu berkaitan Peningkatan Deposit Jaminan. Isu ini akan diketengahkan pada Mesyuarat Majlis STA yang akan datang untuk tindakan pengesahan dan penyerahan kepada Pengarah Hutan untuk dipertimbangkan. Mesyuarat juga telah membuat kesimpulan bahawa penyelidikan yang dicadangkan tentang sindrom lengan tangan bergetar di kalangan operator mesin bergergaji di Sarawak yang dijalankan oleh Pensyarah Kanan Universiti Malaya, mampu memberikan manfaat kepada Syarikat Ahli yang terlibat dalam soal tanggungjawab sosial korporat kepada pekerja-pekerja mereka.

STA丘陵采伐小组会员于2010年5月3日在古晋, STA大厦召开会议并推选该小组2010-2011年委员。

小组主席, 劉久健先生强调丘陵采伐小组委员会旨于维护该小组会员利益, 特别关注于运作, 员工训练, 公司形象, 职场安全和工作危险事项。

会议在增加保证金课题上达成决议。这项决议将在来届的理事会会议中商讨通过, 随后将提交予砂拉越森林局局长以供考虑。会议也决定让马大高级讲师对砂州链锯操作者进行手臂振动综合研究, 这将有利于参与的会员公司, 特别是在企业社会责任方面。

# PANEL PRODUCTS CATEGORY AND COMMITTEE MEETING

The STA Panel Products Category Meeting was held on 6 May 2010 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The following are the Committee Members and their alternates elected for the year 2010 and 2011:-

CHAIRMAN:	Mr Wong Kai Song	Alternate: Mr Ling Chiong Sing
VICE CHAIRMAN:	Mr Stephen Lau	Alternate: Mr Kenny Law
SECRETARY:	Dato Wong Kuo Hea	Alternate: Mr Robert Yong
TREASURER:	Mr Eric Kang	

The Meeting unanimously agreed that the representative and alternate for 2008 and 2009 from each of the fourteen groups are to be maintained.

GROUP	MEMBER	ALTERNATE
WTK	Mr Patrick Wong	Ms Chan Ai Hua
Jaya Tiasa	Dato Sri Tiong Chiong Hoo	Ms Lily Soon
Subur Tiasa	Dato' Tiong Ing	Mr Paul Wong
Daiken	Mr Kazuyoshi Katsumata	Mr Anthony Chin
Hwa Sen	Mr John Lau	Mr Peter Lau
Moh Sing Hiong	Mr Paul Moa	Mr Isaac Moh
Manuply	Mr Su Wen Chang	Mr Lai Sin Chiat
Sanyan	Mr Hitoshi Miyamoto	Mr Wong Suk Chiew
Sarawak Company	Mr Hii King Chiong	Mr Hii Yu Sing
Rajang	Mr Sui Uh Hing	-

After the election, the members proceeded with the 22nd Committee Meeting.

Among some of the issues discussed and shared during the meeting were the current log situations in Sarawak, market reports, plywood prices, EN636 Standard on Natural durability of plywood, Anti-Dumping Investigation by Korea Trade Commission (KTC) on Malaysian Plywood, amendment to the US Lacey Act and Sustainable Forest Management and Legality Statement issued by Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC).

The meeting received a report on the participation at the Dubai International Wood & Wood Products Show (Dubai WoodShow) from 13 - 15 April 2010. Copies of the STA Panel Products Directory (April 2010 Edition), were distributed during the Meeting.

Mesyuarat bagi Kategori Produk Panel telah diadakan pada 6 Mei 2010 di Wisma STA Kuching.

Mesyuarat sebulat suara bersetuju supaya wakil dan ahli silih ganti bagi tahun 2008 dan 2009 dari setiap empat belas kumpulan dikekalkan.

Selepas pemilihan, ahli-ahli meneruskan Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa ke-22 yang telah dipengerusikan oleh Encik Wong Kai Song.



Photo: Meeting in progress

STA合板/人造板小组会议于2010年5月6日在古晋，STA大厦召开。

会议无异议通过保持现有的14间公司集团的正副代表。小组主席，黄凯孙先生在推选小组委员后，主持召开第22届小组委员会会议。



# FOREST PLANTATION CATEGORY AND COMMITTEE MEETING

The STA Forest Plantation Category met for the first time in the new term 2010-2011 under the chairmanship of Mr Peter Ling Kwong Hung on 3 May 2010. The main agenda was to elect the Committee Members.

The STA Forest Plantation Committee Members are as follows:

CHAIRMAN:	Mr Peter Ling Kwong Hung
VICE CHAIRMAN:	Mr Fred Liew Vun Fong
SECRETARY:	Mdm Teresa Tang Hie Lee
TREASURER:	Vacant, to be appointed later

The meeting unanimously agreed to appoint Mr Simon Chew Kuok Sing, Jaya Tiasa Forest Plantation Sdn Bhd, Dr Ir. Gary Tan, Shin Yang Forestry Sdn Bhd and Datuk Haji Abdul Hamed bin Haji Sepawi, Borneo Tree Seeds and Seedlings Supplies Sdn Bhd as Committee Members.

The meeting then proceeded with the Committee Meeting. The Committee Members discussed at length on the format of the document "Application for Harvesting of Timber from Trees Planted under Licence for Planted Forests, LPF/XXXX", as required under Rule 12 of the Forests (Planted Forests) Rules, 1997. The Secretariat is to write to Forest Department Sarawak to counter suggest the format of the document.

