

STA Review

Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association
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2019



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STA
Council Meeting
No 3/2019



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16TH SERIES
of Sarawak Timber
Industry Occupational
Safety and Health
Campaign



6

55TH SESSION
of the International
Tropical Timber Council

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STA REVIEW

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STA Council Meeting No 3/2019



Council Meeting in progress

The STA Council held its Meeting No 3/2019 at Wisma STA, Kuching, on 17 December 2019. The Meeting was presided over by Pemanca Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik, Chairman of the Association, and attended by Dato Henry Lau, Honorary Secretary; Mr Philip Choo, Honorary Treasurer; and twenty (20) members of the Council.

The Meeting received reports from various Category Committees and Working Committees as well as research projects on forest plantation which are funded by the Association. The Meeting approved the formation of STA Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Committee comprising ten (10) members from both downstream and upstream sectors. The OSH Committee shall deal with matters relating to OSH and liaise with relevant government agencies to improve the industry's compliance with OSH legislations.

The Meeting also approved the budget for the Association to facilitate and carry out various activities and work for year 2020. Matters pertaining to STA Training Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd and STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd were also discussed at this Meeting.

The Meeting resolved to call the next Annual General Meeting of the Association on 30 March 2020, where the election of Council members for the new term of 2020 and 2021 shall take place. In accordance with Article 8(e) (i) of the Articles of Association, the Meeting appointed five (5) members to form an Election Committee, whose appointment shall take effect on 2 March 2020.

Majlis STA telah mengadakan Mesyuarat Bil. 3/2019 di Wisma STA, Kuching pada 17 December 2019. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Pemanca Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik, Pengerusi Persatuan.

Mesyuarat menerima laporan dari beberapa Jawatankuasa Kategori dan Jawatankuasa Kerja serta projek penyelidikan ladang hutan yang dibiayai oleh Persatuan. Mesyuarat memutuskan untuk mengadakan Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan Persatuan pada 30 Mac 2020.

本会本年度第三次理事会会议于2019年12月17日假古晋STA大厦召开。会议由本会主席邦曼查拿督黄启晔爵士主持。

会议接纳各小组委员会，工作委员会以及由本会所资助的有关人工林研究项目的报告。会议决定于2020年3月30日召开下届年度会员大会。

STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 6/2019

The STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 6/2019 was held on 13 December 2019 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Meeting was presided over by its Committee Chairman, Mr Peter Ling Kwong Hung.

The Meeting discussed and revised the guidelines for STA research and development (R&D) funding which provide details on application eligibility and process, duties and responsibilities of recipients as well as procedures on project monitoring and fund disbursement.

The Meeting received a report on the completion of the project entitled "*An Ecosystem Approach Towards Formulation of a Biofertiliser Containing Growth-Enhancing Rhizospheric Microorganisms for Silviculture of Neolamarckia cadamba and Eucalyptus pellita*" presented by Dr Daniel Tan of Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus (SUTS). Conducted by SUTS in collaboration with Sarawak Forestry Corporation and STA member companies, this project was fully funded by the Association with an allocation amounting to RM582,420.00.

The Meeting also received reports on three (3) other R&D projects funded by the Association including (i) Development

and Deployment of Improved Genetic Materials of *Falcattaria moluccana* - Phases 1 & 2; (ii) Production of Quality Kelampayan Planting Materials for Industrial Tree Plantation in Sarawak Using Plant Tissue Culture Technique; and (iii) Scaling-Up Production of Micropropagated Kelampayan Clone towards Sustainable Growth of the Wood-Based Industry in Sarawak. The Meeting discussed at length the progress and findings of these projects as well as deliberated on the projects' agreements and disbursements.

The Meeting also took note that the appeal to the Ministry of Finance to exclude the forest plantation sector from the 7-year limitation to carry forward unabsorbed business losses, unutilised reinvestment allowances and investment allowances stipulated under the Finance Act 2018 has been rejected.

本会人工造林小组于2019年12月13日假本会大厦举行第六次执委会议。会议由该小组主席林光训先生主持。

该会议商讨及修订了本会研究与发展 (R&D) 资金指南。会议也接纳由本会资助的多项R&D项目报告，并详尽讨论这些项目的进展及结果。



Dr Daniel Tan (far left) presenting his report

Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Ladang Hutan STA Bil. 6/2019 telah diadakan pada 13 December 2019 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusi Jawatankuasa, Encik Peter Ling Kwong Hung.

Mesyuarat membincangkan dan menyemak semula garis panduan bagi pembiayaan penyelidikan dan pembangunan (R&D) STA. Mesyuarat turut menerima laporan mengenai beberapa projek R&D yang dibiayai oleh Persatuan dan berbincang secara mendalam tentang perkembangan dan penemuan projek-projek tersebut.

Meetings of STA Subsidiary Companies

The subsidiary companies of Sarawak Timber Association (STA), namely STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd (STAE), STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) and STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), held their respective Meetings between 16 to 17 December 2019 at Wisma STA, Kuching.

The Meetings were presided over by Pemanca Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik and are detailed as follows:

i. STAE

The STAE Board of Directors' (BOD) Meeting No 3/2019 was held on 16 December 2019. The Meeting deliberated and approved various matters, especially pertaining to the tenancy of Wisma STA and maintenance of the building.

ii. STAM

The STA Board of Honorary Advisers' (BHA) Meeting No 3/2019 was held on 16 December 2019. The Meeting recommended the following decisions to the BOD of STAM for approval:

- Award of bonded STA Scholarships for Academic Session 2019 to two (2) students, one who is pursuing Bachelor of Engineering (Chemical Engineering) at Curtin University of Technology Sarawak Campus, while the other is studying Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical and Electronic) at Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus; and
- Disbursement of funds for the completed project by one (1) Group of Companies to improve key facilities at Sekolah Kebangsaan Nanga Kua, Selangau.

Subsequently, the STAM BOD Meeting No 3/2019 endorsed the recommendations made by the BHA.

iii. STAT

The STAT BOD Meeting No 3/2019 was held on 17 December 2019. The Meeting received updates on training activities conducted by STAT from 1 October to 30 November 2019. A total of twenty-six (26) workmen have been assessed and found competent during the said period.

The Meeting also approved the Financial Incentive Scheme for Training of Forestry Workmen to all workmen assessed to be competent from 1 October to 30 November 2019 in the five (5) Prescribed Forestry Activities (PFA), i.e. (i) *Certificate in Tree Felling – Chainsaw (Natural Forest)*; (ii) *Certificate in Log Extraction – Tractor (Natural Forest)*; (iii) *Certificate in Log Loading – Front End Loader (Natural Forest)*; (iv) *Certificate in Clear-Fell Site Preparation – Chainsaw (Forest Plantation)*; and (v) *Certificate in Mechanical Site Preparation – Excavator (Forest Plantation)*. The BOD has also approved the appointment of Ms Annie Ting as Manager of STAT with effect from 18 December 2019.

Anak-anak syarikat Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak iaitu STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd (STAE), STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) dan STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) telah mengadakan Mesyuarat masing-masing antara 16 hingga 17 Disember 2019 di Wisma STA, Kuching.

Mesyuarat-mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Pemanca Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik dan perincian Mesyuarat adalah seperti dalam artikel.

本会旗下子公司, STA Enterprises 有限公司 (STAE)、STA Mutual有限公司 (STAM) 以及 STA Training 有限公司 (STAT) 于2019年12月16至17日假本会大厦各自举行会议。

Briefing on Occupational Safety & Health at the Workplace

A Briefing on Occupational Safety and Health at the Workplace was held at Wisma STA, Kuching, on 13 December 2019. Mr Sadiyuk Henry Rigit, Chief Assistant Director of the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) Sarawak, was present to deliver the Briefing to the STA Secretariat.

