

# STA Review

Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association  
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FEB  
2020



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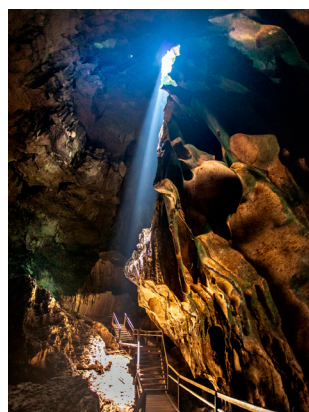
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Niah Cave, Miri, Sarawak;  
Photo credit Mr Liew Ted Ghee

# STA REVIEW

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## Engagement Session with Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation



*Mr Awang Mentali (centre) presenting a memento to Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA*

STA telah mengadakan sesi pertemuan dengan Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (STIDC) di Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching pada 14 Februari 2020. Sesi pertemuan dipengerusikan oleh Encik Awang Mentali Bin Awang Mohamed Sulaiman, Penolong Pengurus Besar (Kawalan Perdagangan) STIDC.

Semasa sesi pertemuan, beberapa isu kawal selia yang mempengaruhi perdagangan kayu dan produk perakyuan telah dibincangkan.

STA had an engagement session with the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) at Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching, on 14 February 2020. The engagement session was chaired by Mr Awang Mentali Bin Awang Mohamed Sulaiman, Assistant General Manager (Trade Control) of STIDC, and attended by officers from the Registration Division and Trade Control Division.

During the engagement session, various regulating issues affecting the trade of timber and timber products were discussed such as plywood importation policy, anti-dumping duties imposed by South Korea on Malaysian plywood and HS code classification for exporting value-added products. In addition, a roadshow and awareness programme will be jointly organised by STIDC and STA to update the industry on current practices and requirements by the regulating agencies relating to trade.

Both parties agreed that such engagement session shall be held regularly in the future for the benefit of the timber industry.

本会与砂拉越木材工业发展机构（STIDC）于2020年2月14日假古晋天然资源大厦进行了会议。该会议由STIDC 贸易管制助理总经理阿旺先生主持。

该会议讨论了多项影响木材和木材产品贸易的监管问题。

## Meeting with Ministry of Finance on Seven-Year Limitation to Carry Forward of Unabsorbed Business Losses

Following a meeting with the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) on 31 January 2020, the timber industry comprising Malaysian Timber Association, Malaysian Wood Industries Association, Timber Association of Sabah, Persatuan Pengusaha-Pengusaha Ladang Hutan Negeri Kelantan and STA had a meeting with the Ministry of Finance (MOF) on 12 February 2020 in Putrajaya.

The meeting was chaired by Mr Ma. Sivanesan Marimuthu, Undersecretary of Tax Division of MOF. Also present at the meeting were representatives from MPI, Inland Revenue Department and forest plantation industry.

During the meeting, STA's consultant, Mr Asaithamby Perumal from Ernst & Young Tax Consultants Sdn Bhd (EYTC), presented the impact of the seven-year limitation to carry forward unabsorbed business losses effective from year of assessment 2019 on the forest plantation industry. He highlighted that the unabsorbed business losses from the forest plantation industry is unlikely to be utilised within seven (7) years due to the long gestation period. Generally, planted trees are harvested for timber

after twelve (12) years, compared to palm oil and rubber which have average harvesting periods of three (3) years and seven (7) years respectively. Hence, the timber industry requested from the MOF for no limitation on the carry forward of unabsorbed business losses.

He pointed out that developed countries such as Australia, Brazil, Germany, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States allow business losses to be carried forward indefinitely, although there are some restrictions to the application of the losses on taxable income. Furthermore, there is no tax incentives offered to the upstream sector of the timber industry at present.

The presentation and discussion provided MOF with an insight on the forest plantation industry in Malaysia. Mr Ma. Sivanesan requested for additional information from the industry which will help MOF to better assess the industry's request. He also invited the timber industry to submit proposals on other forms of incentives for MOF's consideration.