The meeting concluded that a Working Committee on tax incentive for forest plantation development should be formed to look into reviewing the income tax (deduction for investment in a approved forest plantation project) Rules 2009 Income Tax (Exemption)(No10) 2009 and prepare a submission to Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities to appeal for the consideration of financial assistance and tax incentives for existing forest developers.



Photo: From Left Mr Fred Liew Vun Fong, Mr Ling Ee Khai, Mr Peter Ling Kwong Hung, Mr Nicholas Ting and Mdm Teresa Tang Hie Lee

Ahli Kategori Perladangan Hutan STA telah bertemu buat kali pertama untuk terma baru 2010-2011 dibawah pimpinan Encik Peter Ling Kwong Hung pada 3 May 2010. Agenda utama adalah untuk memilih ahli Jawatankuasa untuk Kategori ini. Mesyuarat kemudian diteruskan dengan Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa.

STA人工造林小组会员在其2010-2011年新届小组主席，林光訓先生主持下于2010年5月3日召开首次会议。会议主要目的是推选该小组委员。新任委员随后召开委员会会议。



Photo: Meeting in progress

# THE ASEM CONFERENCE ON “FORESTS, FOREST GOVERNANCE AND FOREST PRODUCTS TRADE: SCENARIOS AND CHALLENGES FOR EUROPE AND ASIA”

The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Conference on “Forests, Forest Governance and Forest Products Trade: Scenarios and Challenges for Europe and Asia” was held on 4 – 5 May 2010 at the Raffles Hotel Le Royal in Cambodia. This Conference was co-organised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the European Union together with the European Forest Institute (EFI) – FLEGT Asia Support Programme.

The Conference was attended by 145 participants comprising representatives of the European Commission, policy-makers, academics and representatives of the civil society and the private sector from China, Finland, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippine and Thailand, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States, Vietnam and Cambodia. Most of the participants were sponsored by EFI.

His Excellency the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Cambodia Dr Chan Sarun declared open the Conference. Prior to the official speech and the opening, welcome remarks were delivered by Mr Chheng Kim Sun, Government Delegation in charge of Forestry Administration under the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Cambodia; and Mr Timo Makela, Director of Sustainable Development and Integration Directorate General Environment under the European Commission.

The main focus of the 2-day Conference was forest trade and forest governance, the impact of these on forest cover, on deforestation and forest degradation. The Conference was divided into the following sessions with discussions after each session:

## Session 1: Forests and Forest Governance

- 1.1 Plenary (3 presentations)
  - 1.1.1 *Macro economic trends impacting the forest sector in Asia by Jeremy Broadhead (FAO)*
  - 1.1.2 *Climate change, forest conversion and illegal logging: drivers for change in the forest sector by Eang Savet (Cambodia)*
  - 1.1.3 *Promoting Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) through the ASEAN Regional Knowledge Network on FLEG in ASEAN Member States by Thang Hooi Chiew (ASEAN)*
- 1.2 Case Studies (3 presentations)
  - 1.2.1 *Plantation expansion plans in Indonesia: implications for land acquisition policies by Elena Petkova (CIFOR)*
  - 1.2.2 *Implications and challenges of decentralized China's collective forest management by Liu Jinlong (Renmin University of China)*
  - 1.2.3 *Decentralization processes and stakeholder involvement by Heng Sokh (National Forest Programme, Cambodia)*

## Session 2: Forests, Governance and Mitigation of Climate Change (4 presentations)

- 2.1 *REDD implementation in Cambodia by Keo Omaliss (Cambodia)*
- 2.2 *REDD Readiness activities in Asia by Tim Boyle (UNREDD)*
- 2.3 *The Mekong approach to REDD by Pham Manh Cuong (Vietnam)*
- 2.4 *Readiness activities in Indonesia by Retno Maryani (Indonesia)*

## Session 3: Forests and the Market for Timber Products

- 3.1 Policy Frame (8 presentations)
  - 3.1.1 *The EU FLEGT Action Plan by Giuliana Torta (EC)*
  - 3.1.2 *Measure on timber traceability in China by Wu Sheng Fu (Chinese Academy of Forestry)*
  - 3.1.3 *Japan's experience to promote Goho wood and challenge for combating illegal logging by Toshiyuki Akagi (MAFF, Japan)*
  - 3.1.4 *Global trends in public procurements by Amha bin Buang (ITTO)*
  - 3.1.5 *FLEGT VPA experience from Indonesia by Hari Budhi*
  - 3.1.6 *FLEGT VPA experience from Vietnam by Tran Kim Long*
  - 3.1.7 *FLEGT VPA experience from Malaysia by Dato Freezailah*
  - 3.1.8 *Enhancing intra- and extra- ASEAN trade and competitiveness of ASEAN forest products by Htain Lin (ASEC)*
- 3.2 Regional and international timber flow
  - 3.2.1 *Presentation of FLEGT Regional Programme by Vincent van den Berk (FLEGT Asia Programme)*
  - 3.2.2 *China-Mekong trade flows, market trends by Kerstin Canby (Forest Trends)*
  - 3.2.3 *South East Asia trade flows, market trends by Chen Hin Keong (TRAFFIC International)*
  - 3.2.4 *Certification and timber consumption by Maharaj Muthoo (Roman forum)*