Mr Sadiyuk started off by providing a briefing on the background of DOSH, principles of *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1994 (Act 514)* [OSHA 1994] and duties of employers. He further explained that the objectives of OSHA 1994 are to ensure the safety, health and welfare of employees, and to protect them and others from the risks

arising from work activities. He highlighted that self-regulation is important to handle issues relating to occupational safety and health. Employers must also develop a good and orderly management system by implementing a safety and health policy as well as making proper arrangements for the policy to be carried out.

At the Briefing, Mr Sadiyuk advised employers to form a safety and health committee so that risk assessment based on the *Guidelines for Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment and Risk Control, 2008* (Guidelines for HIRARC, 2008), can be performed appropriately. The committee will also be responsible for the record keeping of all activities related to occupational, safety and health at the workplace.

The Guidelines for HIRARC, 2008 is available for download on the DOSH website www.dosh.gov.my/index.php/legislation/guidelines/hirarc-2.

Taklimat mengenai Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan di Tempat Kerja telah diadakan di Wisma STA, Kuching pada 13 December 2019. Encik Sadiyuk Henry Rigit, Ketua Penolong Pengarah Jabatan Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan (DOSH) Sarawak telah hadir untuk menyampaikan Taklimat kepada Sekretariat STA.

Semasa Taklimat, Encik Sadiyuk menasihati majikan untuk menubuhkan sebuah jawatankuasa keselamatan dan kesihatan supaya penilaian risiko berdasarkan *Garis Panduan bagi Pengenalpastian Hazard, Penaksiran Risiko dan Kawalan Risiko (HIRARC), 2008* dapat dijalankan dengan sewajarnya.

一项关于职场职业安全与卫生简报会于2019年12月13日假本会大厦举行。卫生局（DOSH）首席助理总监沙迪玉先生到现场为本会职员提供简报。

在简报会中，沙迪玉先生劝勉雇主成立安全与卫生委员会，并根据《2008年危害识别、风险评估和风险控制指南》进行适当的风险评估。

16th Series of Sarawak Timber Industry Occupational Safety and Health Campaign

The 16th Series of Sarawak Timber Industry Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Campaign for the management level was held on 18 December 2019 at Promenade Hotel, Bintulu. This Campaign has been jointly organised by the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) Sarawak, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA) since 2015. About fifty (50) participants from the downstream timber industry and forestry agencies attended the Campaign.

In her Welcoming Speech, Mdm Nur Edora, Manager of Resource Planning Section of STIDC, mentioned that safety at workplace is important because accidents will have negative impacts on both employers and employees, even more so if it involves loss of life. She urged all participants especially the management of the company to establish a safe and healthy working culture for their workers.

In her speech, Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA, thanked STIDC and DOSH for involving STA in organising such campaigns in the past four (4) years. According to her, these campaigns were conducted in camps and mills to create awareness on safety and health at workplace for the workers. She hoped that through this corporation, a platform could be formed to assist the timber industry players to comply with the requirements of DOSH. Ms Ting also urged the participants to take this opportunity to seek clarification on issues faced by them on the ground.

Subsequently, Mr Syed Mohamed Firdaus of DOSH Bintulu gave a presentation on the background of DOSH and also provided details on two (2) main OSH Acts, i.e. *Factories and Machinery Act 1967 (Act 139)* and *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1994 (Act 514)* [OSHA 1994]. He also covered the statistics on accidents in Malaysia and pointed out that Sarawak has one of the highest cases in accidents. Besides this, he shared real case scenarios of accidents and their



Mr Syed Mohamed Firdaus of DOSH giving his presentation

causes, and stressed the importance of conducting hazard identification, risk assessment and risk control (HIRARC) activities at workplace.

Mr Firdaus further highlighted Sections 15 and 32 of the OSHA 1994. Under Section 15, it is stated that employers and self-employed persons have the duty to ensure the safety, health and welfare of their employees at the workplaces; while Section 32 states that an employer shall notify the nearest DOSH office of any accident, dangerous occurrence, occupational poisoning or occupational disease which has occurred or is likely to occur at the place of work. The Campaign ended with a question and answer session.

为管理层所举办的第16届砂拉越木材工业职业安全与卫生活动系列于2019年12月18日假民都鲁长廊酒店举行。自2015年以来，该活动便由职业安全与卫生局（DOSH）、砂拉越木材工业发展机构（STIDC），以及本会（STA）联合举办。在致欢迎辞时，STIDC资源规划经理努尔依多拉女士表示工作场所的安全很重要，因为意外事故将对雇主和雇员产生负面影响。

随后，来自DOSH民都鲁的弗尔道斯先生介绍了DOSH的背景，并提供了两个主要的职业安全与卫生（OSH）法令的细节，弗尔道斯先生进一步强调了1994 OSH法令第15和第32条文。

Kempen Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan (OSH) ke-16 untuk Industri Perkayuan di Sarawak telah diadakan pada 18 December 2019 di Hotel Promenade, Bintulu dengan menumpukan kepada pihak pengurusan syarikat. Kempen dianjurkan secara bersama oleh Jabatan Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan (DOSH) Sarawak, Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (STIDC) dan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) sejak 2015.

Dalam Ucapan Alu-aluannya, Puan Nur Edora, Pengurus Bahagian Perancangan Sumber STIDC, berkata bahawa keselamatan di tempat kerja adalah penting kerana kemalangan akan memberi kesan negatif kepada kedua-dua majikan dan pekerja.

Encik Syed Mohamed Firdaus daripada DOSH Bintulu memberi taklimat mengenai latar belakang DOSH dan 2 Akta utamanya. Encik Firdaus selanjutnya menggariskan Bahagian 15 dan 32 OSHA, 1994.

55th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council

The International Tropical Timber Council held its fifty-fifth Session (ITTC-55) from 2 to 7 December 2019 in Lomé, Togo, to discuss a range of issues related to sustainable tropical forest management and the international timber trade, besides touching on administrative, operational and financial matters of running the International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO) as well as ITTO-funded projects.

ITTO is an intergovernmental organisation promoting the sustainable management and conservation of tropical forests, as well as the expansion and diversification of international trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed and legally harvested forests. It comprises seventy-four (74) member countries with ITTC as the governing body.

ITTC is assisted by four (4) Committees, namely (i) Committee on the Economic Information and Market Intelligence; (ii) Committee on Forest Industry; (iii) Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management; and (iv) Committee on Finance and Administration. These 4 Committees convened their respective meetings during the one-week Session.

At the opening of the ITTC-55, Dr Gerhard Dieterle, Executive Director of ITTO, mentioned that currently it has been recognised internationally that forests and forest products can contribute substantially to the mitigation of climate change. He further said that the clear recognition of the role of forests and forest products has practical implications on ITTO's work. Also present at the opening were Mr Kome Sélom Klassou, Prime Minister of Togo; Professor David Wonou Oladokoun, Minister of Environment, Sustainable Development and Natural Protection of Togo; and Mr John James Leigh Vetter, Chair of ITTC-55.

It was highlighted that ITTO has embarked on an initiative to encourage the development of “*legal and sustainable*” tropical timber supply chains. ITTO will work with governments in the tropics, as well as importing countries, wood producers and exporters, and civil-society bodies to increase transparency in such supply chains, adopt sustainable practices such as low-impact logging and efficient processing techniques, and ensure the equitable distribution of benefits from the tropical timber trade.

The ITTC's inaugural Trade and Market Day took place on the second day of the Session. It comprised high-level panel discussion and annual market discussion, focusing mainly on Africa's forest and timber sector, in particular to the opportunities and challenges of added value processing in Africa. A statement was delivered by the Trade Advisory Group highlighting, amongst others, the increasing interest shown



Malaysian delegation led by Mr Mad Zaidi Mohd Karli, Senior Undersecretary, Ministry of Primary Industries (seated, centre); Mr Mohd Kheiruddin Mohd Rani, Director General, Malaysian Timber Industry Board (seated, left); Dr Stephen Teo Ping, Research Officer, Forest Department Sarawak (seated, right); Ms Hamidah Abdullah, Director, Malaysian Timber Council (standing, right); and Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer, STA

globally to establish tree plantations and urged ITTO to play an important role to unlock the critical obstacles, so as to spur tree plantations, especially in the context of ecosystem restoration.