木材业与财政部（MOF）于2020年2月12日假布城举行了一项会议。该会议由 MOF 税务部副秘书长马西瓦尼山先生主持。

会议期间，本会代表来自安永税务顾问有限公司（EYTC）的顾问阿赛坦比先生提出了从2019课税年度起生效的结转未吸收业务损失的7年限制对人工林业的影响。

马西瓦尼山先生要求木材业提供更多信息，以助于 MOF 更有效地评估木材业的要求。



*Participants of the meeting*

Industri perkayuan telah mengadakan mesyuarat dengan Kementerian Kewangan Malaysia (MOF) pada 12 Februari 2020 di Putrajaya. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Encik Ma. Sivanesan Marimuthu, Timbalan Setiausaha Bahagian Cukai MOF.

Semasa mesyuarat, pakar perunding STA, Encik Asaithamby Perumal daripada Ernst & Young Tax Consultants Sdn Bhd (EYTC) membentangkan impak had 7 tahun untuk kerugian perniagaan yang tidak diserap ke atas industri ladang hutan bagi tahun penilaian 2019.

Encik Ma. Sivanesan meminta maklumat tambahan daripada industri untuk membantu MOF menilai permintaan industri dengan lebih baik.

## Occupational Safety and Health in Forestry and Timber Industry

The Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) Sarawak, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and STA met on 24 February 2020 at DOSH Office, Kuching, to discuss matters related to OSH in the forestry and timber industry of Sarawak. The meeting was chaired by Ir Dr Nor Halim Bin Hasan, Director of DOSH Sarawak.



*Meeting in progress*

Ir Dr Nor Halim stated that this year, DOSH will be focusing its attention to the logging industry in Sarawak. He also acknowledged the series of Campaigns that has been jointly conducted by DOSH, STIDC and STA on OSH for the timber industry in Sarawak since 2015 at logging camps with the objectives to disseminate information and provide training on OSH as well as conduct OSH compliance audit.

In view of the large number and locality of logging camps across Sarawak, Ir Dr Nor Halim proposed to explore other approaches which may be more effective in maintaining OSH compliance especially for logging camps located in the interior region. He suggested to emulate the work done by the Sibu Shipyard Association to develop generic guidelines for hazard identification, risk assessment and risk control (HIRARC) which can be used by all shipyards operators.

The meeting agreed to develop an OSH module focusing on the logging industry which aims to reduce the rate of accident at workplace.

Another meeting has been scheduled on 6 March 2020 in Sibu to further discuss matters on OSH including strategy planning among stakeholders and implementation of the Compliance Support Program.

砂拉越职业安全与卫生局（DOSH）、砂拉越木材工业发展机构（STIDC）与本会于2020年2月24日假古晋 DOSH 办事处进行会议讨论有关砂拉越林业和木材业职业安全与卫生（OSH）相关课题。该会议由砂拉越 DOSH 局长诺尔哈林博士主持。

诺尔哈林博士表示今年 DOSH 将专注于砂拉越的伐木业。另外一项会议已拟于2020年3月6日在诗巫举行。

Jabatan Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan (DOSH) Sarawak, Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (STIDC) dan STA telah bertemu pada 24 Febuari 2020 di Pejabat DOSH, Kuching untuk membincangkan perkara berkaitan OSH dalam industri perhutanan dan perkayuan di Sarawak.

Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Ir. Dr Nor Halim Bin Hasan, Pengarah DOSH Sarawak. Ir Dr Nor Halim menyatakan bahawa pada tahun ini, DOSH akan memberi tumpuan kepada industri pembalakan di Sarawak.

Mesyuarat yang seterusnya dijadualkan pada 6 Mac 2020 di Sibul.