## Session 4: Industry responses to changes

- 4.1 *Private sector's perspectives by Chu Chang Lu (Cambodia)*
- 4.2 *The success of forest industry clusters: the Malaysian experience by Jegatheswaran Ratnasingam (University Malaya)*
- 4.3 *SWITCH Asia and promotion of responsible wood processing and trading in Vietnam by Ngo Sy Hoai (SWITCH Asia – VIFORES)*
- 4.4 *Establishing a sustainable production system for rattan products in Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Vietnam by Thibault Ledecq (SWITCH Asia)*



# FOREST GOVERNANCE AND FOREST PRODUCTS CHALLENGES FOR EUROPE AND ASIA



Photo: One for the album

Speakers discussed:

- challenges to sustainable forest management in their respective countries and regions
- a wide range of on-going issues encompassing forest governance, enforcement, and trade
- topics including the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Voluntary Partnership Agreements between the EU and timber exporting countries
- the implementation of Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) which requires effective law enforcement and good governance system. This synergy aims to phase out illegal logging and related trade as well as contribute to halt deforestation and forest degradation

The FLEGT Asia Regional Programme (FLEGT Asia) was launched on 4 May 2010. The goal of FLEGT Asia is to promote good forest governance, which will contribute to poverty eradication and sustainable management of natural resources in Asia, through direct support of the implementation of the EU's FLEGT Action Plan. FLEGT Asia is hosted and managed by the European Forest Institute (EFI) and it will work closely with the EC Delegations in the region to provide support to the policy dialogues between the EC and the individual countries. This Programme is funded by the European Union. Co-funding is provided by the United Kingdom, Finland and Germany.

Under the FLEGT Asia Regional Programme, Forest Trends and Traffic International have been commissioned to undertake the Scoping Baseline Study. The Scoping Baseline Study aims to provide an overview and collate data relating to trade, industry and forest governance within each country, supplemented with a regional dimension. The objective of gathering baseline information is to provide the basis for the Programme to move forward.

Forest Trends will undertake the scoping baseline information for Mekong Region (Vietnam, Cambodia, Lao, Thailand, Myanmar), China, India and Hong Kong while Traffic International will undertake the scoping baseline information for South East Asia Region (Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Philippines) and Timor.

Mesyuarat Persidangan Asia-Eropah (ASEM) tentang “Hutan, Pemerintahan Hutan dan Perdagangan Produk Hutan : Senario dan Cabaran untuk Eropah dan Asia” telah diadakan pada 4 - 5 Mei 2010 di Hotel Raffles Le Royal di Kemboja. Persidangan ini telah dianjurkan bersama-sama Kementerian Pertanian, Perhutanan dan Perikanan Negara Kemboja dan Kesatuan Eropah bersama-sama Institut Perhutanan Eropah (EFI) - FLEGT Program Sokongan Asia.

Fokus utama Persidangan dua hari ini adalah perdagangan hutan dan pemerintahan hutan, kesannya terhadap liputan hutan, pembasmian hutan dan pemerosotan hutan.

Program Kawasan Asia FLEGT (FLEGT Asia) juga telah dilancarkan pada 4 Mei 2010. Matlamat FLEGT Asia adalah untuk menggalakkan pentadbiran hutan yang baik, yang akan menyumbang untuk membasmi kemiskinan dan pengurusan sumber semula jadi yang dapat dikekalkan di Asia, melalui sokongan langsung pelaksanaan Pelan Tindakan EU FLEGT

亚欧会议 (ASEM) 之 “森林, 森林管理和森林产品贸易: 欧洲和亚洲的局态与挑战” 研讨会于2010年5月4日至5日假柬埔寨, 皇家莱佛士酒店举行。此会议是由柬埔寨农业, 林业和渔业部, 欧盟及欧洲森林研究所 (EFI) - FLEGT 亚洲支援计划共同举办。

该研讨会主要集中在森林贸易和管理以及其对森林覆盖率, 毁林和森林退化的影响。

研讨会首日也见证FLEGT亚洲区域计划 (FLEGT Asia) 的推展礼。FLEGT Asia目的在于促进良好的森林治理, 并经欧盟FLEGT行动计划的直接实施支持将消除亚洲区域的贫穷和自然资源持续管理。

# CONSULTATIVE SESSION BY MPIC

The Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC), represented by its International Relations Division, organised a consultative session with timber organisations and government agencies on 27 May 2010 at Menara PGRM in Kuala Lumpur.

About twenty participants attended the consultative session, including representatives from Timber Associations from Peninsular Malaysia, Sarawak Timber Association and Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation. Two speakers from the International Relations Division of MPIC, Mr. Saravana Kumar Kumaravasagam, Principal Assistant Secretary I, and Mr. Tan Beng Swee, Principal Assistant Secretary II, updated the participants briefly on the Malaysia's Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) Involvement.

Recognising the international trade is an important contributor to Malaysia's economic growth and development, Malaysia is directing its trade policy towards creating a more liberalised and fair global trading environment. The objectives of Malaysia in negotiating FTAs are to:

- » seek better market access by addressing tariffs and non-tariff measures;
  - » further facilitate and promote trade, investment and economic development;
  - » enhance the competitiveness of Malaysian exporters;
- and
- » build capacity in specific targeted areas through technical cooperation and collaboration.