Other presentations made included (i) situation of tropical timber markets in the European Union as part of the work by Independent Market Monitor; (ii) enhancing cooperation between ITTO and Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES); (iii) developments in Global Timber Tracking Network; and (iv) process of APEC Expert Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade (EGILAT).

During the Session, ITTC has adopted ITTO Environmental and Social Management (ESM) Guidelines. ITTC has also agreed to revise the “*Draft Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics*” which is a joint initiative of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) involving ITTO, Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), United Nations-Environment, WeForest, and World Resources Institute (WRI).

The ITTC-55 concluded with a field visit to the Missahoe Reserved Forest near Lomé on 7 December 2019.

Sesi ke-55 Majlis Kayu Tropika Antarabangsa (ITTC-55) telah diadakan dari 2 hingga 7 Disember 2019 di Lomé, Togo, untuk membincangkan pelbagai isu berkaitan pengurusan hutan tropika yang lestari dan perdagangan kayu antarabangsa.

Semasa pembukaan ITTC-55, Dr Gerhard Dieterle, Pengarah Eksekutif ITTO, menyebut bahawa pada masa ini sumbangan ketara hutan dan produk hutan ke arah pengurangan perubahan iklim telah diiktiraf di peringkat antarabangsa.

Ia menekankan bahawa ITTO telah memulakan inisiatif untuk menggalakkan pembangunan rantaian bekalan kayu tropika yang "*sah dan mampan*".

Hari Perdagangan dan Pasaran ITTC berlangsung pada hari kedua Sesi. Ia terdiri daripada perbincangan panel peringkat tinggi dan perbincangan pasaran tahunan yang memberi tumpuan kepada sektor perhutanan dan perkayuan Afrika. Semasa Sidang, ITTC telah menerima pakai Garis Panduan Pengurusan Alam Sekitar dan Sosial ITTO (ESM) ITTO.

第55届国际热带木材理事会会议 (ITTC-55) 于2019年12月2日至7日在多哥罗美市召开, 讨论相关可持续热带森林管理和国际木材贸易的一系列课题。

国际热带木材组织 (ITTO) 执行董事格哈德迪特勒博士在主持会议时表示目前国际已经公认森林和森林产品可以为缓解气候变化做出巨大贡献。

会议强调 ITTO 已采取一项举措以鼓励发展“合法和可持续”的热带木材供应链。

ITTC 的首届贸易和市场日在会议的第二天举行, 其中包括高级别小组讨论和年度市场讨论, 主要关注非洲的森林和木材企业。会议期间, ITTC 接纳 ITTO 环境与社会管理 (ESM) 指南。

TRADE STATEMENT. ITTC55. LOME, DEC 2019

Chairman

Ladies and Gentlemen

This Trade Statement is made on behalf of the Trade Advisory Group.

International trade in tropical timber and timber products has been rather uncertain over the last several months, made worse by the reality of a massive trade dispute.

The global timber trade has not been immune to the disruptive effects of the US-China trade dispute. US log and sawnwood exports to China have fallen, hurting US producers, and China's wood-product exports to the US have been decimated by the tariffs imposed on imports and the proliferation of anti-dumping and countervailing orders on a variety of wood products. As a result, Chinese companies have cut back on tropical timber imports used for export production.

Meanwhile, Building construction contracted in the European Union in the first half of 2019, according to the latest Eurostat data. A large and growing proportion of the tropical-hardwood-faced plywood imported into the EU is manufactured in China. The EU imported 76 100 tonnes of this product from China in the first half of 2019, up by 39% compared with the same period in 2018. These gains offset a 4% fall in plywood imports from Indonesia over the period, to 46 300 tonnes, and a 32% drop from Malaysia, to 19 700 tonnes.

Japan's plywood imports dropped by 15% in the first half 2019, year-on-year. Import volumes have declined from the main suppliers of China, Indonesia and Malaysia. Meanwhile, Japan is increasing the use of her own local timber resources.

As worrying as these figures show, they are only the bumps over the last several months. What is even more worrying is the trend shown over the last several years. The ITTO/FLEGT Independent Market Monitor released a Report in May 2019 on EU public timber procurement policies. This Report analysed the major EU markets for HS Code 44, which is timber and other timber products, imported from VPA partner countries. In 2005, total imported into EU was 9.2 million cubic metres in round wood equivalent. By 2017, this figure has dropped to 4.4 million. In 12 years, products in HS Code 44 going into EU dropped by 52%. Fifty two percent.

However, amidst all this gloomy news, we noted with respect that recently a motion has been accepted in the Dutch parliament, by an overwhelming majority, to use more timber in the building sector as this is much more environmentally friendly than the use of competing materials such as concrete. This Dutch political move has reminded us that TAG had suggested in 2017 that ITTO should look at climate change and see in which niche can we make the biggest impact.

What can ITTO do to address climate change? Firstly, we need to be realistic with the resources we have available. The Finance Working Group was convened twice to seek ways to strengthen our financial health. While it seems there might be light at the end of our dark financial tunnel, we need to be prudent, not to spread ourselves out too thin. In this context, TAG suggests ITTO to focus on only one aspect of climate change: the positive relationship between trees and carbon sequestration. Since there is scientific evidence growing trees is good for the climate, we should capitalize on this. This positive linkage is also now accepted by many international fora.

The Inter Governmental Panel on Climate Change has clearly recognized the role of wood products, both from natural and planted forests, as significant in the fight against climate change. Further, the Panel said the fight cannot be achieved without forests and forest products. This is a critical statement of fact which TAG wants ITTO to communicate freely and widely.

There is year round sunshine and rains in the Tropics, so growing conditions are ideal --- not only in tree plantations but also in well managed commercial production forests. Timber harvesting is not carbon emission and timber products are renewable and store carbon.

Council should be aware of the increasing interest shown globally to establish tree plantations. And more importantly, Council should know the struggle by investors and other stakeholders to plant trees. There is probably enough biological science and knowledge available on how to grow trees, with enough care to biodiversity, but what is holding back plantations of significant scale? Is Economics not on the side of the trees? Is it more profitable to plant other crops which, ironically, might necessitate deforestation before planting?

This is where ITTO can play an important role to unlock the critical obstacles, so as to spur on tree plantations, especially in the context of ecosystem restoration. There is already a lot of expertise in Member Countries, and elsewhere, but ITTO need to show leadership and harness this collective expertise into a practical way forward.

In this context, we ask Council to fund an international meeting of experts on facilitating commercially viable plantations in tropical countries, or the development of an international tropical timber plantations strategy. The strategy could identify the obstacles to commercially viable, long term economics of plantations in tropical countries, as well as actions countries could take to make themselves competitive to international investors interested in tree plantations. The strategy should also look at where industries using plantations are a success and what are the factors that created that business opportunity.

The TAG is standing by to support ITTO management, as we always do. But are you ready? Are we capable to ignite a tree plantation revolution to save the Climate?

Thank you.

Stakeholder Consultation: Study on Sarawak Hydro Lakes Management and Development Plan 2030

The State Government, through the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) Sarawak, has appointed KTA (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd (KTASSB) as the consultant for the “*Study on Sarawak Hydro Lakes Management and Development Plan 2030*”. The Study covers the river basins of all four (4) hydro lakes of Bakun, Murum, Baleh and Batang Ai.

As the development activities in these areas will have an impact on the long term sustainability of the hydro lakes, the aim of the Study is to propose a comprehensive infrastructure development and integrated watershed management plan for the 4 lakes and its river basins.