## Baleh Hydroelectric Project Workshop

The Sarawak Energy Berhad had engaged Forest Department Sarawak, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, Natural Resources and Environment Board, Department of Agriculture, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre and STA in a Baleh Hydroelectric Project (HEP) Workshop held on 26 February 2020 at Menara Sarawak Energy, Kuching.

According to Ir Tan Chuan Ngan, Baleh HEP Project Director, the objective of the Workshop was to enlighten the participants on Baleh HEP and share information on the plans done, namely Catchment Management Plan (CMP), Biomass Removal Plan (BRP) and Wildlife Monitoring and Rescue Plan (WiMOR), as well as to receive inputs from relevant stakeholders.

The participants were briefed on the (i) project background and latest development progress; (ii) importance of catchment area conservation and management; and (iii) objectives and scope of works for CMP, BRP and WiMOR. Subsequently, the participants provided inputs on the legal requirement of the plans as well as discussed the potential involvement of the stakeholders and agencies in the plans. STA proposed that the affected timber operators within respective forest timber licences inside the catchment of Baleh HEP to be given the opportunity to participate in the biomass removal of the critical shoreline corridor for effective cost saving as well as be responsible in taking care of their own areas to prevent illegal activities. STA believed that the engagement with forestry and timber industry in the Baleh HEP is much needed for the mutual benefit of all parties.

The Baleh HEP is scheduled to be completed by year 2026.



*Participants at the Baleh HEP Workshop*

砂能源公司于2020年2月26日假古晋砂能源大厦举办巴类水力发电项目（HEP）工作坊，并邀请砂森林局，砂森林企业机构，砂天然资源与环境局，砂农业部，砂生物多元化中心和砂拉越木材公会出席。巴类HEP项目主任陈传源工程师（译音）表示工作坊的目的是告知参与者有关巴类 HEP，并分享已完成的计划，以及向利益相关者获取意见。巴类 HEP 预计在2026年完成。

Sarawak Energy Berhad telah melibatkan Jabatan Hutan Sarawak, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, Lembaga Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar, Jabatan Pertanian, Pusat Biodiversiti Sarawak dan STA dalam Bengkel Projek Hidroelektrik (HEP) Baleh yang diadakan pada 26 Febuari 2020 di Menara Sarawak Energy, Kuching.

Menurut Ir. Tan Chuan Ngan, Pengarah Projek HEP Baleh, objektif Bengkel adalah untuk menerangkan kepada para peserta mengenai HEP Baleh dan berkongsi maklumat tentang perkembangan perancangan, serta menerima input daripada pelbagai pihak berkepentingan yang berkaitan.

HEP Baleh dijadualkan beroperasi pada tahun 2026.

# Press Statement on Reviving The Ailing Timber Industry

The following Press Statement was issued by the Association in response to the current worrying economic climate and uncertainties that continue to shroud the timber industry.

Kenyataan akhbar berikut dikeluarkan oleh Persatuan sebagai tindak balas kepada situasi ekonomi yang membimbangkan dan ketidakpastian yang terus memudaratkan industri perkayuan.

砂拉越木材公会发布以下英文版新闻稿，以回应目前令人担忧的经济趋势和不稳定性将继续笼罩着木材工业。



## **PRESS STATEMENT** (FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

### **Reviving The Ailing Timber Industry Cannot Be Done Alone**

As the timber industry enters the year 2020, STA members remain deeply concerned about the gloomy outlook that continues to shroud the industry. The economic climate is not getting better, retrenchment and lay-off cases are surging, Sarawak sees a large scale layoff of 500 employees, mostly Sarawakians, in the recent termination of Lebuhraya Borneo Utara Sdn Bhd's project and the industry believes more of such cases are on the way if there is no intervention or measure taken by the Sarawak Government. The industry is not spared from the current economic challenges and uncertainties, the industry has been struggling hard to re-align its operation strategies and re-allocate its key resources in order to keep businesses afloat. STA regretfully notes that the actions by the industry to sustain businesses included decisions which affected jobs.

