

# STA Review

Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association  
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AUG  
2019



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SST  
Implementation  
Technical Committee  
Meeting No 2/2019



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DIALOGUE 2019:  
Ministry of  
Primary Industries  
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## SST Implementation Technical Committee Meeting No 2/2019

The Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD) convened the SST Implementation Technical Committee Meeting No 2/2019 at its Headquarters in Putrajaya on 29 August 2019. The Meeting was chaired by Dato' Radziah Binti Abdul Razak, Assistant Director of Customs, who was recently appointed to head the Sales and Services Tax Division.

Dato' Radziah welcomed Mr Ezleezan Bin Othman from the Tax Division of Ministry of Finance as well as representatives from various associations and RMCD to the Meeting. She felt that the Meeting is a good platform to discuss issues of interest, particularly on technical matters pertaining to sales tax and services tax, and she looked forward to a fruitful discussion.

Thirty-two (32) issues comprising twelve (12) issues on sales tax, fifteen (15) issues on service tax as well as five (5) issues on GST submitted by trade associations and professional bodies were presented for discussion during the Meeting.



*Dato' Radziah Binti Abdul Razak (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) with Mr Philip Choo Kwong Hui, STA Honorary Treasurer (centre)*

Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia (RMCD) telah mengadakan Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Teknikal Pelaksanaan SST Bil. 2/2019 di ibu pejabatnya di Putrajaya pada 29 Ogos 2019.

Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Penolong Pengarah Kastam Dato' Radziah Binti Abdul Razak yang baru dilantik untuk mengetuai Bahagian Cukai Jualan dan Perkhidmatan.

32 isu-isu yang dikemukakan oleh persatuan perdagangan dan badan profesional telah dibentangkan untuk perbincangan semasa Mesyuarat.

马来西亚皇家关税局 (RMCD) 于2019年8月29日假布特拉再也总部召开本年度第二次消费及服务税 (SST) 实施技术委员会会议。

会议由最近被委任为消费及服务税 (SST) 部主任的关税局助理局长拿督拉嘉主持。

会议讨论由商业工会和专业团体提交的32个事项。

## STA Cash Awards 2019

STA Mutual Sdn Bhd, a subsidiary company of Sarawak Timber Association (STA), had initiated the Cash Awards project for SPM and STPM students in year 2016. This project aims to encourage and give recognition to students from Sarawak who have excelled in their SPM and STPM examinations.

This year, a total of 1,556 students, of which 870 are SPM students and 686 are STPM students, had been selected to receive the Cash Awards. Obtaining at least 8As for SPM or 2As for STPM in the 2018 examinations, they were awarded a sum of RM550.00 and RM650.00 respectively, together with a certificate of achievement.

To date, a total of 3,133 SPM students and 1,467 STPM students have benefitted from the Cash Awards project, bringing the total disbursement for four (4) consecutive years amounting to approximately RM2.7 million.

The list of Cash Awards recipients was published in the local newspapers on 8 August 2019 and it is also currently available on the STA website for public viewing.

STA Mutual Sdn Bhd, anak syarikat Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah memulakan projek Anugerah Tunai untuk pelajar SPM dan STPM pada tahun 2016. Projek ini bertujuan untuk menggalakkan dan memberi pengiktirafan kepada pelajar-pelajar dari Sarawak yang cemerlang dalam Peperiksaan SPM dan STPM.

Tahun ini, seramai 1,556 pelajar, di mana 870 adalah pelajar SPM dan 686 adalah pelajar STPM telah dipilih untuk menerima Anugerah Tunai.

Pelaksanaan projek Anugerah Tunai ini sejak 4 tahun berturut-turut telah memberi manfaat kepada 3,133 pelajar SPM dan 1,467 pelajar STPM dengan jumlah kira-kira RM2.7 juta.

本会子公司STA Mutual有限公司已在2016年启动SPM及STPM优秀生奖励金项目。此项目是为鼓舞考获优越成绩的砂在籍SPM及STPM学生，并给与他们肯定。

今年共有1千556名学生，即870名SPM学生及686名STPM学生获得奖励金。截至今日，共有3千133名SPM学生及1千467名STPM学生在此奖励金项目中收益，连续四（4）年支付总额约为马币270万令吉。

## STA Certification Committee Meeting No 2/2019

The STA Certification Committee met for the second time this year on 13 August 2019 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Meeting was chaired by the Committee Chairman, Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong.

The Meeting received updates and deliberated various issues such as High Conservation Value (HCV), implementation of Pilot Projects for Environmental Compliance Audit, forest management certification, DF Circulars issued by Director of Forests, organising Campaign on Occupational Safety and Health for Timber Industry in Sarawak as well as trainings required by STA members.

The Meeting also discussed in detail on forest operation issues; the Manuals, Procedures & Guidelines for Forest Management Certification in Sarawak (Natural Forest) 2019 and Enquiry Draft of the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators (MC&I) for Forest Management Certification. The Meeting agreed to form a Working Group which consists of five (5) members to look into technical issues on these matters and to report back to the main committee for decision making.

The Meeting also took note of Sarawak Government's target of having all workmen under the 5 prescribed forestry activities trained by year 2020 as well as the Malaysian Timber Certification Council 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference and dinner on 24 September 2019 at Sunway Putra Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

Jawatankuasa Persijilan STA bertemu untuk kali kedua tahun ini pada 13 Ogos 2019 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusinya, Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong.

Mesyuarat menerima kemaskini dan membincangkan pelbagai isu. Mesyuarat bersetuju untuk membentuk satu Kumpulan Kerja yang terdiri daripada 5 ahli untuk membincangkan isu teknikal mengenai perkara-perkara ini dan melapor balik kepada Jawatankuasa ini untuk membuat keputusan.

Mesyuarat turut mengambil maklum tentang sasaran Kerajaan Sarawak untuk kesemua pekerja di bawah 5 Aktiviti Perhutanan yang Ditetapkan, dilatih menjelang tahun 2020 serta Persidangan dan Makan Malam sempena Ulang Tahun Ke-20 Majlis Pensijilan Kayu Malaysia pada 24 September 2019.

STA认证委员会会员于2019年8月13日假本会大厦进行本年度第二次会议。会议由主席拿督劉利康主持。会议接纳并讨论多个事项。会议同意成立由5名成员组成的工作组，负责探讨有关此会议商议事项的技术问题，并向主要委员会申报决策。

会议也告知砂政府的目标让所有5项规定林业活动的员工在2020年接受培训以及马来西亚木材认证理事会于2019年9月24日所举办的20周年大会和晚宴。

## Focus Group Workshop for Timber Sector under Technical Working Group on Commodity Industry

The Ministry of Primary Industries recently invited the timber industries together with forestry agencies from the three (3) regions of Malaysia including the Sarawak Timber Association to the *Focus Group Workshop for Timber Sector under Technical Working Group on Commodities Industry* for the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan. The Workshop was held from 22 to 23 August 2019 at Bangi Resort Hotel, Bandar Bangi Baru, Selangor.

During the Workshop, participants were informed about the performance of the timber industry under the 11<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan as at June 2019. Afterwards, the participants were divided into three (3) focus groups, i.e. Value/Export Earnings focus group, Sustainability focus group and Industry Support & Trade Facilitation focus group, to identify and deliberate on gap analysis, issues and challenges, strategies and targets as well as plan of actions and way forward for the timber sector in the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan (2021 - 2025).

The focus groups shared their findings on the second day of the Workshop. Among key issues put forward by the groups were marketing, raw material, workforce, investment, innovation as well as research and development.

Kementerian Industri Utama telah menjemput industri-industri perkayuan dan agensi-agensi perhutanan daripada 3 Wilayah Malaysia termasuk Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak ke *Bengkel Kumpulan Fokus untuk Sektor Perkayuan di bawah Kumpulan Kerja Teknikal mengenai Industri Komoditi* bagi Rancangan Malaysia ke-12. Bengkel itu telah diadakan pada 22 hingga 23 Ogos 2019 di Hotel Resort Bangi, Bandar Bangi Baru, Selangor.

Semasa Bengkel, para peserta telah dimaklumkan mengenai prestasi industri perkayuan di bawah Rancangan Malaysia ke-11 sehingga Jun 2019. Selepas itu, para peserta dibahagikan kepada 3 kumpulan fokus. Kumpulan fokus berkongsi hasil perbincangan pada hari ke-2 Bengkel.

马来西亚原产部于2019年8月22日至23日假雪兰莪万宜新镇万宜度假村酒店召集马来西亚三（3）个区域的木材业和林业机构，包括本会代表，参与第12个马来西亚计划下的原产业技术工作组木材部专门小组工作坊。

参与者在工作坊期间获知有关截至2019年6月在第11个马来西亚计划下的木材业表现。参与者随后分成3个专门小组。各组也在工作坊第二天分享他们的讨论结果。



# Sarawak Non-Timber Forest Products Carnival 2019

Entering its fourth edition, the Sarawak's Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) Carnival 2019 was held from 14 to 20 August 2019 at Kuching Waterfront with the theme "Advancing Partnership for Sustainability". This year, the NTFP Carnival was held in conjunction with Forest Department of Sarawak's (FDS) 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

The NTFP Carnival is an initiative taken by FDS under the 11<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan to uplift livelihood and increase income of rural community from different ethnics and cultures throughout Sarawak. First organised in 2016, it has since become an annual event.

The Carnival was officiated by Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, Assistant Minister of Urban Planning, Land Administration and Environment, who represented the Chief Minister of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg.

In the Launching Speech, he shared that many efforts have been taken to ensure NTFP continuously meet the standard and market demand, such as NTFP development programmes conducted by FDS particularly in capacity building to enhance local communities' capabilities and skills as well as enrichment planting to ensure sustainability of resources. He also suggested for the exploration of promotion and marketing platform like e-commerce marketplaces to help contribute to the success of NTFP.

Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, who was also present at the Closing Ceremony, said in his Closing Remarks that the promotion and marketing of NTFP Carnival has been further enhanced by expanding networks to the international level. Participations are not only from local communities and agencies, but also international organisations from countries such as Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal and the Philippines to exhibit their NTFP. He added that the Sarawak Government had organised the Sarawak-Singapore Business Forum and Expo in Singapore on 15 August 2019 in collaboration with the Malaysian Investment Development Authority. With this approach, Sarawak aims to introduce its products and services to the region and the rest of the world via Singapore.

During the Carnival, various booths were set up to showcase NTFP involving handicraft, agriculture, farming and agro-tourism. In addition to the exhibition and sales of NTFP, other side programmes such as cultural performances, concerts, fashion show, NTFP weaving competition, treasure hunt and lucky draws were also organised to attract more visitors to the seven-day event.



*Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh (3<sup>rd</sup> from left) launching the book "Sarawak Limestone Forest Orchid" during the NTFP Opening Ceremony*

Karnival Produk Hasil Hutan Bukan Kayu Sarawak (NTFP) 2019 telah diadakan pada 14 hingga 20 Ogos 2019 di Waterfront Kuching dengan tema "Meningkatkan Kerjasama demi Kelestarian".

Karnival telah dirasmikan oleh Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, Menteri Muda Pembangunan Bandar, Pentadbiran Tanah dan Alam Sekitar, mewakili Ketua Menteri Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg.

Dalam Ucapan Pelancarannya, beliau berkongsi mengenai pelbagai usaha yang telah diambil dalam memastikan NTFP kekal mencapai piawaian dan permintaan pasaran. Beliau turut mencadangkan tentang penerokaan platform bagi tujuan promosi dan pemasaran seperti tapak niaga e-dagang dalam menyumbang kepada kejayaan NTFP.

Semasa Karnival tersebut terdapat pelbagai gerai jualan NTFP seperti kraftangan, pertanian, penternakan dan agro-pelancongan.

2019 年“推进可持续发展合作伙伴关系”砂非木材森林产品嘉年华 (NTFP) 从2019年8月14日至20日于古晋河滨公园举行。

嘉年华由砂城市策划、土地行政与环境助理部长拿督连达立夫代表砂首长拿督巴丁宜阿邦佐哈里主持开幕。

在推展礼上致词时，他分享为确保NTFP继续符合标准及市场要求而做出的种种努力。他也建议探索推销及营销平台如电子商务市场，以助NTFP一臂之力。

在嘉年华期间，设有各种摊位展示涉及NTFP的手工艺品、农业、农田及农业旅游。



# Dialogue 2019: Ministry of Primary Industries Consultation with Industries

The *Dialogue 2019: Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) Consultation with Industries* was held on 6 and 8 August 2019 at Putrajaya International Convention Centre, Putrajaya. The Dialogue is part of MPI's ongoing public engagement with the industries to obtain feedback and suggestions from each of the plantation and commodities sector, namely (i) cocoa, kenaf and tobacco industry; (ii) rubber industry; (iii) oil palm and biofuel industry; and (iv) timber industry. The Dialogue with the timber industry was held on 8 August 2019.



*Dialogue in progress*

In her Opening Speech, Madam Teresa Kok, Minister of Primary Industries, outlined the three (3) main objectives of the Dialogue which were to receive suggestions for improvement to develop the National Commodity Policy, to gather inputs and suggestions from the industry for the preparation of Budget 2020, as well as to obtain inputs and feedback on areas that need to be prioritised under the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan. She hoped that by grouping the consultation sessions by sectors, MPI can better focus on each sector and obtain better inputs specific to the sectors concerned. She also stressed on the importance of complying with international standards and requirements for global acceptance of timber and timber products from Malaysia.

Mr Mad Zaidi Mohd Karli, Senior Undersecretary of Timber, Tobacco and Kenaf Industries Development Division from MPI, informed the participants that the total export of timber and timber products for 2018 valued at RM22.3 billion. Malaysia is on track to achieve its revised target of RM25 billion in export earnings under the National Timber Industry Policy (NATIP).

He also outlined the framework for the Malaysian timber industry from 2021 to 2025. The framework, amongst others, covers the following goals for the timber industry of which several strategies and initiatives had been proposed to achieve them:

- **Sustainability of the timber industry.** This depends on the sustainability of raw material supply. To ensure that there are sufficient raw materials for the industry, the Government shall encourage investment in forest plantation, importation of raw materials to manufacture value added timber products and usage of alternative raw materials such as bamboo and oil palm trunk.
- **Sustainability of the environment.** In this regard, efforts to promote sustainable and legal timber and timber products shall also be intensified through uptake of forest management certification and chain of custody certification as well as promotion on the

use of certified products in the domestic market. MPI shall also advocate awareness and adherence to international standards such as Sustainable Development Goals.

- **Enhancing the value of export earnings and increasing demand for timber and timber products in domestic markets.** The initiatives put forward include promoting Malaysian-made timber products and branding, establishing market access through e-commerce onboarding programme for timber sector, and market intelligence through market researches, policy on use of local timber in government procurement and public building projects in Malaysia.

During the consultation session, the principal concerns of the timber industry highlighted are the shortage of raw materials and labour. As a result, many mills are hesitant to accept orders for fear of inability to fulfil these orders, leaving many mills with idle capacity. The industry also pointed out that it could not take advantage of the trade war between the United States (US) and China to manufacture and export furniture to the US. On top of that, plywood manufacturers have lost approximately 30% of its local market share to Viet Nam, Indonesia and China.

The industry is hopeful that the forest plantation will supplement the future supply of raw materials for the timber industry. However, the industry felt that the Government plays a key role in developing forest plantation industry in Malaysia. This can be achieved by carrying out necessary research and development as well as implementing clear policies and encouraging investment in forest plantation.

The Sarawak Timber Association (STA) highlighted that from 2019 onwards, accumulated business losses incurred by companies can only be brought forward and used within seven (7) years to set off profits made for Income Tax purposes. Any balance of unutilised business



losses after 7 years will be disregarded for Income Tax purposes. This is unfair to companies undertaking forest plantation, for their investments do not see immediate returns to the companies as the trees planted have long gestation period which ranges from seven (7) to fifteen (15) years.

STA also requested that “*criterion C25: Timber from Sarawak under Principle 6: Trade and Customs*” be removed from the Peninsular Malaysia Timber Legality Assurance System (MYTLAS). This criterion was included in MYTLAS just because Sarawak had opted for a phased approach during Malaysia’s negotiation with the European Union (EU) on the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA). Since Malaysia has not signed the FLEGT VPA with the EU, there should not be such control procedures imposed on timber from Sarawak. The inclusion of this criterion has unnecessary negative impact on Sarawak as it implies that Sarawak does not have a proper timber legality system, when in fact Sarawak possesses a very comprehensive system known as the Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS).

STA also submitted two (2) other issues to MPI. One of them included STA seeking MPI’s assistance in the upcoming review of anti-dumping duties imposed since 2011 on plywood with thickness of more than 6mm (under HS codes 4412.31.xxxx and 4412.32.xxxx) exported from Malaysia to South Korea.

Another issue brought to MPI’s attention was related to the *Environmental Quality (Clean Air) Regulations 2014* (Regulations) which came into force on 5 June 2014. A grace period of five (5) years was given to the industries to comply before the Department of Environment (DOE) enforces the Regulations. Due to lack of guidance from DOE during the five-year grace period for the industries in Sarawak and upon appeal by Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation and STA, DOE had agreed to extend the grace period to 31 December 2021 for timber mills in Sarawak to comply with the Regulations. The extension was granted provided the timber mills apply for the Contravention Licence under Section 22(1) of the *Environmental Quality Monitoring Act 1974* and Section 25 of the Regulations as well as indicate their commitment to comply with the Regulations. An annual fee of RM1,000.00 per chimney is charged for the application for, or renewal of, the Contravention Licence.

STA requested for the waiver of the annual fee of RM1,000.00 per chimney (up to a maximum of 3 applications) for the application for or renewal of the Contravention Licence. STA also requested a task force to be set up to look into the guidelines, requirements, mechanism and costs for installing or upgrading the air pollutant monitoring system or devices as well as the implementation of the Regulations.

The MPI took note of the issues brought up during the consultation session and shall work with the relevant ministries and agencies to address these issues.

*Dialog 2019: Perundingan Kementerian Industri Utama (MPI) dengan Industri* telah diadakan pada 6 dan 8 Ogos 2019 di Pusat Konvensyen Antarabangsa Putrajaya.

Dialog tersebut merupakan sebahagian daripada penglibatan awam MPI dengan industri untuk mendapatkan maklum balas dan cadangan daripada setiap sektor perladangan dan komoditi. Dialog bersama industri perkayuan telah diadakan pada 8 Ogos 2019.

Dalam Ucapan Pembukaanya, Puan Teresa Kok, Menteri Industri Utama berharap dengan adanya sesi perundingan mengikut kumpulan sektor, MPI dapat memberi tumpuan lebih baik untuk setiap sektor serta mendapatkan input khusus bagi sektor berkenaan.

Encik Mad Zaidi Mohd Karli, Setiausaha Kanan Bahagian Pembangunan Industri Kayu, Tembakau dan Kenaf daripada MPI menggariskan rangka kerja industri perkayuan Malaysia dari tahun 2021 hingga 2025.

Semasa sesi perundingan itu, isu utama yang diketengahkan oleh industri perkayuan adalah kekurangan bahan mentah dan tenaga buruh. Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak turut mengemukakan pelbagai isu kepada MPI.

MPI mengambil maklum isu yang diketengahkan dan akan bekerjasama dengan kementerian dan agensi yang berkaitan untuk menangani isu-isu tersebut.