On 12 December 2019, the EPU Sarawak conducted a Stakeholder Consultation on this Study at Wisma Bapa Malaysia, Kuching, which was attended by representatives from the ministry offices, government agencies, non-governmental organisations, associations, private companies, and STA Secretariat.

During the Consultation, KTASSB presented on the needs for sustainable lake management, key environmental issues, buffer width recommendations, etc. Inputs and suggestions were also gathered from the participants on the proposed sustainable management and development activities for the 4 hydro lakes and its river basins.

Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA, requested EPU Sarawak and KTASSB to provide briefing and discussion sessions to STA members, especially those with forest timber licences and licences for planted forests within and adjacent to the river basins.

Kerajaan Negeri melalui Unit Perancang Ekonomi (EPU) Sarawak telah melantik KTA (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd (KTASSB) sebagai perunding bagi “*Kajian mengenai Pelan Pengurusan dan Pembangunan Tasik-tasik Hidro Sarawak 2030*”. Kajian ini merangkumi lembangan sungai dari 4 tasik hidro iaitu Bakun, Murum, Baleh dan Batang Ai.

Tujuan Kajian adalah untuk mencadangkan pembangunan infrastruktur yang komprehensif dan pelan pengurusan kawasan tadahan air bersepadu untuk 4 tasik tersebut dan lembangan sungainya.

Pada 12 Disember 2019, EPU Sarawak telah mengadakan Perundingan Pihak Berkepentingan mengenai Kajian ini di Wisma Bapa Malaysia, Kuching.

砂政府透过其经济策划组（EPU）任命砂KTA有限公司（KTASSB）为“砂水坝管理及发展研究2030年计划”的顾问。此项研究覆盖的流域包括巴贡、穆鲁姆、巴类及巴当四个（4）水坝。

此项研究是为这四个水坝及其河流流域提出全面的基础设施开发和综合流域管理计划。砂EPU于2019年12月12日假古晋国父大厦进行关于此项研究的利益相关者咨询环节。

Briefing on Corporate Liability by MACC Sarawak

A Briefing on Corporate Liability was carried out during the Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) East Malaysia (Sarawak) Regional Meeting on 18 December 2019 at Wisma PERKESO, Kuching. The Briefing was presented by Senior Assistant Commissioner (SAC) Chang Ching, Deputy Director (Prevention) from the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) Sarawak.

According to SAC Chang Ching, the Parliament passed a new provision on corporate liability under Section 17A of the MACC Act 2009 on 5 April 2018, in line with (i) Article 26 on Liability of Legal Persons under the United Nations Convention against Corruption which was signed by Malaysia on 9 December 2003 and ratified on 24 September 2008; and (ii) Chapter 26 of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership which was signed by Malaysia on 8 March 2018.

The new provision shall be enforced by MACC on 1 June 2020, two (2) years after it was passed by the Parliament, to provide adequate time for commercial organisations to understand the new provision and take necessary precautionary measures to comply with it.

A commercial organisation is defined as (i) any company incorporated under the Companies Act 2016; (ii) any

business registered under the Partnership Act 1961; (iii) any business registered under the Limited Liability Partnerships Act 2012; or (iv) any company incorporated and carrying out its business in part or in whole in Malaysia.

Under the new provision, a commercial organisation could be prosecuted if a person associated with the organisation commits a corrupt act to enable the organisation to acquire or retain a contract or interest. Not only will the individual be charged for corrupt act, but the commercial organisation can be held liable for not preventing corrupt act from happening by having in place adequate procedures such as policies on corruption and training for employees.

Furthermore, its directors, controllers, officers, partners, managers or any persons who are involved in the organisation's management affairs at the time of the offence are deemed to have committed the same offence, unless he can prove that the corrupt act was committed without his consent or connivance and that he had exercised due diligence to prevent the corrupt act.

The penalty for the offence is a fine of not less than ten (10) times the sum or value of the gratification or RM1 million, whichever is higher; or imprisonment for a term not exceeding twenty (20) years; or both.

Meanwhile, the Guidelines on Adequate Procedures was launched on 10 December 2018 to help commercial organisations to implement adequate procedures to prevent corrupt practices in their business activities. The Guidelines spell out five (5) key principles as reference for commercial organisations based on the word “TRUST”:

- T - Top Level Commitment
- R - Risk Assessment
- U - Undertake Control Measures
- S - Systematic Review and Monitoring
- T - Training and Development

The Guidelines can be downloaded from the National Centre for Governance, Integrity and Anti-Corruption website giacc.jpm.gov.my/garis-panduan-tatacara/.

于2019年12月18日假古晋 PERKESO 大厦所召开的马来西亚雇主联盟 (MEF) 东马 (砂拉越) 区域会议上进行了一项关于企业责任的简报会。该简报是由马来西亚反贪委员会 (MACC) 砂拉越区副区长 (防范) 郑靖先生主持。

根据郑靖先生，国会于2018年4月5日根据2009年 MACC 法令第17A条文通过了一项有关企业责任的新条文。该新增条文将于2020年6月1日起由MACC强制执行。根据该条文，如果与一商业组织有关联的人士，为达到取得或维持合约或利益的目的而涉及贪污，则该商业组织可被提控。

同时 MACC 也于2018年12月10日发布适当程序指南以帮助商业组织实施适当的程序以防止其商业活动中的贪污行为。

Taklimat mengenai Liabiliti Korporat telah diadakan semasa Mesyuarat Wilayah Persekutuan Majikan-majikan Malaysia (MEF) Malaysia Timur (Sarawak) pada 18 Disember 2019 di Wisma PERKESO, Kuching. Taklimat telah disampaikan oleh Penolong Pesuruhjaya Kanan (SAC) Chang Ching, Timbalan Pengarah (Pencegahan) daripada Suruhanjaya Pencegahan Rasuah Malaysia (MACC) Sarawak.

Menurut SAC Chang Ching, Parlimen telah meluluskan peruntukan liabiliti korporat baru di bawah Seksyen 17A Akta MACC 2009 pada 5 April 2018. Peruntukan baru akan dikuatkuasakan oleh MACC pada 1 Jun 2020.

Di bawah peruntukan baru, organisasi komersil boleh didakwa jika individu berkaitan dengan organisasi melakukan rasuah yang membolehkan organisasi tersebut memperoleh atau mengekalkan kontrak atau kepentingan.

Garis panduan mengenai Langkah-langkah Memadai telah dilancarkan pada 10 Disember 2018 untuk membantu organisasi komersil melaksanakan langkah-langkah yang memadai bagi mencegah amalan rasuah dalam aktiviti perniagaan mereka.

Sarawak Sign Language Book Launching Ceremony

The very first edition of the book “Sarawak Sign Language” (SwSL) was launched by the Sarawak Society for the Deaf (SSD) on 19 December 2019. The launching ceremony was officiated by Mr See Chee How, Batu Lintang Assemblyman, and witnessed by Mr Brian Yeo, Finance and Administration Senior Manager of Sarawak Timber Association (STA); Mr Titus Chuo, Founder of SSD; and Mdm Wenderine Koo, Chairperson of SSD.

Mr Albert Wong Toun Chui, Project Coordinator of SwSL, who is also the President of Sarawak Deaf Sports Association and Treasurer of ASEAN Deaf Sports Federation, in his speech, thanked STA for being the main organisation providing funding for this project. With the financial contribution of RM50,000.00 by STA together with other funding resources, SSD was able to carry out and complete the 10-month project starting from August 2018 to June 2019.

SwSL is intended to help the people of Sarawak to learn and understand the communication methods, such as hand gestures, body as well as facial expression, used by the deaf society in Sarawak. A total of 220 signs were selected from over 1,000 signs collected from all areas across Sarawak.