To date, Malaysia has concluded and is implementing three bilateral FTAs and five regional FTAs. The Malaysia – India Trade Negotiating Committee currently held its fourth Meeting on 24 – 27 May 2010 in New Delhi, India and is expected to conclude the modality for Trade in Goods for Malaysia – India Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (MICECA).

A summary of the Malaysia's FTA involvement is highlighted in the table below.

REGIONAL FTAS	BILATERAL FTAS
<b>Concluded</b>	<b>Concluded</b>
ASEAN – China	Malaysia – Japan
ASEAN – Korea	Malaysia – Pakistan
ASEAN – Japan	Malaysia – New Zealand
ASEAN – India	<b>Under Negotiation</b>
ASEAN – Australia – New Zealand	Malaysia – India
<b>Stalled</b>	Malaysia – Australia
ASEAN – EU	Malaysia – Chile
	<b>To be Negotiated</b>
	Malaysia – US ( <b>stalled</b> , replaced with TPP Agreement*)
	Malaysia – EU
	Malaysia – Turkey

*\*Background information on Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement – Countries involved in the TPP are Malaysia, USA, Chile, Peru, New Zealand, Australia, Singapore, Brunei and Vietnam. No negotiations have been held yet and the modality is yet to be discussed.*

Malaysia will continue to explore with Australia on the proposed package under Trade in Goods (TIG). The next round of negotiation meeting with Australia is expected to be in August 2010. Participants noted that the Malaysia – EU FTA is still in the very initial stage of negotiation. Currently, Malaysia and EU are preparing the Scoping Paper to guide the FTA.

Participants at the consultative session were asked to give feedback to MPIC in terms of issues, problems, challenges, and expected benefits when exporting timber and timber products to Australia, the EU and the USA. Representatives of MPIC will compile all feedback received and table them in the respective negotiation meetings for consideration.

Participants felt it is important for the industry players to understand the details of FTAs that had been concluded, under negotiation and to be negotiated between Malaysia and selected countries in order for them to fully benefit from these FTAs as well as prepare them for such commitment. They will able to participate and contribute in terms of trade issues more effectively.

The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) will conduct a road-show to update the industry players in the three regions of Malaysia in June/July 2010.

种植与原产业部旗下国际关系组于2010年5月27日假吉隆坡，Menara PGRM 举办与木材相关组织及政府机构协商会。

马来西亚在谈判自由贸易协定的目标是：

- » 寻求更好的市场销路以解决关税和非关税措施；
- » 进一步推动和促进贸易，投资与经济发展；
- » 提高马来西亚出口商的竞争力；

及

- » 通过技术合作建立具体目标方面的能力。

MPIC要求参与者在协商会中对出口木材和木材产品至澳大利亚，欧盟和美国的预期效益，问题及挑战方面的课题给予回应。MPIC代表将汇集所有收到的回应，之后将提交予各相关谈判会议上供考虑。



Kementerian Perusahaan Perladangan dan Komoditi (KPPK) diwakili oleh Bahagian Perhubungan Antarabangnya, menganjurkan sesi rundingan dengan organisasi-organisasi kayu kayan dan agensi-agensi kerajaan pada 27 Mei 2010 di Menara PGRM di Kuala Lumpur.

Objektif Malaysia dalam rundingan FTA adalah:

- » mencari pasaran yang lebih baik dengan mengenakan cukai dan tanpa cukai.
- » memudahkan dan menggalakkan perdagangan, pelaburan dan pembangunan ekonomi;
- » meningkatkan daya saing pengeksporth Malaysia; dan
- » membina keupayaan dalam bidang yang khusus yang didasarkan melalui kerjasama teknikal dan kolaborasi.

Peserta-peserta di sesi perunding diminta untuk memberi maklum balas kepada MPIC dalam soal isu-isu, masalah-masalah, cabaran, dan faedah-faedah yang dijangkakan apabila mengeksport kayu dan produk kayu ke Australia, EU dan Amerika Syarikat. Wakil-wakil MPIC akan menyusun semua maklum balas menerima dan kemudian mengemukakan mereka dalam mesyuarat-mesyuarat rundingan masing-masing untuk pertimbangan.

## MITI CONSULTATIVE SESSION WITH INDUSTRY ON NEW LEVY MECHANISM

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) held a consultative session with Industry on the proposal by the Foreigners Management Lab on 26 May 2010 at its office in Kuala Lumpur. STA was invited to join this consultation session among with 55 participants from the private sectors throughout Malaysia.

The consultative session was chaired by Dato' Kamaruddin Ismail, the Deputy Secretary General (Industry) of MITI. He informed the participants of the Government decision to increase the levy for unskilled foreign workers on all sectors with effect from 1 January 2011 but the Government has not decided on how to implement this new levy mechanism, i.e. to determine the quantum of increase which the Government had proposed. Such increase shall vary from sector to sector depending on the percentage of foreigners employed compared with the total workforce and their skills.

Hence, the Government has changed its policy so that the levy imposed will be based on the percentage of foreign workers from the total employment rather than giving more consideration for the export-oriented company. According to this new policy, the employers will be required to pay higher levy for higher percentage of foreign workers in the workforce.

The purpose of the consultative session was to receive comments and feedback from participants on how the Government should implement such decision and at what rates. Participants at the session expressed their concerns on the Government decision because they foresee this decision will further burden the industry rather than addressing the real issues, i.e. to better manage illegal foreign workers who overstay.

