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

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FIRST MEETING OF STANDARDS REVIEW **COMMITTEE: REVIEW OF MC&I(2002)**



Malaysian

Picture (above & right): deliberating on the Standards

Criteria and Indicators for

The

Malaysian

Certification

Malaysian

Certification

SRC The

feedbacks a n d experiences gained through its application in the field. It is anticipated that the whole review o f process the MC&I(2002) will take 16 months (starting from April 2009 and ending in July 2010).

The Standards Review Committee (SRC) will be the main body responsible for this review and developing revised standard. STA represents the Sarawak economic chamber in this Committee. The first SRC Meeting was held from 29 to 30 October 2009 in Kuala Lumpur. The meeting was attended by representatives nominated bv their respective stakeholder groups i.e. the social, environmental economic interest groups, and the relevant government agencies from the three regions of Malaysia i.e. Sabah, Sarawak and Peninsular Malaysia. The MTCC management served as the Secretariat for the SRC.

The SRC deliberated on the comments received from the First Public Comment on the MC&I(2002), as well as from other sources, i.e. the PEFC endorsement of the MTCS, the MTCC-Hamburg project, as well as consideration of the ILO Core Conventions by PEFC.

A meeting will be held in December 2009 in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah as a continuation to this Review session tο finish deliberation on the proposed amendments to the Standards.

Forest Management Certification [MC&I(2002)] which is the standard used for forest management certification under the Timber Scheme (MTCS), operated by the Timber Council (MTCC) since October 2005, was due for its first review in 2009. review is in line with international practices that the certification standard used is to be reviewed at least every five year s to ensure continuous improvement. The MC&I(2002) had gone through a 60-day public comment period from 1 April to 31 May 2009 as part of the first review process to further refine and improve the MC&I(2002), based on the

REGIONAL FORUM ON: ENHANCING FOREST ECOSYSTEMS CONNECTIVITY AND CORRIDORS WITHIN THE HEART OF BORNEO IN SABAH

Did you know that...

Global warming potential (GWP) expresses a gas's heat trapping power relative to carbon dioxide over a particular time period (this table uses the common 100-year frame). A methane molecule, for example, has 25 times the warming potential of a carbon dioxide molecule over a 100-year period, and some gases are hundreds or thousands of times more powerful. However, carbon dioxide is a more stable molecule and lasts longer in the atmosphere than most of the other greenhouse gases, and is also emitted in far greater quantities.

> Source: Climate Change Reference Guide 2009

The Sabah Forestry Department hosted the Regional Forum οn "Enhancing Forest Ecosystems Connectivity and Corridors within the Heart of Borneo in Sabah" on 26 to 27 October 2009 in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. The forum attended by than 300 more participants comprising embassies, relevant government departments, Non-Government Organisations, private international sector, media, consultants and relevant government officials from Kalimantan, was officiated by the Chief Minister of Sabah, Datuk Seri Panglima Musa Haji Aman.

his openina In remarks, the Chief Minister reiterated the Government's Sabah commitment in conserving the natural habitat of the flora and fauna. However, assistance is needed by the Government's effort in implementing and promoting forest and conservation he urged the private sector NGOs and to assist through funding and financing these works. He also acknowledged the contribution the various parties who have started to finance some of the conservation programmes in Sabah.

The Sabah Director of Forestry, Datuk Sam Mannan in his speech, referred to the many

programmes o f conservation that are currently being carried out in Sabah. He added that the forum was a reflection the Department's growing partnership with NGOs. local and international. scientists. oil palm industry. corporations and Royal Society to attain good governance. He said that the Department does not have a monopoly over ideas or over talent or resources and welcomes who those can contribute. He said that there should be more of such collaborations. He gave an example of the orang utan conservation Ulu area o f Segama-Malua which is 70% financed by the private sector, the oil palm industry, WWF, entrepreneurs and other NGOs for the first ten-year planning period.

The objectives of this Regional Forum were to provide a platform for relevant stakeholders to highlight and discuss:

- The 'concept' and requirement of forest connectivity and corridors in connection with the conservation of wildlife, flora and fauna;
- The status of the various initiatives on enhancing forest connectivity or corridors; and

The way forward to

advance their implementation.

The forum was divided into three sessions where 16 papers were presented. The following are the titles of the papers presented.