原产业部（MPI）与工业界2019年对话会议于2019年8月6日和8日在布特拉再也的布城国际会议展览中心举行。

对话会议是MPI与各行业进行公众交流的一部分，以向个别种植林和原产业者获取反馈和意见。与木材工业的对话会议于2019年8月8日举行。

部长郭素沁女士在开幕词中强调，希望咨询会通过业界分组，MPI可以更好地关注每个业界，并针对有关业界获取更好的意见。

MPI木材、烟草和红麻产业发展组高级副秘书长玛扎迪莫卡里先生概述了2021年至2025年马来西亚木材业的框架。

在咨询会议期间，木材业主要关注于原料供应和劳工的短缺。砂拉越木材工会(STA)也向MPI提出多项关切课题。

MPI接纳咨询会所提出的课题，并将与相关部门和机构共同正视该课题。



# Enforcement of The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015

The Sarawak Government, through Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), had requested the Sarawak Timber Association (STA) to implement training for forestry workmen under an integrated training system for the State since 1991. Subsequently, STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), a subsidiary company of STA, was incorporated in May 2005 with the primary objective to develop and implement skills training.

STAT was officially appointed as the Training Provider by Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) on 19 December 2016 to train and assess the competency of forestry workmen.

As a Training Provider, STAT was tasked to impart theoretical and practical skills to forestry workmen as well as knowledge on safety and health, environmental and sustainability issues related to forestry activities with the objectives to fulfil the requirements of Section 51(1) of *The Forests Ordinance, 2015* (Ordinance) that “No employer shall hire, engage or appoint any workman under a contract of service or of apprenticeship or under any other arrangement whatsoever, to carry out, undertake or perform any forestry activity unless that workman has successfully completed a course of training in such forestry activity which is conducted by an institution approved by the Director in consultation with the Minister”; and under the said Ordinance through Rule 4(1) of *The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015* (The Rules) “No workman shall carry out, undertake or perform any prescribed forestry activity unless he has successfully completed a training course as specified in the First Schedule for that prescribed forestry activity and holds a valid Certificate issued by a Training Provider”.

The five (5) prescribed forestry activity (PFA) skills sets are:

1. Certificate in Tree Felling – Chainsaw (Natural Forest)
2. Certificate in Log Extraction – Tractor (Natural Forest)
3. Certificate in Log Loading – Front End Loader (Natural Forest)
4. Certificate in Clear-fell Site Preparation – Chainsaw (Forest Plantation)
5. Certificate in Mechanical Site Preparation – Excavator (Forest Plantation)

Besides the PFA skills sets, STAT also offers other skills sets such as:

6. Certificate in Tree Felling – Chainsaw (Forest Plantation)
7. Certificate in Log Extraction – Bulldozer (Forest Plantation)
8. Certificate in Log Extraction – Cable Hauler (Forest Plantation)
9. Certificate in Breaking Out – Cable Hauler (Forest Plantation)
10. Certificate in Log Loading – Excavator (Forest Plantation)
11. Certificate in Tree and Log Identification
12. Certificate in Log and Timber Identification

Pursuant to Rule 4(4) of The Rules “Notwithstanding sub-rule (1), the Director with the approval of the Minister may,

from time to time, by notification in the Gazette, specify the percentage of workmen required to be trained by an employer every year for each prescribed forestry activity according to the training course as specified in the First Schedule upon the coming into force of these Rules”, the Sarawak Government has set a target that all forestry workmen under the 5 PFA are obliged to be trained by end of year 2020.

In order to fulfil this said target, members and non-members of STA are reminded to nominate their forestry workmen to undergo training for the 5 PFA and other skills sets offered by STAT.

Meanwhile, the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) as the Training Agent has started to conduct inspection and verification on the trained workmen at camp site to ensure compliance to Section 49 of the Ordinance and The Rules. They ascertain that the performance of the forestry workman is consistent with the instruction and training provided by STAT in accordance with the Sarawak Modular Training Framework as well as record or filing of details of trained workmen are updated and complete.

On top of that, FDS is also conducting verification of the identity of the workmen undergoing training/assessment on the ground during the assessment by trainers/assessors of STAT.

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), anak syarikat milik penuh STA telah dilantik secara rasmi sebagai Pembekal Latihan oleh Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) pada 19 Disember 2016 untuk melatih dan menilai kecekapan pekerja perhutanan di Sarawak.

Sebagai Pembekal Latihan, STAT ditugaskan untuk memberikan kemahiran teoretikal dan praktikal kepada pekerja perhutanan serta pengetahuan tentang isu keselamatan dan kesihatan, persekitaran dan kelestarian yang berkaitan dengan aktiviti perhutanan dengan objektif untuk memenuhi keperluan Seksyen 51(1) *Ordinan Hutan, 2015* dan Kaedah 4(1) *Peraturan Hutan (Pekerja yang Terlatih), 2015* di bawahnya.

5 set kemahiran aktiviti perhutanan yang ditetapkan (PFA) dan set kemahiran lain yang ditawarkan oleh STAT adalah seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.

Melalui Kaedah 4(4) Peraturan, Kerajaan Sarawak telah menetapkan sasaran bahawa kesemua pekerja kehutanan di bawah 5 PFA hendaklah dilatih menjelang akhir tahun 2020.

Untuk memenuhi sasaran ini, ahli dan ahli bukan STA diingatkan untuk mencalonkan pekerja-pekerja perhutanan mereka untuk menjalani latihan untuk 5 PFA dan set kemahiran lain yang ditawarkan oleh STAT.



本会子公司, STA培训有限公司(STAT) 于2016年12月19日正式由砂州森林局 (FDS)委任为培训机构以培训和评估林业员工的技能. 做为一个培训机构, STAT的任务是传授理论和实践技能以及有关林业活动的安全与健康, 环境和可持续性课题的知识予林业员工以履行2015年森林法令第51(1)条例以及2015年森林 (员工培训) 第4(1)法则的要求。STAT所提供的5项规定林业活动技能(PFA) 和其他技能如英文版所列。

依据2015年森林 (员工培训) 第4(1)法则, 砂州政府设定了一个目标, 即所有在5项PFA下的林业员工必须在2020年前接受培训装备。为了实现这个目标, 本会提醒本会会员与非会员记得提名他们的林业员工以接受STAT所提供的5项PFA和其他技能的培训。

## Briefing on Proposed Amendments to Industrial Relations Act 1967 & Trade Union Act 1959



*Briefing in progress*

The Department of Industrial Relations Sarawak (DIRS), and Trade Union Affairs Department Sarawak (TUADS) under the Ministry of Human Resources (MoHR), held a Briefing on the proposed amendments to *Industrial Relations Act 1967 [Act 177]* (IR Act) and *Trade Union Act 1959 [Act 262]* (TU Act) at Industrial Training Institute, Kota Samarahan, on 21 August 2019. The objective of this Briefing was to obtain inputs and views from participants on the amendments of both Acts. About eighty (80) representatives from trade unions and employers attended the event.

Mr Mooi Poh Kong, Director of Negotiation of TUADS, gave a presentation on the proposed amendments to the TU Act. He said that the proposed amendments are still in draft stage and are subject to change. Therefore, participants are welcomed to submit their feedback and proposals to TUADS via email [pkmooi@mohr.gov.my](mailto:pkmooi@mohr.gov.my). He pointed out that the objectives of the current amendments are to give freedom to form and belong to a union of one's choice as well as to align the country's labour laws with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention No 87 on Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise, 1948. He also highlighted the amendments on the power of Director General, Minister and Trade Union.

Mr Ramakrishna A/L Govindasamy, Director of DIRS, briefed participants on the proposed amendments to the IR Act and highlighted some key changes that will significantly affect the dispute resolution system for employment claims in Malaysia. These included provisions on discrimination, introduction of industrial appeal court, unfair dismissal, improved claim of recognition, collective bargaining, etc.

Participants raised various concerns such as (i) MoHR's intention to align labour laws with ILO Convention No 87; (ii) removal of certain services like banking which is listed as one of the Essential Services in the First Schedule of IR Act; and (iii) streamlining governmental departments, i.e. Labour Department, Industrial Relations Department, etc.

Participants also urged DIRS and TUADS to make the proposed amendments available in their respective websites or circulate them for public comment.

Jabatan Perhubungan Perusahaan Sarawak (DIRS), dan Jabatan Hal Ehwal Kesatuan Sekerja (TUADS) telah mengadakan Taklimat mengenai cadangan pindaan kepada *Akta Perhubungan Perusahaan 1967 [Akta 177]* (Akta IR) serta *Akta Kesatuan Sekerja 1959 [Akta 262]* (Akta TU) di Institut Latihan Perindustrian, Kota Samarahan, pada 21 Ogos 2019. Objektif Taklimat adalah untuk mendapatkan input dan pandangan daripada peserta-peserta mengenai pindaan kepada kedua-dua Akta tersebut.

Encik Mooi Poh Kong, Pengarah Rundingan TUADS, menyampaikan pembentangan tentang cadangan pindaan kepada Akta TU. Encik Ramakrishna A/L Govindasamy, Pengarah DIRS, memaklumkan kepada peserta-peserta mengenai cadangan pindaan kepada Akta IR.

Peserta-peserta menimbulkan pelbagai kebimbangan dan menggesa DIRS serta TUADS supaya menerbitkan cadangan pindaan tersebut di laman web masing-masing atau mengedarkannya untuk ulasan umum.

人力资源部旗下的砂拉越工业关系局(DIRS)和砂拉越职工会事务局(TUADS)于2019年8月21日假哥打三马拉汉工业培训学院举办1967年劳资关系法令[第177条文] (IR法令) 和1959年职工会法令[第262条文] (TU法令) 拟议修正案简介会。该简介会旨予获取参与者对两项法令修正案的意见和看法。

TUADS谈判局长梅宝光先生向参与者呈现有关TU法令拟议修正案, 而DIRS局长拉玛克莉斯纳先生则呈现有关IR法令拟议修正案。

参与者提出多项关注课题, 并呼吁DIRS和 TUADS在各自的网站上载所提出的拟议修正案或发行以征询公众意见。



# Study Tour to Perak State Forestry Department on the Implementation of Forest Management Certification

The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) together with its logging contractors conducted a Study Tour to Perak State from 19 to 23 August 2019 to better understand the implementation of forest management certification (FMC) in the State by Perak State Forestry Department (PSFD). This visit was in line with the policy of the Sarawak Government for all long-term Forest Timber Licences (FTLs) in Sarawak to obtain FMC by year 2022.