Kementerian Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri (MITI) telah mengadakan sesi rundingan bersama industri tentang cadangan Pengurusan Makmal warga asing pada 26 Mei 2010 di pejabatnya di Kuala Lumpur.

Sesi rundingan ini dipengerusikan oleh Dato' Kamaruddin Ismail, Timbalan Setiausaha Besar (Industri) MITI. Beliau memberitahu peserta-peserta keputusan Kerajaan untuk meningkatkan levi untuk pekerja asing tidak mahir pada semua sektor berkuatkuasa dari 1 Januari 2011 tetapi Kerajaan belum lagi memutuskan tentang bagaimana untuk melaksanakan mekanisme levi baru ini.

Tujuan sesi rundingan ialah untuk menerima komen-komen dan maklum balas daripada peserta-peserta tentang bagaimana Kerajaan perlu melaksanakan keputusan sedemikian dan pada kadar berapa. Peserta-peserta turut menyatakan kebimbangan mereka terhadap keputusan Kerajaan. Mereka berpendapat keputusan tersebut akan membebankan industri daripada menangani isu sebenar, iaitu menyelesaikan masalah pekerja asing yang tinggal lebih masa.

国际贸易及工业部 (MITI) 于2010年5月26日在其吉隆坡办事处与工业界进行外劳管理研究协商会。

该协商会由MITI副秘书长 (工业), 拿督卡马鲁丁伊斯马仪 (译音) 主持。政府决定从2011年1月1日起对各领域非技术外劳增加外劳税。但政府还未为这新征收落实任何执行方法。

因此, 该协商会旨于听取参与者的意见就政府应如何执行这新征收与税率。参与者对政府的决策表示关注。他们深信政府的决策将为工业带来负担而非解决核心问题, 即妥善处理逾期久留的非法外劳。

# 9<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON A PAN ASEAN TIMBER CERTIFICATION INITIATIVE

The 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group on a Pan ASEAN Timber Certification Initiative was hosted by Cambodia and represented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries from 6 – 8 May 2010 at Sunway Hotel in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

ASEAN Member States which attend the Meeting were Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines and Thailand.

Dato' Freezailah B. C. Yeom, the Executive Chairman of the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC), delivered opening remarks on behalf of Malaysia, the Lead Country for the Working Group on a Pan ASEAN Timber Certification Initiative.

Mr Chheng Kim Sun, Delegate of the Royal Government in charge as Head of the Forestry Administration, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Cambodia, delivered the welcome remarks and declared open the Meeting.

Both Dato' Freezailah B. C. Yeom and Mr Chheng Kim Sun highlighted the significant achievements made by the Working Group at the last meeting from 8 – 9 April 2009 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei in reaching an agreement on two key documents namely the ASEAN Criteria and Indicators for Legality of Timber and the ASEAN Guidelines on Phased Approach to Forest Certification.

Considering the importance of their forests, the ASEAN Member States have committed to pursue Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) by making joint efforts to establish a framework for ASEAN forest management standards and individual Member States will establish own national forest management standards.

The Meeting was not able to finalise the draft ASEAN Chain of Custody (CoC) Guidelines for Legal Timber and Sustainable Timber but agreed that Member States be given time, ie. by 8 June 2010, to come back with their comments and inputs to Malaysia, the lead country, represented by MTCC. MTCC will then circulate the consolidated draft document to all Member States for finalisation and adoption by 8 July 2010 prior to the submission to the 13<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting to be held in the end of July 2010 in Philippines. However, the Meeting agreed these Guidelines should be treated only as a reference by Member States in developing their respective national standards for CoC for Legal Timber and Sustainable Timber.

The Meeting took note of the country reports and updates on the development of Criteria and indicators (C&I) for Legality of Timber, Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) or forest management certification as well as the

implementation of timber certification.

The Meeting noted that among the Member States, Malaysia and Indonesia, were quite advance in timber certification as they have established their own forest certification schemes, i.e. the MC&I and LEI. Malaysian scheme was endorsed by PEFC in 2009.

The Meeting received an update from the ASEAN Secretariat on the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Scorecard. The Meeting was informed that besides signing the ASEAN Charter at 13th Summit on 20 November 2007 in Singapore, ASEAN Leaders had also approved the AEC Blueprint as a roadmap for transforming ASEAN into a single market and production base, fully integrated into the global community by the year 2015.

The Meeting was informed that the capacity building for the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) initiative can generally be made through three sources as follows:

- Specific EU-FLEGT related projects or project components of broader economic cooperation with the EU;
- Bilateral support offered by EU Member States; and
- Support for certain activities by the EU-FLEGT Asia Regional Programme with a geographical focus on lower Mekong region.

The Meeting noted that under EU-FLEGT Asia Regional Programme a workshop/training proposal on the development of national timber legality standards for the Mekong region will be held in September/October 2010.

Representatives from Malaysia and Indonesia shared their experiences on the country preparation for negotiation with the EU on FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreement and on the impact of Lacey Act amendment and the regulatory procedures issued by the US since December 2008, in particular on timber trade.

On 8 May 2010, participants at the Meeting were taken on a visit to a plywood mill and a furniture showroom.

The 10th Meeting of the Working Group on a Pan ASEAN Timber Certification Initiative will be held in 2011 in Indonesia.



