



May 2015

For Private Circulation Only

Issue 203

# STA dan Rakan2

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

While every effort has been made to ensure that the information printed in this news bulletin is accurate and correct, neither STA nor its Officers, Members or Employees shall assume any responsibilities or be made liable for any inaccuracies and errors printed; nor is such publication unless otherwise stated necessarily the views of STA, its Officers, Members or Employees.

The news bulletin is circulated to designated readers free of charge.

## Editorial Board

**Chief Editor:**  
Dr Peter C.S. Kho

**Editor/Secretary:**  
Jaime Chan

**Members:**  
Law Hui Chau  
Salfa Kamazura

## Roadshow to Introduce the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2

The Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) organised a roadshow to introduce the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators (MC&I) Forest Plantation.v2 on 19 May 2015 at Imperial Hotel, Kuching. The Roadshow was attended by approximately seventy (70) representatives from Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), SARAWAK FORESTRY, Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) holders, STA Secretariat, Government agencies and private sectors.

Two (2) presentations were made during the Roadshow. The first presentation was on the roles of MTCC, which was delivered by Ms Siti Syaliza Mustapha, Manager (Forest Management), MTCC. She also briefed the participants of the Roadshow on the development and operation of the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS) as well as the recognition of MTCS by other countries such as Australia, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Japan, Holland, the United Kingdom and etc on timber procurement policies.

In the second presentation, Ms Siti Syaliza, Mr Cheah Chi Ern, Senior Executive (Forest Management), and Mr Melvin Ku Kin Kin, Executive (Forest Management) briefed the participants of the Roadshow on the requirements of MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 and highlighted the changes made to the standard.

MC&I(Forest Plantations) was adopted for use under the MTCS in 2009. In accordance with the Rules on Standard Setting Process for

Development of Timber Certification Standards, a standard is required to be reviewed at intervals that do not exceed a five-year period. In this connection, the review process of MC&I(Forest Plantations) was started in January 2013 involving four (4) Public Consultations, three (3) Regional Consultations and 4 Meetings of the Standard Review Committee (SRC). The MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 was then finalised and adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SRC on 30 October 2014 to replace the MC&I(Forest Plantations). This new version also has been adopted by MTCC Board of Trustees (BOT) at the 61<sup>st</sup> Meeting on 19 December 2014 and is currently in the preparation stage for the endorsement by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) Council.

The revised standard maintained the overall structure of the previous version, with the inclusion of three (3) additional Indicators and deletion of one (1) Indicator. In total, there are 10 Principles, 55 Criteria and 108 Indicators in the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2. During the transition period, all certificate holders are requested to apply for the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 to replace the MC&I(Forest Plantations) starting from 1 July 2015. Certificate holders who comply with the requirements of MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 will be awarded a new certificate and this will be valid until the end of its current certification cycle. Any deviation from MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 as

(Continue on page 4)

## DF Circular No 6/2015 – The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015

Sarawak Timber Association (STA) has received DF Circular No 6/2015 from the Forest Department Sarawak with the Ref DF.681.76 (VII) – 07 dated 22 May 2015 written to SARAWAK FORESTRY and copied to STA.

The Circular stated that the State Council Meeting has approved The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015 on 15 January 2015 and the Rules shall come into force on 1 July 2015.

In this connection, Forest Department Sarawak

shall enforce the Rules from 4 January 2016 onwards giving a grace period of six (6) months to all licensees to have all workmen trained in all prescribed activities as indicated in First Schedule of the Rules. The training courses are:-

- a) Certificate in Tree Felling
- b) Certificate in Log Extraction
- c) Certificate in Log Loading
- d) Certificate in Clear-fell Site Preparation
- e) Certificate in Mechanical Site Preparation
- f) Others

\* \* \* \* \*

## The Environmental Compliance Audit Training Course

The second session of the Environmental Compliance Audit Training Course was successfully conducted from 11 to 15 May 2015 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Course was organised by the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) and attended by sixteen (16) participants from STA member companies.

Mr Justine Jok Jau Emang, the Deputy Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak, NREB gave presentations on the Natural Resources and Environment Ordinance (NREO), 1993 and the Natural Resources and Environment (Prescribed Activities) Order, 1994. He also briefed the participants of the Course on the legal and institutional framework on environment in Sarawak.

Dr Chong Hock Guan of CPD Borneo Sdn Bhd was the main instructor for the Course. Participants of the Course were taught how to prepare a good audit report

as well as going through and explaining the Natural Resources and Environment (Audit) Rules, 2008. During the Course, he also identified the requirements and challenges of environmental compliance audit, using actual case studies as examples.

The closing remark was delivered by Mr Peter Sawal, the Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak, NREB. He said that the Course is important to transform the environmental management in Sarawak to become self-regulatory. The Course will allow the companies to manage their environment in a sound condition. The audit carried out by the qualified company's personnel will help the company to have a better understanding on the actual ground situations, thus allowing clearer communication with the upper management. This may be more difficult to achieve if the audit is outsourced.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Continued on page 3)

compared to MC&I(Forest Plantations) is considered as non-conformity according to ISO 17021.

the MTCC website at [www.mtcc.com.my](http://www.mtcc.com.my).

