



March - April 2020

For Private Circulation Only

Issue 261

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

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

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

Editorial Board

Editor:

Freda Emmanuel

Members:

Annie Ting
Jaime Chan
Law Hui Chau

Announcement on Combined March and April 2020 Issues

This is to inform that the March 2020 and April 2020 issues of STA dan Rakan2 have been combined. This is taking into consideration that most activities and events of the forestry and timber industry have been cancelled or limited due to the current enforcement of the Movement Control Order which started on 18 March 2020.

* * * * *

STA Occupational Safety and Health Committee Meeting No 1/2020



Photo: Mr Chang Kueh Ming (seated, middle) with Committee members and STA Secretariat

The STA Council in its Meeting No 3/2019 dated 17 December 2019 approved the formation of STA Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Committee with the objectives to deal with matters relating to OSH in the forestry and timber industry, to liaise with the relevant OSH government agencies, and to facilitate compliance of OSH requirements by members of STA.

The STA OSH Committee comprising seven (7) members convened its first

meeting on 6 March 2020 at WTK Office, Sibul. Mr Chang Kueh Ming from Samling Group of Companies was elected as the Chairman of STA OSH Committee. He thanked everyone for being present and urged members to work together in enhancing OSH practices in the forestry and timber industry to prevent accidents through information sharing and developing a common guidelines or documents related to OSH.

Continued on page 2

Enforcement of Protected Plants in Sarawak

A Meeting between Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA, and Tuan Haji Zolkipli Bin Mohamad Aton, Chief Executive Officer of Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), and senior officers from SFC and STA, was held on 4 March 2020 at SFC Office, Kuching, to discuss and understand matters related to enforcement of protected plants in Sarawak following concerns raised by STA members.

With the recent restructuring of Forest Department Sarawak and SFC, the Meeting noted that duties of the Controller of Wild Life has been taken over by SFC. This has led to SFC focusing on some key areas which include enforcement of protected plants in Sarawak. SFC will be conducting inspection on protected plants at landing site or log pond. The protected plants may also be restricted for local use only in the near future. Prior approval from the Controller of Wild Life also needs to be obtained for felling of protected plants such as tapang, menggris, etc, within a licenced area including salvage area, which is as listed in the Second

Schedule of the Wild Life Protection Ordinance, 1998.

Similarly, licence to export protected plant has to be obtained from the Controller of Wild Life for exporting these protected plants, including those that have been converted to timber products such as sawn timber. In accordance with the Second Schedule of the Wild Life Protection Rules, 1998, the export licence fee up to a maximum of RM10 per plant / part, which was waived by the previous Controller of Wild Life, shall be charged with immediate effect.

STA highlighted that any procedural changes and policy implementation will directly impact the forestry and timber industry, and appealed to SFC to provide advance notifications to the industry. STA also expressed its willingness to work closely with SFC in achieving a smooth transition for the restructuring exercise.

* * * * *

(Continue from page 1)

Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA, briefed the Committee members on the background and objectives of the STA OSH Committee. She also shared that Ir Dr Nor Halim Bin Hasan, Director of the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) Sarawak, in the Meeting held on 24 February 2020, stated that to enhance workplace safety in the forestry and timber industry, DOSH intends to explore different approaches from the existing tripartite OSH campaign of DOSH Sarawak, STA and Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), as well as to develop an OSH module for the industry which was a similar approach taken by DOSH Sarawak with the Sibu Shipyard Association in 2019.

The OSH module for the industry will cover operational hazard identification and risk control for different logging

activities such as tree felling, log extraction, log loading and log transportation. The details of this module will be further discussed in subsequent workshops. Once developed, the module can be used by STA or OSH Coordinators to train forestry operators and for industry to move towards self-regulation.

The members supported the collaboration between DOSH Sarawak, STA and STIDC in improving OSH compliance in the forestry and timber industry, and felt that operational hazard identification and risk control should be developed as a generic document for the industry. Individual companies can further develop the generic document to include specific hazards and risk control as well as risk assessment based on the companies' own operating procedures and ground practices.



Did you know that.....

Zoonotic diseases are a group of infectious disease transmitted naturally between animals (wild and domestic) and humans. 60% of existing human infectious diseases are zoonotic. Some of the outbreaks of zoonotic diseases worldwide in recent years include middle east respiratory syndrome (MERS), severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), Avian influenza H5N1 and Ebola virus.