The five-day Study Tour was led by Tuan Haji Hamzah Bin Haji Morshidi, Assistant General Manager (Resource Planning) of STIDC. Besides STIDC's logging contractors, officers from Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA) were invited to participated in the Study Tour.

The Sarawak delegates started the Study Tour by visiting the PSFD Headquarters in Ipoh and were welcomed by Dato' Mohamed Zin Bin Yusop, Perak State Director of Forestry. In his Welcoming Remarks, Dato' Mohamed Zin shared about the background of PSFD and its functions, institutional arrangements as well as implementation of FMC in Perak. He stressed that cooperation from both Government agencies and private sectors are crucial in achieving and maintaining FMC.

Mr Harry Yong, Chief Assistant Director (Planning and Management) of PSFD, briefed the Sarawak delegates on the forest management in Perak State. He said that 48.16% or 1,013,169.02 hectares of Perak State's total landmass is under forest cover and is managed by five (5) District Forest Offices namely (i) Hulu Perak; (ii) Kuala Kangsar; (iii) South Perak; (iv) Kinta Manjung; and (v) Larut & Matang. He also mentioned that the forest in Perak is managed based on the *National Forestry Act 1984 (Act 313)*, and Selective Management System (SMS) was introduced in 1978 to ensure sustainable forest production, environmental conservation and benefits from forest.

Besides that, Mr Yong also pointed out that the Perak Forest Management Unit has been recertified under Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest) with validity until 31 May 2024. The FMC is used as a tool to measure the sustainability of forest management in Perak and to fulfil the market demands for certified timber. He highlighted the main challenges faced by PSFD were on conservation of Malayan tigers, customary land claims by Orang Asli and gazetted permanent forest reserve (PFR) for development purpose.

Tuan Haji Hamzah on behalf of the Sarawak delegation thanked PSFD for supporting this Study Tour and



*Visit to Perak State Forestry Department Headquarters in Ipoh*

presented the background of STIDC, functions and its involvement in FMC. He also shared STIDC's target for ten (10) of its long-term FTLs to be certified by year 2022.

After that, the Sarawak delegates visited the Forest Checking Station (FCS) Sungai Siput (U) at Kuala Kangsar. They were welcomed by Mr Mohd Hafiz Bin Samsudin, Kuala Kangsar District Forest Officer. Mr Mohd Hafiz mentioned that the main function of FCS is to inspect, verify and assess the royalty and other forest charges for forest products produced from an approved licensed area before they are transferred for processing. A briefing on Declaration of Forest Produce (DFP) was made by Mr Khairulrizal Bin Abu Kassim, Senior Forest Ranger. He mentioned that DFP has been implemented in Perak since 1 June 2016 as part of the initiative to enhance the effectiveness of inspection, verification and revenue collection as well as to improve public perception towards PSFD.



*Visit to Forest Checking Station Sungai Siput (U) at Kuala Kangsar*

The Sarawak delegates also visited the Orang Asli at Kampung Bersah, Pos Kuala Mu, Sungai Siput. Mainly from the Temiar race, their sources of income are from rubber tapping, fishing, farming and hunting. The PSFD provides them assistance on eco-tourism such as setting up of chalets. Mr Mohd Hafiz mentioned that PSFD intends



to engage the Orang Asli in supplying seedlings for forest rehabilitation starting next year.

On 21 August 2019, the group was brought to the production forest area at Bukit Kinta. The 80-hectare area has a harvesting licence of six (6) months. Ms Siti Syafikah Binti Yusof, Kinta District Forest Officer, mentioned that before PSFD issues a licence for logging, the Department will conduct ground assessment and marking including harvestable tree tagging, mother tree, protected tree, skid trail, landing site, buffer zone, etc. The logging operator will conduct timber extraction using reduced impact logging system based on Working Map or Plan provided by PSFD.

During the post harvesting, the logging operator is required to do forest rehabilitation in the middle of skid trails using available seedlings provided by PSFD. A total of 2,500 seedlings are needed to be planted in the 80 hectares of licenced area. The maintenance of seedlings after planting will be carried out by PSFD.

The PSFD also brought the Sarawak delegates to Eko Rimba Kledang Saiong Park, a recreational park located within Kledang Saiong PFR. One of its unique features is the Nepenthes Garden. There are seventy (70) species of pitcher plants, including fifteen (15) hybrid species.

During the last two days of the Study Tour, the group visited the Royal Belum State Park. The park is located in northern Perak and extended to the Malaysia-Thailand border, covering approximately 300,000 hectares and are home to large mammals such as the Asian elephants, Malayan tapirs and Malayan tigers as well as habitat for ten (10) Malaysian hornbill species. They also experienced the boathouse ride in the Royal Belum Lake and took opportunity to visit the Orang Asli village besides witnessing the beauty of Royal Belum rainforests.

砂拉越木材工业发展机构(STIDC)与其伐木承包商于2019年8月19日至23日前往霹靂州进行实地考察,旨在了解霹靂州森林局(PSFD)森林管理认证(FMC)的实施。

为期5天的实地考察由STIDC助理总经理(资源规划)哈姆杂先生带领。砂拉越参访团在行程中首先拜会位于怡保的PSFD总部,并获得霹靂州森林局局长拿督莫哈末兹接待。

PSFD首席助理局长(规划及管理)哈利洋先生向砂拉越参访团介绍霹靂州的森林管理。之后,砂拉越参访团前往参观位于瓜拉江沙的Sungai Siput森林检查站(FCS)。砂拉越参访团也拜会居住在Kampung Bersah, Pos Kuala Mu, Sungai Siput的原住民。

2019年8月21日,该参访团前往武吉近打生产林区。PSFD也带领砂拉越参访团前往位于Kledang Saiong永久森林保护区内名为Eko Rimba Kledang Saiong Park的休闲公园。



*Visit to Orang Asli Village at Kampung Bersah, Pos Kuala Mu, Sungai Siput*



*Visit to production forest area at Bukit Kinta*

Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (STIDC) bersama-sama dengan kontraktor pembalakkannya telah mengadakan Lawatan Sambil Belajar ke Negeri Perak dari 19 hingga 23 Ogos 2019 untuk memahami secara lebih mendalam mengenai pelaksanaan pensijilan pengurusan hutan (FMC) oleh Jabatan Perhutanan Negeri Perak (PSFD).

Lawatan Sambil Belajar selama 5 hari tersebut diketuai oleh Tuan Haji Hamzah Bin Haji Morshidi, Penolong Pengurus Besar (Perancangan Sumber) STIDC. Delegasi Sarawak memulakan Lawatan Sambil Belajar dengan melawat Ibu Pejabat PSFD di Ipoh dan telah disambut oleh Dato' Mohamed Zin Bin Yusop, Pengarah Perhutanan Negeri Perak.

Encik Harry Yong, Ketua Penolong Pengarah (Perancangan dan Pengurusan) PSFD menerangkan kepada delegasi Sarawak tentang pengurusan hutan di Negeri Perak. Perwakilan Sarawak kemudiannya melawat Stesen Pemeriksaan Hutan (FCS) Sungai Siput (U) di Kuala Kangsar. Delegasi Sarawak turut melawat Orang Asli di Kampung Bersah, Pos Kuala Mu, Sungai Siput. Pada 21 Ogos 2019, delegasi Sarawak telah dibawa ke kawasan hutan penghasilan di Bukit Kinta.

Selain itu, PSFD turut membawa delegasi Sarawak ke Taman Eko Rimba Kledang Saiong, sebuah taman rekreasi yang terletak di dalam PFR Kledang Saiong. Pada 2 hari terakhir semasa Lawatan, delegasi telah melawat Taman Negeri Royal Belum.



# MEF Annual General Meeting 2019

The Annual General Meeting of Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) was held on 14 August 2019 at Holiday Villa Subang, Petaling Jaya. In his Opening Address, Tan Sri Azman Shah Bin Dato' Seri Haron, President of MEF, highlighted that the Malaysian economy in 2018 demonstrated resilience with Gross Domestic Products (GDP) growth at 4.7% due to domestic demand supported by private sector expenditure. Based on Bank Negara Report 2018, the growth rate for services sector is 6.8% compared to 6.2% in 2017, and 5% for manufacturing sector compared to 6% in 2017.

He also unveiled the following official figures:

Indicators	2018	2017
Consumer Price Index or CPI (% growth)	1.0	3.7
Total Employment (million persons)	14.8	14.5
Total Labour Force (million persons)	15.32	14.95
Labour Force Participation (%)	68.4	68.0
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.4	3.4
Retrenchment (persons)	23,168	35,097
Registered Foreign Workers (million persons)	2.0	1.76
Productivity level (RM)	91,971.00	89,952.00

Tan Sri Azman Shah reported that the new leadership of the Federal Government continues to recognise MEF as an integral partner in charging the future of Malaysia's economy and MEF was invited to meet the members of the Council of Eminent Persons on 6 July 2018 to highlight specific challenges faced by employers. Issues discussed included proposed labour laws review, minimum wages review, foreign workers' recruitment and levy, Human Resources Development Fund and social security.

During the Meeting, he gave an overview of MEF's scope of work for the year 2018 as stated below:

- Labour Laws Review**

The Ministry of Human Resources had reactivated the National Labour Advisory Council (NLAC) which now meets regularly to discuss various human resources issues. Under the NLAC, technical committees are formed to review legislations such as *Employment Act 1955 (EA)*, *Sabah and Sarawak Labour Ordinances*, *Industrial Relations Act 1967 (IR Act)*, *Trade Unions Act 1959*, *Workers' Minimum Standards of Housing and Amenities Act 1990* as well as *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1994*.

**Employment Act 1955.** MEF was seriously concerned with the proposed amendments to EA which seek to expand its coverage to include all employees irrespective of salary amount. Currently, EA is limited to non-manual employees earning a monthly salary of

RM2,000.00 and below as well as manual employees irrespective of wages. The proposed amendments also seek to extend maternity leave from not less than sixty (60) consecutive days to ninety-eight (98) consecutive days, as well as introducing three (3) days paid paternity leave. Another concern involves the proposal to reduce total working hours from forty-eight (48) hours to forty-five (45) hours per week. These proposed amendments would have huge cost implications for doing business in Malaysia.