The industry continues to be severely affected by cost increase arising from policy and administrative requirements such as increase in premium and cess as well as labour cost on top of existing high production cost. Many mills across Sarawak are in dire situations and have been forced to either scale down or shut down their operations. For mills that are still in operation, the industry sees a sharp drop of more than 50% in capacity utilised as of 2019 compared to 2018. At the same time, the industry is gradually losing its market share to countries such as Indonesia, Viet Nam and other ASEAN countries who have competitive edge over Sarawak because of favourable policies and strong government support.

STA is grateful that the Sarawak Government has been creating opportunities for the industry to provide its feedback and recommendations, but concerns and frustrations are raising among the industry players with no concrete actions in sight. Hence, STA reiterates that the Sarawak Government ought to conduct thorough assessment studies taking into consideration the actual situations affecting the industry, as well as working on advancing insights obtained from communicating with stakeholders including the industry players and other forestry agencies. Instead of introducing new policies such as additional fees, cesses and premiums which will further increase costs for the industry, STA hopes that the Sarawak Government will also look into implementing various measures which could include reduction in royalty and premiums for logs used in local processing, waiver on royalty for planted logs used in local processing, reduced levy for foreign workers in manufacturing sector, subsidies for automation of planted log processing, amongst others, to cushion the current difficult situation and to stimulate growth in the timber industry.

STA believes that reviving the ailing timber industry is no work to be done alone by the industry players. It requires the Sarawak Government to be the driving force joined by other stakeholders to overcome the challenges ahead in order for the industry to sustain and remain a vital contributor to the State's economy.

Sarawak Timber Association  
22 February 2020

# Awareness Programme on STIDC Timber Industry Information System

The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) organised an awareness programme on the STIDC Timber Industry Information System (STIS) on 19 February 2020 at Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. Targeting the timber industry, this programme was also held across Sarawak including Bintulu, Limbang and Sibu.

In his Welcoming Remarks, Tuan Haji Hashim Bin Haji Bojet, General Manager of STIDC, said that the objective of the awareness programme was to introduce and brief the timber industry and related agencies on STIS, which is a new online integrated information system. It has a singular front-end window that is connected to three (3) systems, i.e. registration, e-permit and grading, which allows real time data sharing. He highlighted the benefits of STIS such as (i) improving the process and quality of registration and renewal of licenses; (ii) speeding up export and import permit release; and (iii) preventing forgery.



*Mr Ahmad Fathi explaining the various functions of STIS*

He added that STIDC is moving towards developing a holistic system in order to better connect with industry players and related agencies including Department of Agriculture, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, Immigration Department, Royal Malaysian Customs Department, etc. Tuan Haji Hashim emphasised that data collected via STIS can contribute to the development, capacity building and analysis of the timber industry. STIDC is also planning to extend the STIS platform in future by developing a mobile application version.

Mr Ahmad Fathi Kamil, Business Development Consultant from Dagang Net Technologies Sdn Bhd (Dagang Net), covered various function modules of STIS including registration, grading and application. STIS also provides an online banking platform for users to make payments. He further informed the participants that Dagang Net will collaborate with STIDC to organise practical training sessions on STIS.

Mr Awang Mentali Bin Awang Mohamed Sulaiman, Assistant General Manager (Trade Control) of STIDC, highlighted that exportation of protected species such as ramin and belian will require physical checking before users can proceed with the online process.

Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (STIDC) menganjurkan program kesedaran mengenai Sistem Maklumat Industri Perkayuan STIDC (STIS) pada 19 Februari 2020 di Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching.

Dalam ucapan pembukaan, Tuan Haji Hashim Bin Haji Bojet, Pengurus Besar STIDC, berkata objektif program kesedaran itu adalah untuk memperkenalkan dan memberi taklimat kepada industri perkayuan dan agensi-agensi yang berkaitan mengenai STIS, yang merupakan sistem maklumat bersepadu dalam talian yang baharu.