Session 1: Policy & Concept

Paper 1: The SAFE
Project - Stability of
Altered Forest
Ecosystems by Dr. Rob
Ewers. The Royal Society
SE Asia Rainforest
Research Programme

Paper 2: Enhancing the Connectivity of Forest Ecosystems i n Multiple-Use Landscapes: The Value of Corridors for Wildlife Conservation by Dr. Marc Acrenaz, Director o f the Kinabatangan Orang Utan Conservation Project (KOCP)/ HUTAN Group

Paper 3: Impacts of RSPO Certification on HCVFs & Conservation by Mr. Darrel Webber, Vice President 1 of RSPO

Paper 4: Forest Ecosystems Connectivity and Corridors: From the Plant Perspective by Dr. Lillian Chua Swee Lian, Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM)

Session 2: Forest Connectivity or

(Continue to page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Corridors Initiatives

Paper 5: Sabah's
Permanent Forest Estate
- The History &
Management of a
Priceless Resource by
Dr. Robert Ong, Senior
Reseacher of Sabah
Forestry Department

Paper 6: Enhancing Forest Ecosystems Connectivity & Corridors within the Heart of Borneo in Sabah: Role of Yayasan Sabah as an **SFMLA** Holder by Charles Garcia, Manager of Forest Rehabilitation Plantation (Luasong), Sabah Foundation

Paper 7: Management of Wildlife Sanctuaries by Mr. Augustine Tuuga, Deputy Director I of the Sabah Wildlife Department

Paper 8: Management of State Parks within the HoB Area by Dr. Jamili Nais, Deputy Director of Sabah Parks Paper 9: Ecological Corridors: Safe Passages for the Perpetuity of Floral & Faunal Populations in the HoB by Dr. Arun Venkataraman of WWF-Malaysia

Paper 10: MPOWCF: Oil Palm Funds for Conservation by Dr. Yew Foong Kheong, Senior Researcher of Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC)

Paper 11: Bornean Biodiversity & Ecosyst ems Conservation Programme Phase II (BBEC II) and the Conservation Governance of Sabah by Mr. Motohiro Hasegawa, Chief Advisor of JICA BBEC Phase II

Paper 12: Corridors Initiatives Towards Enhancing Forest Ecosystems Connectivity Within the HoB by Mr. Cyril Pinso, CEO of Borneo Conservation Trust

Session 3: The Way Forward on Enhancing

Forest Connectivity & Corridors

Paper 13: Funding Opportunities & Technical Assistance to Promote Sustainable Forest Management & Biodiversity Conservation in Borneo by Asian Development Bank and UNDP

Paper 14: Building Local to Global Partnerships, Through Mutually Transformative Processes by Ms. Cynthia Ong, Executive Director of Land Empowerment Animals People (LEAP)

Paper 15: Bringing the Private Sector On-Board by Ms. Maree Candish of NewForests

Paper 16: Financing
Solution for HoB
Initiative by Mr. Dorjee
Sun on Carbon
Conservation

Note: Papers presented are available upon request from the STA Secretariat.

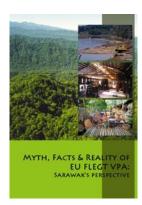
Did you also know that...

Malaysia is currently ranked as the 19th major investor in China and the 2nd largest among ASEAN countries after Singapore.
Malaysia's investment in China from January - June 2009 was US\$229 million (RM824.4 million) compared to US\$139 million (RM446.2 million) in 2008.

Source: MITI Weekly Bulletin, Volume 59

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MYTH, FACTS & REALITY OF EU FLEGT VPA: SARAWAK'S PERSPECTIVE



After a year of extensive study on Malaysia - European Union Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade, Voluntary Partnership Agreement (Malaysia-EU FLEGT VPA), STA has published a book entitled "Myth, Facts & Reality of EU FLEGT VPA: Sarawak's Perspective". Readers who like a copy in printed or CD format are requested to contact the Secretariat at 082-332222. Electronic copy of this study can be downloaded from STA website at www.sta.org.my

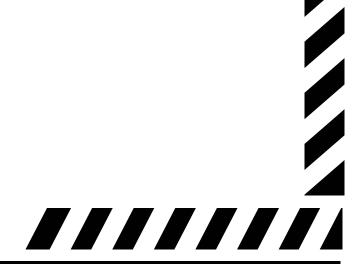


Printed Matter



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ISPM 15 FOR IMPORTS INTO MALAYSIA

International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures, Publication 15, (ISPM 15) is an international standard on regulating wood packaging material (WPM) in international trade. It was adopted in 2002 by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) as part of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. WPM such as pallets, dunnage, crates, wooden spools, etc are essential for trade and movement and protection of cargo and containerized goods. Under the ISPM 15, WPM should be treated in accordance with a specific time-temperature schedule that achieves a minimum wood core temperature of 56° C for a minimum of 30 minutes. This regulation eliminates the presence of pests found in wood, particularly the Pinewood Nematodes and the Asian Long-Horned Beetles and will further prevent the introduction and spread of forest pests of quarantine concern associated with WPM.

The Department of Agriculture (DOA) Malaysia will be implementing ISPM 15 for imports starting 1 January 2010. As such, all wood packaging material (WPM) used in any consignments imported into Malaysia should be treated and marked accordingly as prescribed in the regulation. A grace period of six months from the date of implementation will be given to allow all government agencies, forwarding agents and the importers to familiarise with the necessary requirements.

For more information, please contact: Puan Norhayati Rapa'ee Plant Protection and Quarantine Branch, Department of Agriculture Jalan Kumpang, Kuching Telephone: 082-414712

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