**Industrial Relations Act 1967.** MEF had objected to the proposal put forth by the Ministry of Human Resources (MoHR) to delete the list of Essential Services provided in the First Schedule of IR Act. This proposal threatens the harmonious industrial relations in these essential services industries which need to operate round the clock. Furthermore, MEF objected to MoHR's proposal to align the country's labour laws with various International Labour Organisation Conventions including Convention No 87 on Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise, 1948 as well as Convention No 98 on Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining, 1949. Doing so would also risk disrupting existing harmonious industrial relations in the country.

**Trade Unions Act 1959.** MEF opposed to the proposal to compel the Director-General to register any trade union regardless of trade, occupation, industry or establishment because this proposal, if accepted, would drastically transform Malaysia's industrial relations landscape to become confrontational and may lead to social unrest, which will undermine the national economic development and also the peoples' wellbeing.

- Minimum Wages Review**

He stated that MEF had opposed to the Government's policy proposal to review the National Minimum Wages rate to be standardised across Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, Sarawak and Labuan as it would be very challenging due to different productivity rates. Employers' ability to pay in East Malaysia is also lower compared to Peninsular Malaysia. A joint memorandum was submitted to the Government to consider regional-based wages and review the definition of "wages". MEF called for wages to be linked to certified skills of employees, rather than raising the minimum wages every two (2) years. Nonetheless, on 5 September 2018, the Prime Minister's Department announced RM1,050.00 as the National Minimum Wages effective from 1 January 2019. Subsequently, Mr Lim Guan Eng, Minister of Finance, during the Budget 2019 presentation on 2 November 2018, arbitrarily raised the National Minimum Wages to RM1,100.00 nationwide.

In response to this arbitrary decision, MEF issued a

press release stating that the new National Minimum Wages rate was not in accordance with the proper procedure as laid down in the *National Wages Consultative Council Act 2011* (NWCC Act). MEF's position was that the wage rates should be based on sectors, types of employment as well as regional areas as specified in Section 4(1)(b) of the NWCC Act. Despite the uproar and strong oppositions of employers, the *Minimum Wages Order (Amendment) 2018* was gazetted with minimum wages rate set at RM1,100.00 for Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, Sarawak and Labuan to take effect from 1 January 2019.

#### • Foreign Workers

Tan Sri Azman Shah said that the Cabinet had set up the Special Committee on Foreign Worker Management in August 2018. The Special Committee had completed its findings and the final report was submitted to the Cabinet on 28 February 2019. A joint memorandum of industry organisations was submitted to the government to emphasise the need to create the necessary ecosystem that should include the formulation of a National Human Resources Master Plan.

He also highlighted that an annual levy fee of RM10,000.00 on employers retaining skilled foreign workers beyond ten (10) years for up to a maximum period of three (3) years was announced in September 2018. However, this levy fee was reduced by the Cabinet in five (5) industrial sectors from 1 March 2019 to 29 February 2020. The levy for manufacturing, services and construction sectors was lowered from RM10,000.00 to RM6,000.00, while the levy for agriculture and plantation sectors was reduced from RM3,500.00 to RM2,000.00.

He then reported that the latest issue on foreign workers was the reinstatement of the Foreign Workers' Replacement Scheme beginning 1 July 2019. However, the application process is subjected to assessment by the Department of Labour and other bureaucracies, which differs from the similar scheme carried out in 2017. The scheme carried out in 2017 was well received by the employers as it gave timely replacements for employers to secure their foreign workers.

With that, MEF wrote in and requested the Minister of Human Resources to simplify the Department of Labour's approval process to not take more than 48 hours and the requirement should be based on verification of existence of business operations without assessment. MEF is pushing for this simplified scheme which could provide an immediate solution to employers who are facing critical shortage of foreign workers.



*Council Members of MEF (Image courtesy of MEF Secretariat)*

#### • Employment Insurance System

He pointed out that the Employment Insurance System (EIS) was fully rolled out on 1 January 2019, but MEF had been excluded from the composition of the EIS Committee. MEF had written to the Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Bin Mohamad calling for a fair and balanced EIS Committee that reflects the principle of tripartism as employers and employees are contributors to the EIS with each contributing 0.2% of the latter's wages. MEF's feedback was acknowledged and this matter would be looked into on an urgent basis.

Mesyyarat Agung Tahunan Persekutuan Majikan Malaysia (MEF) telah diadakan pada 14 Ogos 2019 di Holiday Villa Subang, Petaling Jaya. Dalam Ucapan Pembukaannya, Tan Sri Azman Shah Bin Dato' Seri Haron, Presiden MEF, menggariskan bahawa ekonomi Malaysia dalam 2018 menunjukkan daya tahan dengan pertumbuhan Keluaran Dalam Negara Kasar (KDNK) pada 4.7%.

Tan Sri Azman Shah melaporkan bahawa pimpinan baharu Kerajaan Persekutuan terus mengiktiraf MEF sebagai rakan kongsi yang penting dalam merangsang masa depan ekonomi Malaysia dan MEF telah dilantik untuk berjumpa dengan ahli-ahli Majlis Penasihat Kerajaan pada 6 Julai 2018 untuk menggariskan cabaran tertentu yang dialami oleh majikan.

Semasa Mesyyarat, beliau memberi gambaran keseluruhan skop kerja MEF untuk tahun 2018 seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel.

马来西亚雇主联盟(MEF)2019年年度会员大会(AGM)于2019年8月14日假八达灵再也苏邦假日别墅酒店召开。MEF主席丹斯里拿督阿兹曼沙在致开场辞时强调2018年大马经济展现出回弹性，国内生产总值达4.7%的增长。

丹斯里拿督阿兹曼沙表示联邦政府的新领导继续承认MEF是为大马经济未来充电的不可或缺的合作伙伴,并邀请MEF和杰出理事会成员于2018年7月6日会面，以着重雇主面临的具体挑战。

在会议期间，他概述了如英文版所列的MEF 2018年的工作范围。



# Packaging & Labelling for Export Market: Why You Must Get It Right

The Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) organised a *“Packaging & Labelling for Export Market: Why You Must Get It Right”* Seminar on 1 August 2019 at Grand Margherita Hotel, Kuching.

The objectives of the Seminar were to provide information on assistance and value added services on technology adoption to boost productivity for export, and to introduce strategic branding plans to help Malaysian exporters enter the markets of China and Dubai.

Mrs Leany Mokhtar, Director of MATRADE Sarawak, in her Welcoming Remarks, mentioned that it is crucial to know how to export local products to international markets through effective branding and packaging strategies, in tandem with assistance and value added services provided by the Government and relevant agencies.

The Seminar was attended by approximately seventy (70) participants from various fields, including government agencies, entrepreneurs, university lecturers and students. The Seminar featured three (3) plenary sessions, focusing on branding, packaging and labelling strategies provided by Malaysia Design Development Centre (DDEC) as well as business funding services from Malaysian Technology Development Corporation (MTDC).

The presentations by the 3 plenary speakers are as follows:

- **Session 1: Branding Your Product for International Market**

by Mrs Hairul Azrien Baharudin, Senior Manager, Business Development & Commercial, DDEC

The speaker shared that DDEC was set up by the Government to pioneer the design industry in Malaysia with the aims to aid entrepreneurs and businesses of all levels to enhance their services and products in the aspects of designs and creativities. The speaker also shared information from their market research on the expectations and demands of foreign buyers on Malaysian products. Findings from the research shows that China and Dubai consumers are willing to pay more for premium products and services. The groups of consumers with highest purchasing power are tourists and those aged eighteen (18) to thirty-five (35) years old.

On top of that, with collaboration between DDEC and Malaysia Airports Holdings Berhad, a platform was created for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to sell their products such as food and beverages, handicraft, as well as health and beauty, at the airports in Malaysia. The issues of lab testing, certification and custom declaration of exporting products to foreign markets were also raised during the Session.

- **Session 2: Get the Right Product Packaging for Export**



*Seminar in progress*

by Mr Shaharul Affendi Zulkepli, Project Account Manager, Business & Commercialisation, DDEC

The speaker shed light on the correct packaging and labelling methods for commercialised products. Besides having attractive and unique appearance, a product must have clear and precise labelling of a suitable name, brief introduction, specifications, barcode, manufacturer's address, net weight, ingredients and nutrition facts (for food and beverages) as well as user instructions (optional). The types of packaging materials can range from plastic, glass, papers to metal or tin.

- **Session 3: Assistance and Value Added Services for Your Potential Export Market**

by Mrs Nurfahana Kamez, Senior Associate, TAF/CRDF/HTDF Fund, MTDC

The speaker introduced various categories of technology funds offered by MTDC which aim to help businesses in using new technologies to startup or grow. The five (5) main funds include (i) Commercialisation of Research & Development Fund (CRDF) to boost local R&D; (ii) Technology Acquisition Fund (TAF) for the adoption of foreign technologies; (iii) Halal Technology Development Fund (HTDF) to promote halal technologies; (iv) Business Growth Fund to prepare business for high growth; and (v) Business Startup Fund for startup companies. The speaker also shared the eligibility criteria and types of fundable items.

To achieve the goals of Industry 4.0, MTDC also provides services such as Advisory and Value Added Services (AVAS) and Technopreneur Training Academy (TENTRA). AVAS identifies potential businesses and provides these businesses with support and solutions in order to elevate their competitive edge. On the other hand, TENTRA is established to develop and nurture future technopreneurs.

To wrap up the Seminar, Mr Tuan Haji Wasli Bin Ibrahim, Chief Executive Officer of Pawada Food Industries Sdn Bhd, shared his experiences and success stories to encourage the participants, especially those who are engaged in SMEs, to grow their business and to export their products with the assistance and services available.

Perbadanan Pembangunan Perdagangan Luar Malaysia (MATRADE) telah mengadakan Seminar “*Pembungkusan & Pelabelan untuk Pasaran Eksport: Mengapa Anda Mesti Melakukannya Dengan Betul*” pada 1 Ogos 2019 di Hotel Grand Margherita, Kuching.