Encik Ahmad Fathi Kamil, Perunding Pembangunan Perniagaan daripada Dagang Net Technologies Sdn Bhd (Dagang Net) telah berkongsi pelbagai modul mengenai fungsi STIS.

砂拉越木材工业发展机构 (STIDC) 于2020年2月19日假古晋天然资源大厦举办了一项关于 STIDC 木材业信息系统 (STIS) 的意识活动。

在致欢迎辞时, STIDC 总经理哈兹哈信先生表示该意识活动旨在向木材行业和相关机构介绍 STIS, 即一个新的在线综合信息系统。

贸易网科技有限公司 (Dagang Net) 业务发展顾问艾玛德先生讲解涵盖了 STIS 的各种功能模块。

# Community Representative Committee Formation, Forest Management Certification Liaison Committee Meeting and Traditional Knowledge Documentation

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) and Belaga Balui Forest Management Unit (FMU) jointly conducted the Community Representative Committee (CRC) formation, Forest Management Certification Liaison Committee (FMCLC) Meeting and Traditional Knowledge (TK) documentation for Belaga Balui FMU (FTL No T/3190) from 18 to 21 February 2020.

Mdm Evelyn Jugi from FDS facilitated the formation of CRC which was attended by headmen and representatives of seventeen (17) communities of Belaga Balui FMU at Belaga District Office on 18 February 2020.

Prior to the formation of CRC which was done through voting, Mdm Evelyn briefed the communities on forest management certification (FMC) as well as CRC and its functions. Among the functions of CRC are to represent and safeguard the interest of the community; and connect the community with the company, Government agencies and related stakeholders.

Following the CRC formation, the FMCLC Meeting was held and attended by officers from the Belaga District Office, Kapit Land and Survey Department, FDS, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, STA, Belaga Balui FMU and the newly formed CRC of Belaga Balui FMU. The Meeting was briefed on the government policy regarding FMC, *Wild Life Protection Ordinance, 1998* (WLPO), Social Impact Assessment Report for Belaga Balui FMU and the *Sarawak Land Code (Amendment) 2018*.

The TK documentation consisted of classroom briefings and field practical which were conducted at Kastima Camp of Belaga Balui FMU. TK is knowledge possessed by local communities on the utilisation of plants in their livelihood and passed from one generation to the next verbally or through observation.

Ms Vilma Bodos and Ms Asminie Wati Belaja from FDS shared on the importance of documenting TK under the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for FMC (Natural Forest) [MC&I(Natural Forest)], ethnobotany from the perspective



*Participants of TK documentation*

of social forestry and useful plants under WLPO, Sarawak Plant Red List, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Moreover, Ms Jovita Elderson Ripen from SBC covered the process of TK documentation and its legislative requirements as well as efforts by SBC in documenting TK throughout Sarawak. During field practical, the participants were tasked to collect, document and present forest resources that can be used as medicine, traditional belief, handicraft, food, firewood and building material.

FDS shared that the Department is in the process of developing a set of standard operating procedures and mechanism on TK documentation for FMU in Sarawak through consultation with relevant stakeholders including STA and FMU holders.

砂森林局 (FDS) 和布拉甲峇魯森林管理單位 (FMU) 與2020年2月18日至21日聯合召開幾項活動，當中包括成立社區代表委員會 (CRC)，森林管理認證聯絡委員會 (FMCLC) 會議以及布拉甲峇魯FMU (森林木材許可證編號 T/3190) 之傳統知識 (TK) 文檔。

FDS官員伊芙琳女士協助2月19日假布拉甲縣行政中心的CRC成立。伊芙琳女士向社區介紹森林管理認證 (FMC) 以及CRC和其功能。隨後，FMCLC召開會議，匯報有關FMC的政府政策。TK文檔除了課堂介紹講解，還有在布拉甲峇魯 FMU 的实地考察。

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) dan Unit Pengurusan Hutan Belaga Balui (FMU) telah mengadakan pembentukan Jawatankuasa Perwakilan Komuniti (CRC), Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Perhubungan Persijilan Pengurusan Hutan (FMCLC) dan Pengetahuan Tradisional (TK) untuk Belaga Balui FMU T/3190) dari 18 hingga 21 Februari 2020.