The revised standard can be downloaded from



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

A two-year moratorium in Indonesia that prohibits new logging permits for virgin or primary forests, which was signed in 2011 and extended in 2013 to 2015, has been extended by another two years. The scheme, which was developed with Norway's help, protects about 43 million hectares of land. The ban excludes crop plantations and infrastructure projects, creating a major loophole. Norway had committed to pay out as much as USD 1 billion (EUR 877.05 million) to the government for preserving rainforests based on the progress.

Source: 15 May 2015, Bangkok Post

## Did you also know that....

The Sabah Forestry Department received four Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certificates covering 155,440 hectares of managed forests in the Northern Gunung Rara Forest Reserve (61,330 hectares), Timimbang-Botitian Forest Reserves (13,610 hectares), Nuluhon Trusmadi and Sg. Kiluyu Forest Reserves (75,804 hectares). Also included was the Pin-Supu Forest Reserve (4,696 hectares). All forest reserves have been certified by FSC for five years. The Sabah Forestry Department now has around 504,000 hectares of FSC certified forests under its management.

*Source: Tropical Timber Market Report, Volume 19, Number 10*



## Field Visit to Forest Management Unit of Ta Ann Group in Kapit, Sarawak



*Photo: Group photo at the operation site*

Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) in collaboration with Ta Ann Group of Companies (Ta Ann) organised a field visit to a Forest Management Unit (FMU) operated and managed by Ta Ann from 11 to 14 May 2015 in Kapit, Sarawak.

The purpose of the field visit was to understand the concept of zebra - reduced impact logging (RIL) carried out by Ta Ann in the FMU. Zebra-RIL in the context of Ta Ann, is a combination of RIL using horizontal terraces/strips along the contour at pre-determined spacing intervals to reduce opening up of skid trails and enrichment planting of indigenous species, e.g. Kelampayan, at post-harvest to supplement the next rotation of harvest with sustainable volume as well as to achieve the Forest Management Certification (Natural Forests). A delegation comprising fourteen (14) representatives from the Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment (MRPE), FDS, SARAWAK FORESTRY, the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA) participated in this field visit, which was hosted by Ta Ann.

The field visit started off with a presentation by

the representatives of Ta Ann, explaining how Ta Ann implements the zebra-RIL in the FMU since the year 2013 and highlighted its concept including the comparison between zebra-RIL logging and conventional logging, based on seven (7) key aspects as well as the details of the post-harvest enrichment planting towards achieving sustainable management of this FMU dedicated to timber production.

Field visit to the operation sites allowed the participants to see and understand the actual implementation of the main steps of zebra-RIL, namely pre-harvest planning and resource assessment, pre-planning and ground alignment survey, construction of horizontal terraces/strips along contour, directional tree felling, excavator cable winching and post-harvest enrichment planting. The participants of the field visit were also briefed on the basis of growth and yield estimated for Kelampayan under the enrichment planting on zebra logging terraces.

At the closing dinner, participants of the field visit had the opportunity to have an open and frank dialogue with Datuk Amar Haji Abdul Hamed bin Haji Sepawi, the Executive Chairman of Ta Ann and Dato Wong Kuo Hea, the Group Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of Ta Ann on some of the challenges that Ta Ann may need to overcome when implementing zebra-RIL system as well as some recommendations on way forward in managing their FMU in order for Ta Ann to achieve the Forest Management Certification (Natural Forests).

The participants of the field visit also praised Ta Ann for putting in such a significant effort to implement RIL to advance the management of their FMUs sustainably.





### **Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak Sarawak Timber Association**

11 Floor, Wisma STA, 26, Jalan Datuk Abang Abdul Rahim, 93450 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.  
Telephone: ++(60 82) 332 222 Facsimile: ++(60 82) 487 888, 487 999  
E-mail: sta@sta.org.my Website: www.sta.org.my

## **Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (*Sustainable Tropical Forest Management/Sustainable Tropical Plantation Management*) – Forest Management Planning**

The "Forest Management Planning" subject of the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (*Sustainable Tropical Forest Management/Sustainable Tropical Plantation Management*) course was conducted from 18 to 24 May 2015 at Wisma STA, Kuching.

This subject was delivered by Professor Hugh Bigsby from Lincoln University, Christchurch, New Zealand and was attended by twenty (20) students. Two (2) invited guest speakers were also present to share their knowledge and experiences as part of the subject. The guest speakers were Encik Hamden Mohammad and Ms Josephine Wong, both from Forest Department Sarawak (FDS).

The main purpose of this subject was to provide an overview of the role of planning and harvesting in sustainable forestry which covers both theory and practices related to planning as well as carrying out sustainable logging in Sarawak.

Topics covered in this subject include:

- (1) Harvest planning overview
- (2) Pre-harvest inventory
- (3) Global Positioning System (GPS)
- (4) Assessment of standing trees
- (5) Topographic maps and satellite imagery
- (6) Remote sensing practical
- (7) Geographic Information System (GIS)
- (8) Forest planning requirement in Sarawak
- (9) Developing planning maps
- (10) GIS mapping

The students were taught on measuring and inventory techniques for tropical forests i.e. computation of lengths, areas and volumes, plan and execute pre-harvesting forest inventory, usage of maps, GIS and remote sensing to execute resource assessment and the requirements to prepare plans for submission to FDS.

The next subject "Plantation Silviculture" will be delivered from 4 to 10 July 2015 at Samarakan Training Centre, Bintulu.