Seminar bertujuan untuk memberi maklumat mengenai bantuan dan perkhidmatan tambah nilai berkenaan dengan adopsi teknologi bagi meningkatkan produktiviti untuk eksport serta memperkenalkan pelan penjenamaan strategik untuk menolong pengeksport Malaysia memasuki pasaran China dan Dubai.

Seminar menampilkan 3 sesi pleno dengan tumpuan mengenai strategi penjenamaan, pembungkusan dan pelabelan oleh Pusat Pembangunan Reka Bentuk Malaysia (DDEC) serta perkhidmatan pembiayaan perniagaan daripada Perbadanan Pembangunan Teknologi Malaysia (MTDC). Pembentangan oleh 3 penceramah pleno adalah seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.

马来西亚对外贸易发展公司 (MATRADE) 于2019年8月1日假古晋玛格丽达酒店举办出口市场的包装和标签：为何你必须做对研讨会。

研讨会旨予提供有关技术采用的援助和增值服务资讯，以提高出口生产率以及介绍品牌策略计划，帮助马来西亚出口商进入中国和迪拜市场。

研讨会分成3部分，专注于马来西亚设计发展中心(DDEC)提供的品牌，包装和标签策略以及马来西亚科技发展公司(MTDC)的商业融资服务。由3位主讲者所呈现的演讲如本文英文版中所列。

## Awareness Programme at Kastima FMU



*The speaker delivering his presentation*

An Awareness Programme on Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and Forest Management Certification (FMC) for the local communities and camp workers at Kastima Forest Management Unit (FMU) was conducted by the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) from 20 to 21 August 2019.

The Programme aimed to raise awareness among the local communities and camp workers on the Government's policies and regulations on SFM, land use and FMC as well as the appropriate mechanism for negotiation and conflict resolution through the Community Representative Committee (CRC).

During the Programme, three (3) presentations were conducted as follows:

- **Presentation 1: Introduction to the Forest Management Certification in Sarawak and Community Representative Committee**  
by Mr Kishen Bunya, Research Officer, Management and Planning Division, FDS

The speaker covered topics such as sustainable forest management; land use policy in Sarawak; *The Forests Ordinance, 2015*; achievement of certified

FMU in Sarawak as of July 2019; benefits of FMC; responsibilities of FDS, company and community; as well as establishment of CRC.

- **Presentation 2: Wildlife Protection in Sarawak**  
by Mr Karim Anak Jampang, Conservation Assistant, Similajau National Park and Community Liaison & Education Executive, Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC)

The speaker shared information on totally protected and protected wildlife; Wild Life Protection Ordinance, 1998; importance of wildlife and various species; main causes of wildlife extinction; and ways to protect wildlife.

- **Presentation 3: The Role of STA for Camp Workers**  
by Ms Suzie Adee, Administration Officer, STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT)

This presentation covered the need for training; The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015 (The Rules); target of trained workmen; STAT as training provider; skills sets training offered, particularly on the 5 prescribed forestry activities as listed in Schedule 1 of The Rules; passing criteria of assessment; and benefits of training.

A visit was also made to the long house at Rumah Osman Jau Long Nanyan, where FDS and SFC conducted similar briefings to the community there.

砂拉越森林局(FDS)于2019年8月20日至21日假Kastima森林管理单位(FMU)为当地原住民和营地员工举办可持续森林管理(SFM)和森林管理认证(FMC)醒觉活动。

该活动旨在提高当地原住民和营地员工对政府相关SFM，土地使用和FMC的政策和条规的意识，以及通过社区代表委员会(CRC)进行谈判和解决冲突的适当机制。该活动共发表如同英文版中列出的3份文章。



*Program Kesedaran Pengurusan Hutan Lestari (SFM) dan Persijilan Pengurusan Hutan (FMC) untuk komuniti tempatan dan pekerja kem di Unit Pengurusan Hutan (FMU) Kastima telah dijalankan oleh Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) dari 20 hingga 21 Ogos 2019.*

Program ini bertujuan untuk meningkatkan kesedaran dalam kalangan komuniti tempatan dan pekerja kem mengenai dasar dan peraturan Kerajaan mengenai SFM, penggunaan tanah dan FMC serta mekanisme bersesuaian untuk perundingan dan penyelesaian konflik melalui Jawatankuasa Perwakilan Komuniti (CRC). 3 pembentangan telah disampaikan semasa program seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel.

## 16<sup>th</sup> APEC EGILAT Meeting

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade (EGILAT) Meeting was held for the 16<sup>th</sup> time at Dreams Hotel, Puerto Varas, Chile from 16 to 17 August 2019. The Chairman, Dr Putera Parthama welcomed fourteen (14) economies, i.e. Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Chinese Taipei, Thailand and the United States (US) to this Meeting.

The Meeting inaugurated with a Welcoming Remark by Mr Jorge Aichele, National Forest Corporation (CONAF) Regional Director, Chile. The Meeting then proceeded with presentations from international public sector organisations such as Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), World Resources Institute (WRI), International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO) as well as Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNET). OECD highlighted the work done on responsible business conduct in different sectors including agriculture and mining; WRI shared challenges in promoting trade of legal forest products; ITTO shared information regarding ITTO's programs to support trade in legally harvested products; and APFNET explained the new changes contributing to illegal logging.

The Meeting also engaged private sector organisations in discussion which included Global Timber Forum, International Wood Products Association, Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Chile, Chilean Wood Corporation as well as Forest Stewardship Council Chile. The International Criminal Police Organisation also made a presentation regarding international cooperation in combatting forestry crimes.

Three (3) presentations were made by Chile, Peru and Malaysia on the recent developments in their domestic work to combat illegal logging and promote the trade of legal forest products. Chile shared information about recent technology to combat illegal logging; Peru illustrated multi-sectoral mechanisms to prevent and fight against illegal logging and its associated trade; and Malaysia shared information on its Compact Airborne Tactical and Surveillance System in Sarawak.

There were two (2) concept notes proposed by the EGILAT economies, i.e. the US and Chile. The US provided updates on concept note *"Advancing the Trade and Distribution of Legally Harvested Forest Products in the APEC Region"* that has been endorsed by members. Chile introduced a new concept note on *"Workshop to Increase Knowledge on Illegal Logging Criminal Aspects, and Related Criminal Activities"* to be submitted in 2020.

As the next APEC meeting will be held in Malaysia, a presentation was made on APEC Malaysia 2020. The EGILAT-17 will be held in Kuala Lumpur and subsequently EGILAT-18 in Melaka.

A half-day field trip was arranged to visit the oldest park in the country, Pérez Rosales National Park on 18 August 2019.

Mesyuarat Kumpulan Pakar Kerjasama Ekonomi Asia Pasifik (APEC) mengenai Pembalakan Haram dan Perdagangan Berkaitan (EGILAT) yang ke-16 telah diadakan di Hotel Dreams, Puerto Varas, Chile dari 16 hingga 17 Ogos 2019. Pengerusinya, Dr Putera Parthama mengalu-alukan 14 negara ekonomi ke Mesyuarat tersebut.

Mesyuarat dirasmikan dengan ucapan alu-aluan oleh Encik Jorge Aichele, Pengarah Serantau Perbadanan Hutan Nasional (CONAF), Chile. Mesyuarat kemudiannya diteruskan dengan pembentangan daripada organisasi sektor awam antarabangsa. Mesyuarat turut melibatkan organisasi sektor swasta dalam perbincangan.

3 pembentangan telah disampaikan oleh Negara Chile, Peru dan Malaysia mengenai perkembangan terkini di negara masing-masing dalam membanteras pembalakan haram dan mempromosi perdagangan produk hutan yang sah. Satu pembentangan tentang APEC Malaysia 2020 telah dibuat. EGILAT-17 akan diadakan di Kuala Lumpur dan seterusnya EGILAT-18 di Melaka.

亚太经济合作组织(APEC) 打击非法采伐林木及非法贸易专家小组(EGILAT) 第16届会议从2019年8月16日至17日于智利巴拉斯港梦酒店召开。主席普特拉帕塔玛博士迎来14名经济国代表出席会议。

会议在智利国家森林公司 (CONAF) 区域董事佐哲艾瑟乐先生致欢迎词时宣幕。随后, 会议进行国际公共部门组织发表。

会议也接触私立组织参与讨论。由智利、秘鲁和马来西亚代表就其打击非法采伐和促进合法林产品贸易的国内工作的最新进展进行三 (3) 个发表。会议也介绍2020年马来西亚APEC。届时, 第十七届EGILAT将于吉隆坡之后第十八届于马六甲召开。

# FLR Programme at Wildlife Corridor Within Licence for Planted Forests Area



*Participants of the symbolic tree planting ceremony*

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) embarked on a series of follow-up activities after the launching of the forest landscape restoration (FLR) programme by the Chief Minister of Sarawak on 15 June 2019 at Sabal Agroforestry Centre, Simunjan.

On 26 August 2019, the FDS conducted tree planting activity at Bukit Mina, a wildlife corridor connecting to two other conservation areas, namely Bukit Sarang and Binyo Penyilam within the Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) 0043 located in Bintulu. The representatives from Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd, Sarawak Planted Forests Sdn Bhd, GP Pusaka Sdn Bhd and STA Secretariat were invited to participate in the tree planting activity at the wildlife corridor.

In the speech delivered by Tuan Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad, Director of Forests, he said that tree planting at the wildlife corridor of LPF0043 is one of the activities conducted under the FLR programme in conjunction with FDS's 100 years' anniversary. The FLR programme within the LPF0043 aimed (i) to enrich and restore the degraded areas; (ii) to ensure the effective regeneration and ecological restoration of native ecosystem and threatened

species especially in conservation area; (iii) to restore health of ecosystem and increase flow of ecosystem service; and (iv) to increase tree cover in denuded buffer zones of rivers and streams through natural regeneration and tree planting.