Puan Evelyn Jugi daripada FDS membantu pembentukan CRC di Pejabat Daerah Belaga pada 18 Februari 2020. Beliau memberi taklimat kepada komuniti mengenai pensijilan pengurusan hutan (FMC) dan CRC serta fungsinya. Mesyuarat FMCLC telah diadakan sejurus selepas pembentukan CRC. Ahli-ahli FMCLC telah dimaklumkan tentang dasar-dasar kerajaan mengenai FMC. Dokumentasi TK yang terdiri daripada taklimat kelas dan kerja lapangan telah diadakan di Kamp Kastima di Belaga Balui FMU.

# Project Document Review Workshop: Integrated Landscape Management of Heart of Borneo Landscapes in Sabah and Sarawak

In 2019, a concept paper was prepared with consultation from relevant stakeholders for the project “*Integrated Landscape Management of Heart of Borneo Landscapes in Sabah and Sarawak*” and submitted to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Secretariat for consideration. The concept paper was subsequently approved with funding of USD 7.368 million under Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Impact Programme of the GEF Funding Cycle 7. Following that, a Project Document detailing implementation of the project was prepared by a team of appointed international and local consultants for submission to the GEF Secretariat before the project can begin. The first draft of the Project Document was reviewed and discussed in a Project Document Review Workshop on 18 February 2020 at Waterfront Hotel, Kuching.

The Workshop, attended by representatives from the Federal and State agencies such as the Ministry of Water, Land and Natural Resources; Ministry of Modernisation of Agriculture, Native Land and Regional Development; Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources; Forest Department Sarawak (FDS); Malaysian Palm Oil Board; World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Sarawak; and STA, was graced by Datu Hamden Haji Mohammad, Director of Forests, Ms Sarah Simons from the Global Engagement Unit (Agriculture and Food) of World Bank, and Mr Paul Hartman, Senior Environmental Specialist from GEF.

In his Opening Remarks, Datu Hamden shared that over the past decade, various conservation efforts and activities have been implemented under the Heart of Borneo (HoB) initiative. One of the notable achievements under this initiative is the expansion of HoB Sarawak area from 2.1 to 2.7 million hectares in 2018 to include more national parks in the conservation effort. The implementation of this project which builds on a baseline of efforts planned over the next decade by both public and private sectors to promote forest conservation and sustainable commodity certification will complement the efforts that are ongoing under the HoB initiative.

The project also aims to tackle the challenges brought about by expansion of oil palm and other commodities causing loss of forests and the ecosystem services they provide by engaging in simultaneous efforts that involve stakeholders in planning and managing land to (i) restore forest and peatland for connectivity; (ii) diversify and strengthen smallholder livelihoods; and (iii) sustainably intensify and contain the footprint of the palm oil sector. To monitor progress towards these outcomes, the following components of the project will be tracked:

- i. Development of integrated landscape management systems in Sabah and Sarawak
- ii. Promotion of responsible value chains for palm oil and smallholder support
- iii. Conservation and restoration of natural habitats through public-private-community partnerships
- iv. Knowledge management and impact monitoring

Dokumen Projek yang memperincikan pelaksanaan projek “*Pengurusan Landskap Bersepadu Heart of Borneo (HoB) di Sabah dan Sarawak*” telah disediakan oleh sepasukan pakar perunding antarabangsa dan tempatan yang dilantik untuk dikemukakan kepada Sekretariat Kemudahan Alam Sekitar Global (GEF) sebelum permulaan projek. Draf pertama Dokumen Projek telah dikaji semula dan dibincang dalam Bengkel Kajian Semula Dokumen Projek pada 18 Februari 2020 di Hotel Waterfront, Kuching.