Source: <https://www.wcs.org/get-involved/updates/a-primer-on-the-coronavirus>

Meeting with Forestry & Timber Industry Stakeholders called by Department of Occupational Safety and Health Sarawak

The members of STA Occupational Safety and Health Committee, STA Secretariat and officers from Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation attended a Meeting with the forestry and timber industry stakeholders called by the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) Sarawak at DOSH Office, Sibu Branch, on 6 March 2020.

The Meeting was chaired by Ir Dr Nor Halim Bin Hasan, Director of DOSH Sarawak. In his Opening Remarks, Ir Dr Nor Halim mentioned that the purpose of this Meeting was to discuss and develop a module with the objective to enhance workplace safety in particular at logging areas. He further said that it is the responsibility of both employers and employees in ensuring workplace safety.

He also shared the experience of DOSH in collaborating with Sibu Shipyard Association in 2019 where they had successfully prevented accidents using the generic Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment and Risk Control (HIRARC) model developed by DOSH for the shipping industry, and which is now used throughout Malaysia.

He hoped that the forestry and timber industry can emulate the effort and collaboration between DOSH and Sibu Shipyard Association.

Mr Chai Chong Foong from the Investigation and Prosecution Section, DOSH, presented statistics on OSH compliance of the logging sector in Sarawak.

Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA, stated that the Meeting is a good platform to discuss safety issues and STA is supportive of such initiative including development of training modules on safety with DOSH.

Mr Chang Kuet Ming, Chairman of STA OSH Committee, thanked DOSH for inviting STA to the Meeting and he hoped that all parties can work together to enhance workplace safety and prevent accidents from happening in the forestry and timber industry.

During discussion, Ir Dr Nor Halim shared that this year in Sarawak, DOSH has three (3) high impact programmes which includes;

- (i) safety collaboration with non-governmental organisations;
- (ii) collaboration with forestry and timber industry; and
- (iii) industry awareness on noise-induced hearing loss.

He also said that DOSH will be collaborating with STA to come up with a training module, and suggested that STA or OSH Coordinators can train the members based on the developed modules and provide guidance through workshops.

Ms Christy Claire De Guzman from DOSH Kuching shared on the OSH Coordinator Programme developed by DOSH for small and medium enterprises to comply with OSH requirements.

The programme modules are divided into three (3) parts comprising (i) legislative requirement; (ii) HIRARC; and Work Improvement of Small Enterprises (WISE).

The Meeting acknowledged that the proposed module for forestry and timber industry shall also include jetty and workshop besides tree felling, log extraction, log loading and log transportation.



Photo: Group photo with Ir Dr Nor Halim (seated, 3rd from right)

Printed Matter



Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak
Sarawak Timber Association

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

Electronic Endorsement of K2 Form

The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) has informed STA that the STIDC approving officer shall electronically endorsed the Export License on the back of the Customs Export Declaration Form (K2) by using the officer's QR Code and electronic STIDC stamp. The K2 Form will no longer be manually endorsed.

Shown below is a sample copy of the electronically endorsed K2 Form by STIDC.

OGA REFERENCE NO. : MYY/0021/04/2020
AKTA KASTAM 1967 (REV. 1980) ACT 235
(SEKSYEN 31(1))
PERINTAH KASTAM (LARANGAN MENGENAI EKSPORT) 2017

Key ID Features

Lesen Eksport No. : ST1134204000212020 ini dikeluarkan

Kepada Syarikat : [REDACTED]

Untuk Mengeksport : MEDIUM DENSITY FIBREBOARD - EXPORT

Kod Tariff : 4411120000 Eksport Ke : JAPAN

(Seperti dinyatakan dalam : 4411130000)

Borang Kastam : _____

No.2 PIN 8/89) : _____

diluluskan sebanyak : 313.6184 MTQ

Lesen ini sah sehingga : 21/04/2020

Syarat lain (jika ada) : _____

Segala pindaan tidak dibenarkan

Key ID Features

Tarikh : 09-Apr-2020

Key ID Features

b.p Ketua Pengarah Kastam
Kastam DiRaja Malaysia
GALANG LAMAN SITDC MITI

*The Chairman,
Council Members,
Management and Staff of
Sarawak Timber Association (STA),
STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd,
STA Mutual Sdn Bhd, and
STA Training Sdn Bhd*

*wishes all readers Selamat Hari
Raya Aidilfitri*