He said that the targets to set up nursery to supply seedlings of indigenous tree species as well as to plant approximately 200 hectares per year with at least 5,000 seedlings of mixed indigenous tree species are to be achieved in the FLR programme inside the LPF0043.

He added that there is potential for the conservation area inside the LPF0043 to be used for wildlife research and ecotourism. Hence, he welcomed the local and international researchers to conduct study at the existing conservation areas.

The FLR programme in the LPF0043 kicked off with symbolic planting of various indigenous tree species at the surrounding area of Bukit Mina Field Station and along the wildlife corridor. After the tree planting activity, the group visited the Samarakan nursery as well as discussed tree harvesting operation of LPF0043.

Pada 26 Ogos 2019, Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) telah menjalankan aktiviti penanaman pokok di Bukit Mina, sebuah koridor hidupan liar yang menghubungkan 2 kawasan pemuliharaan di dalam Lesen Ladang Hutan (LPF0043) bertempat di Bintulu.

Dalam ucapan yang disampaikan oleh Tuan Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad, Pengarah Hutan, beliau berkata bahawa penanaman pokok di koridor hidupan liar LPF0043 merupakan salah satu aktiviti yang dilaksanakan di bawah program FLR bersempena dengan ulang tahun ke-100 FDS.

Beliau bertambah bahawa kawasan pemuliharaan di dalam LPF0043 berpotensi digunakan untuk penyelidikan hidupan liar dan eko-pelancongan. Program FLR di LPF0043 bermula dengan penanaman simbolik pelbagai spesies pokok asli.

砂拉越森林局(FDS)于2019年8月26日假民都鲁Bukit Mina举办树木种植活动。Bukit Mina是连接位于森林种植准证(LP)0043内其它两个保护区的野生动物走廊。

砂拉越森林局局长哈姆登先生在致词时表示于LPF0043内的野生动物走廊举办树木种植活动是配合该局庆祝100周年纪念而进行的森林景观恢复计划(FLR)中的活动之一。

他补充说LPF0043内的保护区可被用于进行野生动植物研究和生态旅游。在LPF0043的FLR计划以象征式种植各种本土树种作为启动仪式。



*Tuan Hamden (with spade, 1<sup>st</sup> from left) planting a seedling of indigenous tree species*



## MEF Circular No 9/2019: Discontinuation of Cash and Cheque Payments for Scheduled Monthly Tax Deduction (PCB) at all LHDNM Counters

STA had received a Circular No 9/2019 dated 16 August 2019 from the Malaysian Employers Federation. The details of the Circular are as follows:

The Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia (IRB) had decided to gradually move towards the full utilisation of the e-payment system for tax payments beginning with PCB payments as well as the taxpayer's excess tax refund.

2. In addition to the previously introduced e-PCB and e-Data, the IRB introduced the e-CP39 on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019 specifically for employers who are still manually submitting their employees' PCB information on a monthly basis.

**3. The IRB will stop receiving manual CP39 forms, compact disks, flash drives and diskettes from employers with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019.**

4. For submission of employee PCB information beginning the month of August 2019 and subsequent months, employers may only use the e-PCB, e-Data PCB or e-CP39 through the ezHasil portal that is accessible at the IRB websites.

5. In addition, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2019, the IRB will also cease to accept PCB payments via cheque and cash at all IRB Payment Centres including payments through postal and courier services.

6. All employers are thus compulsorily required to make PCB payments for their employees using online payment methods as follows:

- Financial Process Exchange (FPX)
- Internet banking
- Fund transfer via Interbank GIRO (IBG)
- Through check deposit kiosks of the CIMB bank network only

7. Any PCB payments by cheque received via post or courier will not be processed and the employer will be subjected to late payment penalties for failure to submit PCB payment through the e-payment method by the due date. Employers will be notified of any changes to the electronic submission of form CP39 as well as the e-payment method for PCB payments.

For clarification and assistance on the above revision, members can contact IRB centre at 03-83138888.

STA telah menerima Pekeliling Bil. 9/2019 bertarikh 16 Ogos 2019 daripada Persekutuan Majikan Malaysia. Butiran Pekeliling adalah seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.

本会接获来自马来西亚雇主联合会（MEF）于2019年8月16日所发布编号9/2019通告。通告内容如英文版所列。

## State Task Force on Illegal Logging Meeting No 1/2019



Meeting in progress

The Deputy Chief Minister, Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, who is also the Second Minister for Urban Development and Natural Resources, chaired the State Task Force on Illegal Logging Meeting No 1/2019 on 29 August 2019 at Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching.

In his Opening Remarks, Datuk Amar mentioned that the Meeting served as a platform to strengthen collaboration between regulating agencies to combat illegal logging and to ensure more effective enforcement measures can be taken.

The Sarawak Government has put in place various policies, laws, regulations and procedures for the forestry sector such as *The Forests Ordinance, 2015*, *The Forests Rules* as well as the Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS). He said that the Sarawak Government has also carried out various measures to prevent corruption among enforcement agencies by developing and implementing the Corruption Risk Management.

Four (4) presentations were made during the Meeting. Lieutenant-General Datuk Stephen Mundaw presented the inter-agencies standard operating procedures (SOP). The objective is to review the existing inter-agencies SOP on forest functions in Sarawak to strengthen joint

operations amongst agencies throughout the State. He also briefed the participants on the formation of the Forest Prevention and Enforcement Working Committee - Special Forces Team.

Mr Jack Liam, Deputy Director of Forests, covered the status of combatting illegal logging in Sarawak. Mr Affendy Suhaili, Executive Forester, gave a briefing on the continuous monitoring and surveillance initiative by the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS). Meanwhile,

Datuk Dr Chai Khin Chung, Director of State Security and Enforcement Unit, shared the strategy and operation taken to combat illegal logging.

Also present at the Meeting were Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, Assistant Minister of Urban Planning, Land Administration and Environment; Dato Sri JC Fong, State Legal Advisor; Datu Dr Haji Wan Lizozman Bin Wan Omar, Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources; Tuan Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad, Director of Forests; representatives from the FDS, Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd, Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission, Royal Malaysia Police, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, Sarawak State Attorney-General's Chambers, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, Sarawak Timber Association as well as industry players.

Timbalan Ketua Menteri, Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan yang merangkap Menteri II bagi Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli mempengerusikan Mesyuarat Badan Bertindak Negeri mengenai Pembalakan Haram Bil. 1/2019 pada 29 Ogos 2019 di Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching.

Dalam Ucapan Pembukaannya, Datuk Amar menyatakan bahawa Mesyuarat ini bertindak sebagai platform untuk mengukuhkan kerjasama di antara agensi-agensi pengawalseliaan bagi membanteras pembalakan haram dan memastikan tindakan penguatkuasaan yang lebih berkesan dapat diambil. Beliau berkata Kerajaan Sarawak telah melakukan pelbagai langkah untuk mencegah rasuah dalam kalangan agensi penguatkuasa. 4 pembentangan telah disampaikan semasa Mesyuarat.

砂副首长兼第二城市发展及天然资源部部长拿督阿玛阿旺登雅于2019年8月29日假古晋资源大厦主持本年度非法伐木州专案组第一次会议。

拿督阿玛在致词时表示该会议作为加强监管机构之间的合作平台，以打击非法伐木，并确保采取更有效的执法措施。他说，砂拉越政府还采取了各种措施来防止执法机构之间的腐败。该会议共接纳4份报告。

## Stakeholders Consultation Session for Phase 2 of Forest Resource Inventory Project

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) organised a "Stakeholders Consultation for Phase 2 of the Forest Resource Inventory Project in Heart of Borneo (HoB) Sarawak Extension Areas" from 29 to 30 August 2019 at Riverside Majestic Hotel, Kuching. The 2-day Consultation Session which aimed to collate feedback and opinions from respective stakeholders on the Project's planning and implementation strategy was attended by approximately forty (40) participants from the State forestry agencies, State Planning Unit, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and STA Secretariat.

Mr Oscar John Ngayop, Assistant Director of Forests (Licensing Division), shared in his Opening Speech that the first forest resource inventory project was carried out in Sarawak from 1968 to 1971, with the assistance from the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations. Nearly half a century later, in 2016, the FDS embarked on another forest resource inventory with the expertise and knowledge of a team of researchers from the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM).

However, due to setbacks such as topography and lack of funding, the Project had to be carried out in phases with priority given to the HoB Sarawak areas. With grant of RM3 million from the Ministry of Water, Land and Natural Resources, Phase 1 of the Project was successfully carried out and the Forest Resource Inventory Report is currently being reviewed by the Project Technical Committee. He added that with continued funding from the Ministry, FDS was able to extend the Project to cover HoB Sarawak's extension area which stretches from Batang Ai to Tanjung Datu, aptly called Phase 2 of the Project.



Stakeholders participating in the Consultation Session

Mr Muhamad Afizzul Misman, project team member from FRIM then took the stage to present the methodology of the Project, which covers remote sensing, field inventory, capacity building and technology transfer as well as documentations. While many of the components are adopted from Phase 1 of the Project, he sought the participants' input throughout the discussion session on ways to better carry out the study for Phase 2 of the Project which involves a study area of 565,251 hectares with different forest types and land use.

Participants were then divided into groups to discuss the strata and distribution of sample, sampling design and data collection as well as data analysis. Altogether, participants felt that for the purpose of maintaining a consistent inventory of forest resources in Sarawak, the variables and methodologies proposed to be used in Phase 2 of the Project should not vary too much from the ones adopted in Phase 1 of the Project.

Phase 2 of the Project is expected to be carried out from January 2020 to December 2021.



Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) telah mengadakan “*Perundingan Pihak Berkepentingan untuk Projek Inventori Sumber Hutan Fasa Kedua bagi Kawasan Sambungan Heart of Borneo (HoB) Sarawak*” dari 29 hingga 30 Ogos 2019 di Hotel Riverside Majestic, Kuching. Perundingan Pihak Berkepentingan selama 2 hari ini bertujuan untuk mengumpul maklum balas dan pendapat daripada pihak berkepentingan mengenai perancangan serta strategi pelaksanaan projek tersebut.