As of now, 100 copies of the book have been produced and they are available in two (2) languages which are Bahasa Malaysia and English. SSD will be distributing it to special needs organisations located in Kota Samarahan, Sibu and Miri, as well as three (3) integrated secondary schools, namely Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan (SMK) Datuk Patinggi Haji Abdul Gapor, Kuching; SMK Rosli Dhoby, Sibu; and SMK Dato Permaisuri, Miri.



Mr See Chee How, Batu Lintang Assemblyman (centre), holding the book “Sarawak Sign Language” at the launching ceremony

Edisi pertama buku “Sarawak Sign Language” (SwSL) telah dilancarkan oleh Persatuan Orang-orang Pekak Sarawak (SSD) pada 19 Disember 2019. Majlis pelancaran telah dirasmikan oleh Encik See Chee How, wakil rakyat Batu Lintang.

Encik Albert Wong Toun Chui, Penyelaras Projek SwSL di dalam ucapannya berterima kasih kepada STA sebagai penyumbang dana utama bagi projek tersebut.

Sehingga kini, 100 salinan buku telah dihasilkan dan boleh didapati dalam 2 bahasa iaitu Bahasa Malaysia dan Inggeris.



First edition of the book "Sarawak Sign Language"

砂拉越聋哑协会于2019年12月19日推展第一册砂拉越手语(SwSL)书籍，并邀请巴都林当区州立法议员施志豪主持该推展礼。

SwSL 项目协调员，黄传聚先生在致词时感谢本会成为该项目的主要资金赞助商。

截至为止，协会共印刷100本书册，共两种语言，分别为国语和英语。

Briefing on National Timber Industry Census Study

The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) and Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) jointly organised a *Briefing on National Timber Industry Census Study* at Pullman Hotel, Kuching, on 20 December 2019. UKM Pakarunding Sdn Bhd (UKMPSB), the consultant appointed by MTIB to carry out the study, shared outcomes and recommendations at the Briefing.

The study was carried out with the objectives to (i) gather information on the number, status and production of wood-based mills; (ii) identify types of raw materials used in the productions process, especially furniture; (iii) gather information on employees' engagement and their level of competency; (iv) identify level of technology used and innovative systems applied by mills; and (v) recommend strategies to improve the level of technology and to reduce dependency on foreign workers in wood-based industry.

In his Welcoming Remarks, Dato' Dr Mohd Puat Bin Dahalan, Deputy Director General (Management & Operation) of MTIB, said that the study started in March 2017, and it is the first comprehensive study conducted by MTIB focusing on key issues in the timber industry including raw materials, workforce, technology and production.

Mdm Suraya Binti Mohd Ali, Assistant General Manager (Integrity Division) of STIDC, represented Mdm Dayang Nena Binti Abang Bruce, Deputy General Manager of STIDC, in attending the Briefing. In her Opening Remarks, she hoped that the outcomes of the study could help the timber industry to strategise their future plans. She also hoped that the Malaysian Government will provide more financial support for the increasing research and development (R&D) works carried out by the relevant stakeholders.

The outcomes of the study were presented by Dr Khamurudin Mohd Nor from UKMPSB. He informed the participants that the study was conducted throughout Malaysia and the response rate received from Sarawak was 96.7%. The study disclosed that in 2018, there were 227 active mills and 46 inactive mills in Sarawak. A total of 76.0% timber mills experienced inadequate raw materials. In terms of technology advancement, 133 mills were using low technology equipment and 87 mills were using manual technology. The workforce composition in Sarawak is 7,401 local workers compared to 19,069 foreign workers, mainly in sawmill, plywood & veneer and furniture sector, 24.2% of mills claimed that the total workforce was insufficient. Based on the findings, areas that need to be closely managed

are (i) sustainability of raw materials; (ii) keeping pace with technological advancement to ensure product relevancy and marketability; and (iii) developing local talents to be competent in the industry. Some of the recommendations made by UKMPSB include:

- Approach potential countries to supply raw materials;
- Invest in R&D to improve log quality to meet sectors' demand, particularly sawmill and plywood & veneer;
- Encourage high level of manufacturing strategies; and
- Strengthen best practice management system and introduce comprehensive community industry program.

Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia (MTIB) dan Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (STIDC) secara bersama telah menganjurkan *Taklimat Kajian Bancian Industri Perindustrian Kayu Kebangsaan* di Hotel Pullman, Kuching, pada 20 Disember 2019. UKM Pakarunding Sdn Bhd (UKMPSB), perunding yang dilantik oleh MTIB untuk menjalankan kajian berkongsi mengenai hasil dan cadangan dalam Taklimat itu.

Kajian dijalankan di seluruh Malaysia dan menerima 96.7% maklum balas dari Sarawak. Kajian menunjukkan bahawa pada tahun 2018, terdapat 227 kilang yang aktif dan 46 tidak aktif di Sarawak.

Antara cadangan yang dikemukakan oleh UKMPSB termasuklah berhubung dengan negara-negara berpotensi dalam membekalkan bahan mentah, mengalakkan strategi pembuatan bertahap tinggi, mengukuhkan sistem pengurusan amalan terbaik, dan lain-lain.

马来西亚木材工业局(MTIB)与砂拉越木材工业发展机构(STIDC)于2019年12月20日假古晋普尔曼酒店联办国家木材工业普查研究简报会。UKM顾问有限公司(UKMPSB)受委进行此研究，并在简报会上分享研究结果和建议。

此研究在马来西亚各地进行，砂拉越的答复率为96.7%。研究显示，2018年砂拉越有227家工厂活跃和46家工厂不活跃。UKMPSB 提出的建议包括接洽供应原材料的潜在国家，鼓励高水平的制造策略，加强最佳实践管理体系及等等。

National Standards Committee on Timber, Timber Products and Timber Structure (NSC V) Meeting No 1/2019

The Department of Standards Malaysia (DSM) called a National Standards Committee on Timber, Timber Products and Timber Structure (NSC V) Meeting No 1/2019 on 19 December 2019 at Impiana Hotel KLCC, Kuala Lumpur. The Meeting was chaired by Tuan Mohd Kheiruddin Bin Mohd Rani, Director General of the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB).

Tuan Mohd Kheiruddin explained that this Committee has not met since beginning of the year due to an adjustment in the Standard Development Agencies (SDAs), which saw the changing of Secretariat from MTIB to DSM. He thanked all committee members representing government agencies, national universities and the timber industry for being present. He also informed that the Committee has changed its name from Industry Standards Committee (ISC V) to National Standards Committee (NSC V).

Mr Shahrul Mohd Tahir of DSM reported that there are currently twenty-five (25) national standards committees, and all these committees will need to be revised to be in line with various strategies set by the Government including (i) Industry4WRD: National Policy on Industry 4.0; (ii) Mid-Term Review of the 11th Malaysia Plan; and (iii) 12th Malaysia Plan.

As at 8 October 2019, there are ninety-six (96) Malaysian Standards (MS) developed under NSC V. As of now, these MS are voluntarily implemented by the industries,

businesses and consumers. Mr Shahrul further informed that under NSC V structure, there are four (4) Technical Committees and ten (10) Working Groups. The 4 Technical Committees are (i) timber; (ii) timber structures; (iii) wood based products; and (iv) bamboo & rattan.

At the Meeting, DSM also reported the status of regional and international standardisation activities. According to DSM, all standards review projects are currently moving forward. In addition, DSM will organise roadshows and seminars in all regions to promote the usage of MS.

Jabatan Piawaian Malaysia (DSM) telah mengadakan Mesyuarat Bil. 1/2019 Jawatankuasa Piawaian Kebangsaan Kayu, Produk Kayu dan Struktur Kayu (NSC V) pada 19 Disember 2019 di Hotel Impiana KLCC, Kuala Lumpur. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Tuan Mohd Kheiruddin Bin Mohd Rani, Ketua Pengarah Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia (MTIB).