Mesyuarat ke-9 Jawatankuasa Kerja Inisiatif Pensijilan Perkayuan Pan ASEAN telah dihoskan oleh Kemboja dan diwakili oleh Kementerian Pertanian, Perhutanan dan Perikanan dari 6 - 8 Mei 2010 di Hotel Sunway di Phnom Penh, Kemboja.

Mesyuarat bersetuju Negara-negara anggota diberikan masa dari 8 Jun 2010 untuk kembali dan memberikan komen serta input kepada Malaysia, negara ketua, diwakili MTCC. MTCC kemudiannya akan mengedarkan draf dokumen bersepadu kepada semua Negara-negara Anggota untuk penyelesaian dan penerimaan pada 8 Julai 2010 sebelum penyerahan untuk Mesyuarat Pegawai Kanan ASEAN ke-13 yang akan diadakan pada pengujung bulan Julai 2010 di Filipina. Bagaimanapun, Mesyuarat bersetuju garis panduan ini hanya digunakan sebagai rujukan oleh setiap Negara-negara Anggota dalam membangunkan piawai kebangsaan masing-masing dalam CoC untuk kayu sah dan kayu mampan.

柬埔寨农业，林业和渔业部于2010年5月6日至8日假柬埔寨，金边双威酒店主办第9届泛东盟木材认证计划工作小组会议。

会议一致认为会员国必须给予更多的时间收集意见和资料并定于在2010年6月8日向马来西亚代表，即马来西亚木材认证理事会 (MTCC) 汇报。MTCC将在2010年7月8日之前综合和分发草案文件予所有会员国作最后审定和通过以便提交给将于2010年7月末在菲律宾举行的第13届东盟高级官员会议。然而，会议同意这些准则应仅被看作是其会员国在制定各国合法木材产销监管链系标准和持续木材的参考。

马来西亚和印尼代表在欧盟FLEGT自愿合作伙伴协议谈判准备，莱西法修正案的影响和美国自2008年12月发出监管程序特别是在木材贸易的影响方面彼此交流经验。

## MALAYSIAN EMPLOYER FEDERATION (MEF) EAST MALAYSIA REGIONAL OFFICE MEETING

The Malaysian Employer Federation (MEF) East Malaysia Regional Office Meeting was held on 6 May 2010 at DUBS Pejabat Commercial Centre, Kuching, attended by 25 members. MEF invited Datu Robert Lian, Director of Immigration Sarawak and his assistants to brief the Meeting on the guidelines and the application procedures for "foreign workers and expatriate workers". Datu Robert Lian explained to the Meeting, the State's policy on the recruitment of foreign workers, namely, the levy payment is to be binded by the employer and the ratio for recruiting foreign workers i.e. one foreign worker to one local worker (1:1 ratio).

Representatives from Sarawak Timber Association (STA) opined at the Meeting that the State's policy on the 1:1 ratio is not viable for the downstream operations of the timber industry due to the unique nature of these operations. Most locals are not willing to undertake the jobs. Based on the current 1:1 ratio, STA's members will not have sufficient workers for their factory operations. Participants took the opportunity to raise issues on providing bank guarantee for the same purpose, to both the Immigration Department and the Labour Department as this is redundant. It is also tedious in getting "check-out memo". Thus the Immigration Department was urged to look into this matter.

Representatives from STA urged MEF to take the lead in its capacity as employer representative and compile the common issues that members are facing and bring them up to the State Government on behalf of its members.

Mesyuarat Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) Pejabat Serantau Malaysia Timur telah diadakan pada 6 Mei 2010 di Pejabat Pusat Komersial DUBS, Kuching. MEF menjemput Datu Robert Lian, Pengarah Imigresen Sarawak dan pembantu-pembantu beliau untuk memberikan taklimat tentang garis panduan dan prosedur permohonan untuk "pekerja asing dan pekerja-pekerja ekspatriat". Datu Robert Lian menerangkan polisi Kerajaan tentang pengambilan pekerja asing, di mana pembayaran levi haruslah dibayar oleh majikan dan nisbah untuk mengambil buruh asing ialah satu orang pekerja asing kepada satu pekerja tempatan (nisbah 1:1)

Wakil-wakil dari STA menggesa MEF supaya mengetuai berdasarkan keupayaannya sebagai wakil majikan dan mengumpul isu-isu yang dihadapi oleh ahli-ahli MEF dan membawa isu ini kepada Kerajaan Negeri bagi pihak ahli-ahlinya.

马来西亚雇主联盟 (MEF) 东马区域会议于2010年5月6日在古晋，DUBS商业中心办事处 召开。MEF邀请砂拉越移民局局长，拿督罗柏连 (译音) 和其助手讲解有关聘请外籍劳工和外国专业人士的指导方针和申请程序。拿督随后解释，砂州聘请外劳的政策即外劳税费该由雇主缴付和招聘比率是1对1，即1外劳对1本地劳工。

本会代表敦促MEF代表雇主率先收集会员所面对的共同课题予提交给州政府。

# ASEAN FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES (AFAS) WORKSHOP

The Malaysian International Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Coalition of Service Industries Malaysia jointly organised a workshop on ASEAN Framework Agreement for Services (AFAS) on 12 May 2010 at Grand Continental Hotel, Kuching. This Workshop was supported by Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) and Malaysian Industrial Development Authority (MIDA).

AFAS was signed on 15 December 1995 by the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) during the 5th ASEAN Summit in Bangkok, Thailand in recognition of the growing importance of trade in services. This is a joint effort between ASEAN countries to work towards free flow of trade in services within the region.