Encik Oscar Johin Ngayop, Penolong Pengarah Hutan (Bahagian Pelesenan), berkongsi dalam ucapan pembukaannya bahawa projek inventori sumber hutan yang pertama telah dijalankan di Sarawak dari 1968 hingga 1971. Pada 2016, FDS telah memulakan projek inventori sumber hutan dengan kepakaran dan pengetahuan sepasukan penyelidik daripada Institut Penyelidikan Perhutanan Malaysia (FRIM).

Encik Muhamad Afizzul Misman, ahli pasukan projek daripada FRIM menyampaikan metodologi Projek tersebut. Peserta-peserta dibahagikan kepada beberapa kumpulan untuk membincangkan strata dan pengagihan sampel, rekaan persampelan dan pengumpulan data serta analisis data. Fasa Ke-2 Projek akan dilaksanakan dari Januari 2020 hingga Disember 2021.

砂森林局(FDS)于2019年8月29日至30日假古晋滨江大酒店举办砂拉越婆罗洲心脏扩展区森林资源清查计划第二阶段利益相关者协商会。为期2天的协商会旨予整理各利益相关者有关计划规划和实施策略的反馈和意见。

FDS许可证部助理局长奥斯卡先生在开幕致辞时称，砂拉越第一森林资源清查计划于1968年至1971年进行。在2016年，FDS在马来西亚森林研究所 (FRIM) 的专业和知识研究团队协助下，开展了另一项森林资源清查。

FRIM计划团员莫哈末阿菲祖先生呈现该计划的使用方法。参与者随后分成小组讨论样本的分层和分布，抽样设计和数据收集以及数据分析。计划第二阶段预计将于2020年1月至2021年12月间进行。

## SWIS Briefing & Data Entry Session No 3



SWIS briefing in progress

SWIS. Similar sessions were also conducted in Bintulu and Sibul previously.

First time users are required to register at the website [swis.sarawak.gov.my](http://swis.sarawak.gov.my) for a SWIS account in order to provide input, manage and generate report. Members can contact STA Secretariat at 082-332222 or email [anna@sta.org.my](mailto:anna@sta.org.my) for a copy of the guideline on using SWIS.

The Sarawak Government through the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Research (MESTR) organised a Sarawak Workforce Information System (SWIS) Briefing and Data Entry Session No 3 at Imperial Hotel, Kuching, on 8 August 2019. Approximately thirty (30) representatives from various industries attended the Session to understand the implementation of SWIS as well as its data entry process.

Madam Hajah Khaninah Binti Haji Ariff, Principal Assistant Secretary from MESTR, said that the SWIS is a web-based online system developed by the Sarawak Government through MESTR to capture the current and projected workforce supply and demand data of the educational institution and industries in Sarawak. The data is essential for effective and efficient planning of workforce development by the Sarawak Government. She further explained that the data collected will be different from the Department of Labour Sarawak and Department of Statistics Sarawak as SWIS has the latest information which is reliable and easy to retrieve for decision makers. According to her, the data will also benefit companies in their internal workforce planning. She highlighted that the data provided will be kept secured and confidential.

Ms Clarissa Edna, IT Support Officer from Sarawak Information Systems Sdn Bhd, guided participants on the supply, demand and system administration modules for

Kerajaan Sarawak melalui Kementerian Pendidikan, Sains dan Penyelidikan Teknologi (MESTR) telah menganjurkan *Taklimat Sistem Maklumat Tenaga Kerja Sarawak (SWIS) dan Sesi Kemasukan Data Bil. 3* di Hotel Imperial, Kuching, pada 8 Ogos 2019. Beberapa industri telah menghadiri Sesi ini untuk memahami pelaksanaan SWIS serta proses kemasukan datanya.

Puan Hajah Khaninah Binti Haji Ariff, Ketua Penolong Setiausaha daripada MESTR berkata bahawa SWIS merupakan sistem atas talian berasaskan web yang dibangunkan oleh Kerajaan Sarawak melalui MESTR. Cik Clarissa Edna, Pegawai Sokongan IT daripada Sarawak Information Systems Sdn Bhd, membimbing para peserta mengenai modul penawaran, permintaan dan pentadbiran sistem untuk SWIS.

砂州政府通过砂教育、科学及工艺研究部 (MESTR) 于2019年8月8日假古晋帝国酒店举办砂劳动力资讯系统 (SWIS) 第三届数据输入及简介会。各行业代表参与简介会以了解SWIS的实施及其数据输入过程。

MESTR助理秘书哈查卡妮娜女士称SWIS是一项由砂政府通过MESTR开发基于网络的在线系统。砂拉越资讯系统有限公司信息技术官员克拉丽莎小姐指导参与者有关SWIS的供应，需求和系统管理模式。

# Launching of Sarawak Biodiversity Centre - Mitsubishi Corporation Algae Cultivation Facility

The Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (SBC), in collaboration with Mitsubishi Corporation (MC) and with technical support from Chitose Group, formed a strategic partnership in setting up an Algae Cultivation Facility (ACF) at SBC, Semengoh, Kuching for large scale production of local microalgal strains. This facility is one of the largest outdoor ACF in Southeast Asia covering an area of 1,000 m<sup>2</sup>, and was launched by the Chief Minister of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, on 27 August 2019.



*Launching of ACF by the Chief Minister*

In his Welcoming Speech, Tan Sri Datuk Amar Wilson Baya Dandot, Chairman of Sarawak Biodiversity Council, thanked the Sarawak Government for the continuous support provided to SBC. He also briefed the participants on the roles and functions of SBC, the facilities available as well as the local and international collaboration research projects conducted by the SBC. He stated that a joint study with MC was initiated in 2012 to harness the potential of Sarawak's rich microalgal biodiversity for energy-related application, and now with the availability of ACF, SBC is moving towards large scale production and commercialisation of algal-based high value products such as dietary supplements, animal feed, biofuel, pharmaceuticals, etc.

In his address, Mr Kenji Ota, Senior Vice President and General Manager (Natural Gas Group) of MC, said that the MC is committed to assist and support the development of eco-friendly business and industry in Sarawak using microalgae as the resource. He looked forward to continuous collaboration with SBC in the microalgal projects and hoped that the ACF will give wide spectrum of potential business and achieve significant milestones towards the creation of eco-friendly industry.

Delivering his Opening Speech, the Chief Minister congratulated SBC and its partners for the great research collaboration and wished for the success of the microalgal projects. He said that Sarawak has the resources to produce green products, and the Sarawak Government had established the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Research to look into the research and development (R&D) in this aspect. He then revealed that a substantial budget will be allocated for R&D in Sarawak under the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan. He also shared that the Sarawak Government has allocated 100 acres of land at Kota Samarahan for the development of a bio-industrial park and he welcomed investors to participate in this project to commercialise products derived from Sarawak's rich biodiversity.

The Chief Minister later officiated the launching ceremony and witnessed the Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) exchange between SBC and various parties, namely MC, Chitose Group and SeaHorse Corporation Sdn Bhd.

Pusat Biodiversiti Sarawak (SBC) dengan kerjasama Mitsubishi Corporation (MC) serta sokongan teknikal daripada Chitose Group telah membentuk satu perkongsian strategik dalam mewujudkan Kemudahan Penanaman Alga (ACF) di SBC, Semengoh, Kuching untuk pengeluaran besar-besaran strain mikroalgal tempatan. Kemudahan ini dilancarkan oleh Ketua Menteri Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg pada 27 Ogos 2019.

Tan Sri Datuk Amar Wilson Baya Dandot, Pengerusi Majlis Biodiversiti Sarawak dalam ucapannya menyatakan bahawa kajian bersama dengan MC telah dimulakan pada 2012 untuk memanfaatkan potensi kepelbagaian mikro di Sarawak bagi aplikasi yang berkaitan dengan tenaga dan kini dengan adanya ACF, SBC bergerak ke arah pengeluaran berskala besar dan pengkomersilan produk bernilai tinggi berasaskan alga.


Dalam ucapannya, Encik Kenji Ota, Naib Presiden Kanan dan Pengurus Besar (Kumpulan Gas Asli) MC berkata MC komited untuk membantu dan menyokong pembangunan perniagaan dan industri mesra alam di Sarawak dengan menggunakan mikroalgal sebagai sumber. Ketua Menteri dalam Ucapan Pembukaannya mengucapkan tahniah kepada SBC dan rakannya di atas kerjasama penyelidikan yang hebat dan berharap untuk kejayaan projek-projek mikroalgal.

砂拉越生物多元中心(SBC)在得到新千岁集团的技术支援下和三菱商事(MC)联合在古晋实蒙谷SBC组成了设立藻类养殖设施(ACF)的战略伙伴关系,以大规模生产本地微藻菌株。该设施于2019年8月27日由砂拉越首席部长拿督巴丁宜阿邦佐哈里推展。

在致欢迎辞时,砂拉越生物多元理事会主席丹斯里拿督阿玛威申表示2012年与MC联合开展了一项研究,以利用砂拉越丰富的微藻生物多元性对能源相关应用的潜力。如今,有了ACF之后,SBC正走向以藻类为主的高价值产品的大规模生产和商业化发展。

MC天然气部门高级副总裁兼总经理太田健司表示MC将致力于利用微藻作为资源来协助和支持砂拉越的环保型商业和工业发展。在致开场辞时,首席部长恭贺SBC及其合作伙伴进行了很好的研究合作,并希望微藻项目取得成功。





Wishing all Members and Readers

# *Happy Malaysia Day*

From the Chairman, Council Members, Management and Staff of STA, STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd and STA Training Sdn Bhd

Pengerusi, Ahli-Ahli Majlis, pihak Pengurusan dan Kakitangan STA, STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd dan STA Training Sdn Bhd ingin mengucapkan Selamat Hari Malaysia kepada semua ahli STA dan para pembaca.

本会主席, 理事会, 管理委员会, 秘书处,  
STA Enterprises有限公司, STA Mutual 有限公司及STA Training 有限公司  
全体职员在此祝愿所有会员和读者马来西亚日快乐。

*16 September*