Tuan Mohd Kheiruddin memaklumkan bahawa Jawatankuasa telah bertukar nama daripada Jawatankuasa Piawaian Industri (ISC V) kepada Jawatankuasa Piawaian Kebangsaan (NSC V).

Encik Shahrul Mohd Tahir daripada DSM melaporkan bahawa setakat kini terdapat 25 jawatankuasa piawaian kebangsaan dan kesemua jawatankuasa perlu diteliti semula seiring dengan pelbagai strategi yang ditetapkan oleh Kerajaan.



Meeting in progress

马来西亚标准局(DSM)于2019年12月19日假吉隆坡宴宾雅酒店召开国家木材、木材产品和木材结构标准委员会(NSC V) 该本年度首次会议。会议由马来西亚木材工业局(MTIB)总监凯鲁丁先生主持。

凯鲁丁告知委员会从工业标准委员会(ISC V)易名为国家标准委员会(NSC V)。

DSM官员沙鲁先生汇报目前有二十五个国家标准委员会。这些委员会需要修改以符合政府制定的各项策略。

Press Release on Raising Minimum Wages to RM1,200

The following Press Release was issued by Sarawak Timber Association in response to the latest decision by the Government in raising minimum wages to RM1,200 in fifty-seven (57) major cities and towns effective from 1 January 2020.

砂拉越木材公会发布以下英文版新闻稿，以响应政府的最新决定，即从2020年1月1日起将57个主要城市的最低薪金提高至RM1,200。

Kenyataan Akhbar di bawah dikeluarkan oleh Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak berikutan keputusan terkini Kerajaan untuk meningkatkan kadar gaji minimum kepada RM1,200 di 57 bandar yang berkuatkuasa mulai 1 Januari 2020.



PRESS RELEASE

EFFECTS OF RAISING MINIMUM WAGES SHOULD BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED AMIDST ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTIES

STA is deeply concerned about the latest decision by the Government in raising minimum wages (MW) to RM1,200 in fifty-seven (57) major cities and towns effective from 1 January 2020. STA continues to support the Government's efforts and policies in spurring sustainable and equitable economic growth.

Nevertheless, STA is taken aback by the seemingly hasty and ambiguous pattern of setting the MW. In less than sixteen (16) months, the MW was revised from RM1,000 for Peninsular Malaysia and RM920 for Sabah & Sarawak to become RM1,100 nationwide effective 1 January 2019, which was then again raised to the recent RM1,200 effective 1 January 2020. Relevant stakeholders, specifically employers and employees, have been since thrown in a state of confusion and unease due to the constant revisions of the MW by the Government.

STA is in the opinion that such move without considering the current lethargic global economic condition and the capacity of employers to continuously absorb rising operation costs will indefinitely take its toll on the already hard-hit industry. STA had earlier on joined the Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) in raising concerns that the review of MW of RM1,200 was not conducted in a proper way as governed by the National Wages Consultative Council Act 2011.

When the MW was first implemented, STA requested the Government to look into the issue of the MW being enforced as "basic wages" which does not take into account other existing factors such as activities of a particular sector and productivity growth. For example, in the forestry and timber industry, employers often provide various incentives in the form of accommodation, meal and transportation, to name a few, to encourage higher productivity rate amongst the vast majority of low-skilled workers. Such realities should be measured and examined in order to accurately capture the impact of MW and to make the necessary adjustments. In addition, thorough studies should also be conducted on the differences in cost of living amongst the 57 cities and towns, as well as the relationship between labour and productivity gains.

As of now, the increases in the MW are being fully borne by the industry as in the case of STA members. The MW hikes have also created a negative ripple effect where the setting of a higher MW is inadvertently causing pays to go up across the board in the organisation. In this regard, STA strongly appeals to the Government to fulfil its manifesto to subsidise half of the increase in MW, so that the undue effects of the MW hikes could be minimised.

The upward review of MW will inevitably lead to cost increase in timber and timber products. For example, plywood which is one of the main export products of Sarawak, is currently seeing a cost increase of about RM18 per cubic metre. Sarawak is already losing its market shares to more competitive nations like Indonesia, Viet Nam and other ASEAN countries, who are able to offer their products at cheaper prices. Even before the MW increase to RM1,200, our plywood production cost has skyrocketed over the last few years due to increase in costs for raw materials and labour. Log cost has escalated by at least 22% since 2017 because of increase in Hill Timber Premium from RM0.80/m³ to RM50.00/m³ (hill timber species), Timber Premium (Rehabilitation & Development) from RM0.60/m³ to RM5.00/m³; glue cost has increased by 12%, and administrative & distribution costs increased by 59% due to significant reduction in production volume. For our plywood export to Japan, it has dropped by 32% over the corresponding period of January to November 2018 and 2019.

During these difficult situations, STA emphasises that it is not the intent of its members to wind up operations unless all other choices have been exhausted. Winding up an operation takes more than just turning off the lights and locking the doors, especially when it involves the livelihoods of countless people, the valuable resources utilised and revenue contribution towards the State's development.

STA understands the Government's efforts to ensure a fair share of the fruits of progress to all. But, raising the MW to RM1,200 or even RM1,500 just to fulfil the General Election-14 Manifesto without considering respective industries may have an adverse effect. As anxiety grows amidst economic uncertainties and changing policies, perhaps it is also equally important to relook into carrying out in depth impact assessment on the wages and socioeconomic indicators as well as to have prior consent consultation with the relevant stakeholders.

Chairman of Sarawak Timber Association
31 December 2019

Forest Management Certification: Stage Two Audit of Mujong-Melinau Forest Management Unit



Participants of the stage 2 audit of Mujong-Melinau FMU

The Mujong-Melinau Forest Management Unit (FMU), T/3361, belonging to Subur Tiasa Holdings Berhad, had undergone its stage 2 audit for forest management certification (FMC) under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCs) from 9 to 12 December 2019. The Mujong-Melinau FMU is located between Mujong River and its tributary Melinau River in Kapit Division. Garu Camp is the administration centre of this FMU and it is located about sixty-five (65) kilometres upriver from Kapit Town along Batang Baleh.



Document review

The objectives of this stage 2 audit were:

- to evaluate the extent of compliance of the forest management practices by Mujong-Melinau FMU against the requirements of the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest) [MC&I(Natural Forest)];
- to evaluate the compliance of activities by Mujong-Melinau FMU with its own policies and procedures against the requirements of the MC&I(Natural Forest); and
- to determine whether the forest management system has been designed to achieve and is capable of achieving performance improvement and ensuring regulatory compliance.

The four-day audit was conducted by auditors from SIRIM QAS International Sdn Bhd led by Tuan Haji Roslee Jamaludin and assisted by two (2) auditors namely, Mr Mohd Razman Salim and Mr Mohd Annas Amin Haji Omar. Representatives from Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) and STA Secretariat participated in the audit as observers.

During the Opening Meeting, Mr Lance Hung Sing Lu, Certification Manager, presented the background of Mujong-Melinau FMU, roadmap towards FMC

and various activities implemented by the FMU on the ground. The auditors performed assessment against the requirements of the MC&I(Natural Forest) based on document review, site visit, interview and consultation with relevant stakeholders.



Site visit

A few major and minor non-conformity reports (NCRs) as well as opportunity for improvements (OFIs) were raised by the auditors during the Closing Meeting. The Mujong-Melinau FMU will be recommended for FMC upon closure of the major NCRs within three (3) months from the date of audit and acceptance of corrective action by the peer reviewers. No verification audit will be required.



Consultation with the local community

Unit Pengurusan Hutan Mujong-Melinau (Mujong-Melinau FMU), T/3361, yang dimiliki oleh Subur Tiasa Holdings Berhad telah menjalani pemeriksaan tahap 2 pensijilan pengurusan hutan (FMC) di bawah Skim Persijilan Hutan Malaysia (MTCS) dari 9 hingga 12 Disember 2019 .