AFAS objective is to reduce and eventually eliminate restrictions to trade in services in order to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of ASEAN service suppliers.

AFAS provides the broad guidelines for ASEAN Member States to progressively improve market access and ensure equal national treatment for service suppliers among ASEAN countries. All AFAS rules are consistent with international rules for trade in services as provided by the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) of the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

Under AFAS commitments, the need for professionals to travel for contract negotiations, troubleshooting, maintenance, training, supervision and monitoring is also facilitated for Malaysian citizens. As a result, it provides convenience for the cross-border movement of business

persons, and helps to facilitate trade and investment between Malaysia and its ASEAN neighbours.

Participants at the Workshop were divided into groups to complete case studies prepared by the trainer.

The following are the 9 papers presented in the Workshop:

1. *Dissecting the ASEAN Framework for Services (AFAS)*
2. *How Trade Liberalisation Works in the Services Sector*
3. *Analysing AFAS Benefits for Various Services Sectors*
4. *ATA Carnet System*
5. *Identifying Areas Excluded from AFAS Liberalisation*
6. *Making Use of AFAS Mutual Recognition Agreements*
7. *Implications of AFAS for Intra-ASEAN Labour Deployment*
8. *AFAS Dispute Settlement Channels and Procedures*
9. *Accessing to AFAS Resources and Technical Assistance*

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

Dewan Perdagangan dan Industri Antarabangsa Malaysia (MICCI) dan Gabungan Industri Perkhidmatan Malaysia (CSIM), bersama-sama menganjurkan bengkel mengenai Perjanjian Rangka Kerja Bidang Perkhidmatan (AFAS) pada 12 Mei 2010 di Hotel Grand Continental, Kuching.

Objektif AFAS adalah untuk mengurangkan dan akhirnya menghapuskan sekatan-sekatan dalam perdagangan perkhidmatan bagi meningkatkan kecekapan dan daya saing pembekal-pembekal perkhidmatan ASEAN.

AFAS menyediakan garis panduan yang meluas untuk Negara Anggota ASEAN untuk secara progresif meningkatkan akses pasaran dan memastikan layanan nasional yang setara untuk pembekal-pembekal perkhidmatan di kalangan negara-negara ASEAN.

马来西亚国际商会及工业和服务业联盟于2010年5月12日在古晋，大洲酒店连同举办东盟服务框架协议协定 (AFAS) 研讨会。

AFAS的目的是减少并最终消除服务贸易限制以提高东盟服务供应商的效率和竞争力。

AFAS为东盟成员国提供逐步改善市场销路的广泛指导方针和确保服务供应商在东盟国家之间享有平等待遇。



# UPDATE ON EXPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR LOGS AND TIMBER PRODUCTS

About 80 representatives from Member Companies of STA, STA Secretariat, Fumigation Companies and staff from Plant Protection and Quarantine branch, Department of Agriculture, Sarawak participated in a dialogue on export requirements for logs and timber products in Sibu on 14 May 2010. The Session was chaired by Mr Michael Ranges Nyangob, the Assistant Director of Plant Protection and Quarantine, Department of Agriculture, Sarawak. Mr Ranges informed participants that the objective the dialogue was to find a solution on the issue of export requirements for logs and timber products, in particular those exported from Sarawak. The Department of Agriculture in Malaysia is made up of three regions; Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak, each responsible for matters relating to Plant Protection and Quarantine at the regional level.

He told participants that, for the convenience of Member Companies of STA, all phytosanitary certificates will now be issued in the town or city based on the location of the registered office of either the Company or branch of the Company.

Member Companies of STA should inform their importers of Sarawak logs, that fumigators registered with the Department of Agriculture, Sarawak are not in a position at the moment to fumigate logs in current site conditions to a level which meets the requirements of the Malaysian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme (MAFAS). An appeal will be made to the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) to reconsider these export requirements. Fumigators also wanted the issue of litigation and liability resolved should fumigation fail to meet the standard outlined in MAFAS.

In the meantime until a solution is found, Plant Protection and Quarantine Branch will continue to issue phytosanitary certificates without specifying that fumigation has been done but companies exporting logs are urged to check and verify with their importers that consignments with these certificates are acceptable at the receiving ports.

The dialogue also agreed that a meeting be convened between fumigators and Member Companies of STA to decide and agree on where, when and how fumigation can be done in the flow of logs for export as these have effect on the costs and the logistics of flow of logs in case fumigation is required.

The dialogue also called for a delegation, comprising representatives from Member Companies of STA, STA Secretariat, STIDC, SFC and Fumigation Companies, to be led by Mr Michael Ranges Nyangob to meet with officers from the NPPO, Kuala Lumpur to further discuss and resolve these issues for the benefit of all parties.



*Photo: About 80 representatives from Member Companies of STA, STA Secretariat, Fumigation Companies and staff from Plant Protection and Quarantine branch, Department of Agriculture, Sarawak*



*Photo: Dialogue in progress*

Seramai 80 wakil-wakil dari Syarikat Ahli STA, Urusetia STA, Syarikat Fumigasi dan pekerja dari Cawangan Perlindungan Tumbuhan dan Kuarantin, Sarawak telah mengadakan dialog tentang keperluan eksport balak dan produk kayu kayan di Sibu pada 14 Mei 2010. Sesi ini dipengerusikan oleh Encik Michael Ranges, Nyangob Timbalan Pengarah Perlindungan Tumbuhan dan Kuarantin, Jabatan Pertanian, Sarawak.

Syarikat yang mengeksport balak digesa supaya memeriksa dan mendapatkan pengesahan daripada pengimport bahawa konsainan dan sijil-sijil Fitosanitasi adalah diterima oleh pelabuhan-pelabuhan penerima.

大约80位本会会员公司代表，秘书处职员，熏蒸公司及砂州农业局属下植物保护和检疫部于2010年5月14日假诗巫进行有关原木和木产品出口规定对话会。砂州农业局属下植物保护和检疫部副部长，迈克兰哲先生（译音）强调对话会的主要目的是在原木和木产品出口规定课题上达到双赢方案，尤其是关系到砂州出口。

原木出口公司促请向进口商询查接收港口是否能接受无指定熏蒸程序的植物检疫证书。

# MTIB TRAINING PROGRAMMES

The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) is offering the following training programmes in 2010. The programmes will be conducted at two venues, namely the Wood Industry Skills Development Centre (WISDEC) located in Kompleks Perabot Olak Lempit, Banting, Selangor and WISDEC Sabah in Kota Kinabalu.

## WISDEC Banting

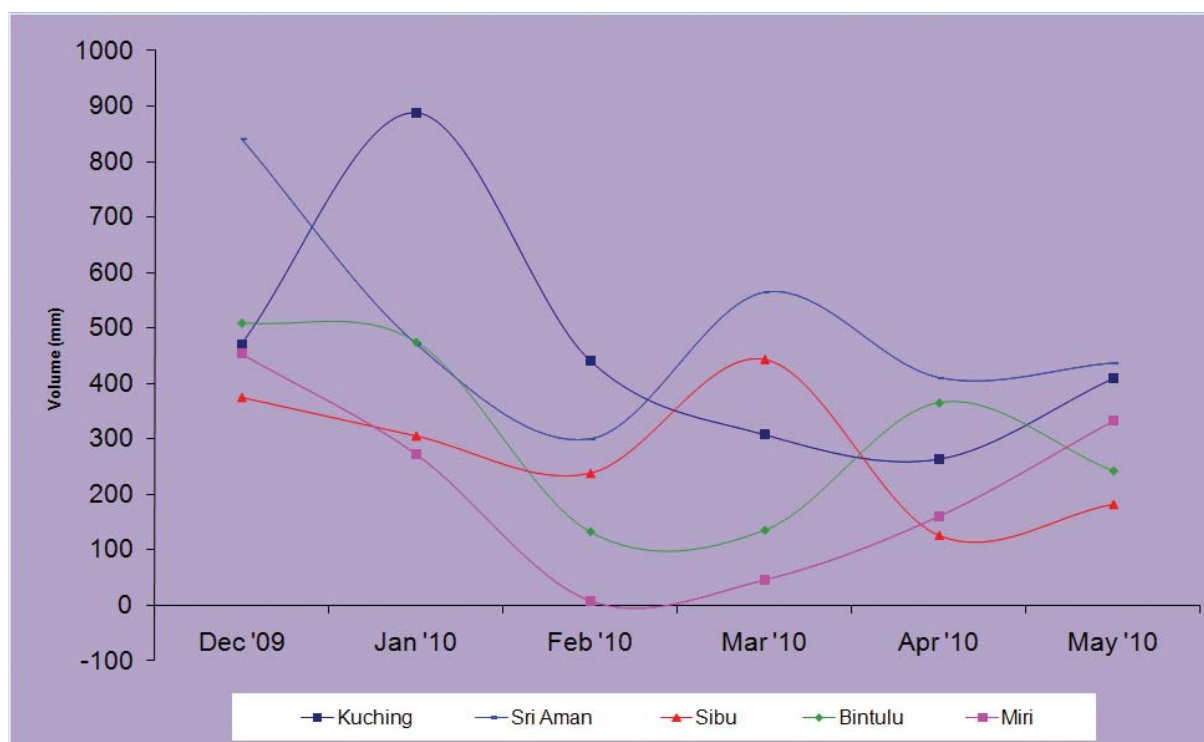
COURSE	DURATION	DATE	FEE (RM)
Interior Design (Furniture)	5 days	5 – 9 July	875
Financial Management (Budgeting for Better Planning and Management)	2 days	12—13 July	350
Interior Decorator	5 days	19 – 23 July	875
Furniture Making (Sofa)	4 days	5 – 8 Oct	700
Forest Plantation	3 days	26 – 28 Oct	525
Material Planning and Inventory Control	2 days	9 – 10 Nov	350

## WISDEC Sabah

COURSE	DURATION	DATE	FEE (RM)
Technology and Operation of Wood Working Machine – CNC Router	4 days	6 – 9 July	700
Interior Design (Furniture)	4 days	12 – 15 July	700
Factory Operation Management	4 days	3 – 6 August	700
Product Costing and Budgeting	3 days	25 – 27 Oct	525
Furniture Making (Sofa)	5 days	23 – 26 Nov	875

For further information, please visit MTIB's website at [www.mtib.gov.my](http://www.mtib.gov.my)

## RAINFALL : DECEMBER '09 - MAY '10 KADAR HUJAN BULANAN



Source : Malaysian Meteorological Services