Audit 4 hari itu telah dijalankan oleh juruaudit daripada SIRIM QAS International Sdn Bhd. Semasa Mesyuarat Pembukaan, Encik Lance Hung Sing Lu, Pengurus Persijilan menyampaikan latar belakang Mujong-Melinau FMU.

Beberapa laporan ketidakpatuhan utama dan kecil (NCR) serta peluang untuk penambahbaikan telah dibangkitkan oleh juruaudit semasa Mesyuarat Penutupan.

常丰控股有限公司旗下 Mujong-Melinau 森林管理单位 (FMU) T/3361 于 2019 年 12 月 9 日至 12 日进行马来西亚木材认证计划 (MTCS) 之森林管理认证 (FMC) 第二阶段审核。

为期四天的审核由 SIRIM QAS 国际有限公司的审核官员进行。认证经理，洪心儒先生（译音）在开幕会议上介绍 Mujong-Melinau FMU 的背景。

审核官员在闭幕会议上提出一些主要和次要的不合格报告 (NCRs) 以及改善机会 (OFIs) 。

5th Standards Review Committee Meeting

The review of the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification [MC&I (FMC)], which is a merged standard that incorporates the requirements for certification of both natural forests and forest plantations has come to a conclusion.

The review of the standard commenced in November 2015. However, it was put on hold in March 2017 due to the concurrent review of the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) Standards. The review process was resumed in March 2018. A total of two (2) public consultation sessions, four (4) Standards Review Committee (SRC) Meetings and regional consultations in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak have been conducted throughout the review process.

The 5th SRC Meeting was held from 9 to 11 December 2019 in Penang, and attended by seventeen (17) SRC members and four (4) observers. A total of twenty-six (26) general comments and 256 specific comments from 26 institutions, which were received during the second public consultation held from 19 May to 19 July 2019, were considered in the Meeting.

Under the MC&I (FMC), several new verifiers are included for Sarawak, including (i) Land Surveyors Ordinance 2001 (Cap. 40); (ii) Director of Forests Circular 2/2019 Restoration Program within Licensed Area; (iii) Policy on Forest Management Certification in Sarawak; (iv) Sarawak Forestry Policy, 2019; and (v) Manual, Procedures and Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management Certification (Green Book).

The final draft of the standard will be tabled to the Malaysian Timber Certification Council Board in March 2020 for approval. Once approved, the standard supersedes the MC&I (Natural Forest) and the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 as the standard to be used for certification of forest management of natural forests and forest plantations in Malaysia.

Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Semakan Semula Standard (SRC) telah diadakan dari 9 hingga 11 Disember 2019 di Pulau Pinang.

Sejumlah 26 ulasan umum dan 256 komen khusus telah diterima daripada 26 institusi semasa rundingan awam ke-2 yang diadakan dari 19 Mei 2019 hingga 19 Julai 2019 dan telah dipertimbangkan dalam Mesyuarat tersebut.

Di bawah Kriteria dan Petunjuk Malaysia untuk Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan [MC&I (FMC)], beberapa pengesahan baru telah dimasukkan untuk Sarawak.

Draf akhir standard akan dibentangkan kepada Lembaga Majlis Pensijilan Kayu Malaysia pada Mac 2020 untuk kelulusan.

标准审查委员会于2019年12月9日至11日假槟城召开第5次会议。

会议一共审议来自26个机构共26条普通评论和256条特定评论。这些评论皆于2019年5月19日至7月19日举行的第二次公众咨询期间接获。

几项新的验证程序被纳入马来西亚森林管理认证标准和指标 [MC&I (FMC)] 砂拉越部分。

标准最终草案将于2020年3月提呈马来西亚木材认证理事会核准。

2019 in Review



Meeting on 7-year Limitation to Carry Forward Unabsorbed Business Losses, Unutilised Reinvestment Allowances and Investment Allowance, Wisma STA, Kuching, 15 January 2019



STA Sales and Service Tax (SST) Technical Committee Meeting No 1/2019, Wisma STA, Kuching, 15 January 2019



STA participated in the Stakeholders Consultation on Proposed Forestry Policies, Imperial Hotel, Kuching, 22-23 January 2019





Licences for Planted Forests Holders' Quarterly Meeting No 1/2019, Nu Hotel, Bintulu, 25 January 2019



STA participated in the Pilot Project on Aerial Surveillance Study to Detect Ceratocystis Disease Infection in Acacia mangium Plantations, Bintulu, 28 January 2019

4th Cohort of the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management / Sustainable Tropical Plantation Management), Wisma STA, Kuching, 26 January 2019



Briefing on Skills Training in Support of Section 51 of The Forests Ordinance, 2015 (S'wak Cap 71), Wisma STA, Kuching, 12-14 February 2019





Preparatory Meeting for STA member companies participating in the 2nd Pilot Projects for Environmental Compliance Audit, Tanahmas Hotel, Sibul, 14 February 2019 (Image courtesy of NREB)

Malaysian delegation at the 15th APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade (EGILAT) Meeting, InterContinental Hotel, Santiago, Chile, 26-27 February 2019



STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 1/2019, Wisma STA, Kuching, 28 February 2019



STA participated in the celebration of International Day of Forests (IDF) 2019 "Forests & Education"



IDF Launching Ceremony, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Bintulu, 23 March 2019

IDF Bowling Competition, Sibul Superbowl, Sibul, 2 March 2019



IDF Futsal Competition, Pakat Global Sport Center, Bintulu, 9 March 2019



IDF Badminton Competition, King Sport Centre, Miri, 16-17 March 2019

STA Panel Products Committee Meeting
No 1/2019, Wisma STA, Kuching,
8 March 2019



Joint Committee Meeting of STA Timber
Products Marketing and STA Sawmilling
No 1/2019, Tanahmas Hotel, Sibul,
13 March 2019



STA participated in the Roadshow on Sustainable Forest Management for Licensee and Community in Mujong-Melinau Forest Management Unit (FMU), Kapit, 21-23 March 2019



*STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd
Board of Directors' Meeting No 1/2019*



*STA Mutual Sdn Bhd
Board of Directors' Meeting No 1/2019*

*Meetings of STA
Subsidiary Companies,
Wisma STA, Kuching,
4 March 2019*



*STA Training Sdn Bhd
Board of Directors' Meeting No 1/2019*



*STA Board of Honorary Advisers'
Meeting No 1/2019*



*STA Council Meeting No
1/2019, Wisma STA, Kuching,
5 March 2019*

STA participated in the 8th Forestry and Timber Technical Working Group Meeting, Le Méridien Hotel, Putrajaya, 18 March 2019



2nd Batch of Conservation Internship Programme for Forest Management Certification Presentation Ceremony, Waterfront Hotel, Kuching, 18 March 2019



Dialogue Session with STA plywood and sawn timber members organised by Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), 21 March 2019



STA Certification Committee Meeting No 1/2019, Wisma STA, Kuching, 27 March 2019

STA Training Sdn Bhd Working Team Meeting No 1/2019, Wisma STA, Kuching, 27 March 2019



STA Annual General Meeting 2019 & Dialogue with STA Members, Wisma STA, Kuching, 28 March 2019



STA participated in the Stage 2 audit for Melatai-Para Forest Management Unit (FMU), Kapit, 22-26 April 2019

13th Series of Campaign on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) for the Timber Industry in Sarawak, Kem Piramid Intan, Kapit, 24-25 April 2019



Meeting on Revised Catch-Up Plan cum 2nd Licences for Planted Forests Quarterly Meeting, Wisma STA, Kuching, 9 April 2019



STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 2/2019, Wisma STA, Kuching, 9 April 2019

STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 3/2019 cum Field Inspection to STA-Funded Research Project Areas, Samarakan, Bintulu, 23 April 2019





STA participated in the Field Testing on High Conservation Values Training Modules for Sarawak, Central Base Camp and Geranai Forest Management Unit (FMU), both located in Ulu Baram, Miri, 6-10 May 2019



Basic First Aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Training Course conducted by the Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS) Kuching District, Wisma STA, Kuching, 21-22 May 2019



Visit from new Regional Head of Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) Europe, Ms Agnes Seah, to Wisma STA, Kuching, 23-24 May 2019



Golf Competition
in conjunction with
IDF 2019 and Forest
Department Sarawak
(FDS) 100 Years'
Anniversary, Kelab Golf
Sarawak, Kuching,
4 May 2019



Malaysian Timber Association
(MTA) EXCO Meeting
No 1/2019, Menara PGRM,
Kuala Lumpur, 6 May 2019



STA Sales and Service Tax (SST)
Technical Committee Discussion,
Wisma STA, Kuching, 28 May 2019



Briefings on
Environmental
Quality
(Clean Air)
Regulations
2014

Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation
(STIDC) Headquarters, Kuching, 12 June 2019



Imperial Hotel, Miri, 13 June 2019



Tanahmas Hotel, Sibu, 14 June 2019



Training on Reduced Impact Logging (RIL), SFC Regional Office, Kuching, 19-21 June 2019

STA participated in the Study Tour to Sabah Forestry Department on Sabah Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS), Sandakan, Sabah, 24-25 June 2019



STA participated in the 4th Sarawak Timber & SMEs Expo 2019, Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCCK), 27-30 June 2019



STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 4/2019, Wisma STA, Kuching, 28 June 2019



4th Training on Environmental Quality Monitoring (EQM), RH Hotel, Sibuluan, Sarawak, 2-3 July 2019



Malaysian delegation at the 22nd Meeting of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry and Its Related Meetings, Makati City, Philippines, 18-19 July 2019 (Image courtesy of ASEAN Secretariat)

Course on Risks and Threats of Diseases to Forest Plantation in Sarawak, Bintulu, 16-18 July 2019



STA participated in the Regional Consultation on the Enquiry Draft of Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification [MC&I (FMC)], Imperial Hotel, Kuching, 4 July 2019



Presentation Ceremony of Financial Assistance to Primary and Secondary Schools in Sri Aman Division and Saratok District, Hotel Seri Simanggang, Sri Aman, 19 July 2019



Visit from Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Research (MESTR) Sarawak, Wisma STA, Kuching, 29 July 2019



STA participated in the Dialogue 2019: Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) Consultation with Industries, Putrajaya International Convention Centre, Putrajaya 6-8 August 2019



STA participated in the Study Tour to Perak State Forestry Department on the Implementation of Forest Management Certification, 19-23 August 2019

STA participated in the Awareness Programme on Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and Forest Management Certification (FMC) at Kastima Forest Management Unit (FMU), Belaga, 20-21 August 2019



STA participated in the Stakeholders Consultation for Phase 2 of the Forest Resource Inventory Project in Heart of Borneo (HoB) Sarawak Extension Areas, Riverside Majestic Hotel, Kuching, 29-30 August 2019



Sales and Service Tax (SST) Implementation Technical Committee Meeting No 2/2019, Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD) Headquarters, Putrajaya, 29 August 2019



STA participated in the Sarawak Timber and Furniture Selling Mission to Singapore, 3-5 September 2019

STA Forest Management Certification Working Group Meeting No 1/2019, Wisma STA, Kuching, 13 August 2019





*STA Hill Logging Committee Meeting
No 1/2019, Wisma STA, Kuching,
17 September 2019*



*Visit from Malaysia - China Business
Council, Wisma STA, Kuching,
17 September 2019*

*STA Panel Products Committee Meeting No
2/2019, Wisma STA, Kuching, 18 September 2019*



*22nd Tri-Nation Joint Meeting of Japan Lumber Importers' Association (JLIA) / Japan Plywood
Manufacturers' Association (JPMA) / Assosiasi Panel Kayu Indonesia (APKINDO) / STA /
Sabah Timber Industries Association (STIA), Wisma STA, Kuching, 19 September 2019*

*STA Sales and Service Tax (SST) Technical
Committee Meeting No 2/2019, Wisma STA,
Kuching, 27 September 2019*

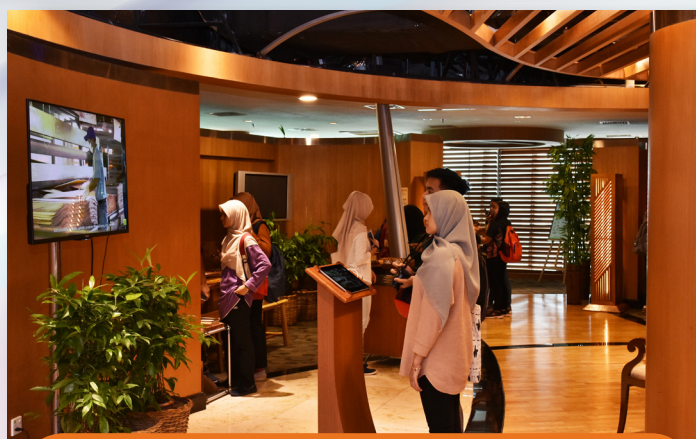




Workshop on Drone Application in Managing Licences for Planted Forests (LPF), Bintulu, 2-4 October 2019



Visit from Tanjung Manis Port Authority, Wisma STA, Kuching, 3 October 2019



Visit from students studying the course of Wood Science and Wood Protection at the Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), Wisma STA, Kuching, 4 October 2019



Imperial Hotel, Miri, 8 October 2019

Tanahmas Hotel, Sibu, 7 October 2019



Discussion on Forestry and Timber Industry Master Plan for Sarawak



Wisma STA, Kuching, 9 October 2019



Dialogue Between Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and STA Plywood Members, Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching, 16 October 2019

STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 5/2019, Wisma STA, Kuching, 10 October 2019



STA Mutual Sdn Bhd Board of Directors' Meeting No 2/2019



Meetings of STA Subsidiary Companies, Wisma STA, Kuching, 17 October 2019



STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd Board of Directors' Meeting No 2/2019



STA Training Sdn Bhd Board of Directors' Meeting No 2/2019

STA Council Meeting No 2/2019, Wisma STA, Kuching, 18 October 2019





STA Log Marketing Committee Meeting No 1/2019, Tanahmas Hotel, Sibul, 29 October 2019



Joint Committee Meeting of STA Furniture & Other Woodworking, STA Moulding, STA Sawmilling and STA Timber Products Marketing, Tanahmas Hotel, Sibul, 29 October 2019

Best Final Year Project Paper



Presentation Ceremony of STA Prizes to 2 students from the Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), 29 October 2019



Best Graduating Student



15th Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Campaign for Timber Industry, Lubok Lalang Base Camp, Limbang, 5-6 November 2019

Meeting with the Director of Forests,
Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching,
5 November 2019



Field Inspection to the STA-funded research
project area located at Licence for Planted
Forests (LPF) 0043, Samarakan, Bintulu,
7 November 2019



Meeting on Harvesting Costs called by Forest
Department Sarawak (FDS), Wisma Sumber
Alam, Kuching, 18 November 2019



Visit from the Delegation of European Union
Embassy in Kuala Lumpur to Forest Department
Sarawak (FDS), 19 November 2019



STA Tea Talk "Orangutan – People
of the Forest", Wisma STA, Kuching,
23 November 2019

5th Environmental Compliance Audit (ECA)
Training Course, Wisma STA, Kuching,
11-13 November 2019



Wishing all Members and Readers



Happy Chinese New Year

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 Tahun Baru Cina 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新年快乐, 万事如意。