Dalam Ucapan Pembukaannya, Datu Hamden Haji Mohammad, Pengarah Hutan berkata bahawa pelaksanaan projek berasaskan usaha-usaha yang dirancang untuk dekad seterusnya oleh kedua-dua sektor awam dan swasta bagi mempromosi pemeliharaan hutan serta pensijilan mampan komoditi akan melengkapi usaha berterusan dibawah inisiatif Heart of Borneo.

Projek juga bermatlamat untuk menangani cabaran peluasan kelapa sawit dan komoditi lain yang menyumbang ke arah kehilangan hutan serta perkhidmatan ekosistemnya

一组受委的国际和本地顾问团准备了一份详细说明实施“沙巴和砂拉越婆罗洲之心综合景观管理”项目的项目文件。该文件需要在项目开始之前提交给全球环境基金秘书处。第一份项目文件草稿于2020年2月18日假古晋海滨酒店举办的项目文件审查研讨会中获得审查和讨论。

砂森林局局长拿督哈姆登分享说，该项目的实施是公共部门和私营界未来十年的努力计划，以促进森林保护和可持续商品认证。这与婆罗洲之心倡议下正在进行的努力相互符合。

该项目也旨于解决因油棕和其他原产品的扩张而导致森林及其提供的生态系统服务丧失的挑战。

# Majlis Amanat Perdana Integriti 2020

The Majlis Amanat Perdana Integriti 2020 (MAPI20) was held on 26 February 2020 at Pullman Hotel, Miri. More than 2,000 participants from ministries, agencies, city councils, local authorities, non-governmental organisations and community leaders attended the event themed “Integrity Catalyst for Development”.

Datuk Haji Talib Zulpilip, Minister in the Chief Minister's Department (Integrity and Ombudsman), in his address said that his ministry will work with the relevant agencies to foster and cultivate integrity among the people in line with the Chief Minister's intention to make Sarawak a State of integrity by year 2030. He also mentioned that the ministry will continue to invest time and effort in bringing about a culture of integrity in the civil service and private sector despite it being a big challenge. The various programmes and initiatives implemented by the ministry have yielded some early success such as expanding pool of Certified Integrity Officers.

Delivering his Opening Speech, the Chief Minister of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, reminded civil servants that their integrity reflects the State's ability to plan development programs and run the economy in a structured and advanced way. According to him, there are several factors that motivate an individual to engage in corrupt practices such as rationalisation, space or opportunity, pressure and ability.

He expressed disappointment over the delay in the implementation of some infrastructure projects in the State such as construction of bridge and supply of clean water, citing lack of integrity among those who secured the contracts under the open tender system as the cause. He also said greed is the main cause of corruption and malpractices and that material or monetary desire will lead people across the board to seek illegal ways to live beyond their means.

The event also saw the launching of the Association of Certified Integrity Officers, prize presentation ceremony for a writing contest on the subject of integrity and recitation of the Pledge of Integrity.



Chief Minister delivering his Opening Speech

Before the opening ceremony of MAPI20, an Integrity Forum called “Clean Malaysia: Where are we?” was held. The Forum was moderated by Professor Dato Dr Jamil Haji Hamali with a panel of three (3) guest speakers comprising Dato Muhammad Salim Sundar Abdullah, Director of Centre for Governance & Integrity, Universiti Teknologi MARA; Dato Sri Haji Zakaria Haji Jaffar, President of Malaysian Anti-Corruption Foundation; and Haji Adana Haji Jed, Director of Integrity and Ombudsman in the Chief Minister's Department.

## Enforcement Agencies Integrity Seminar

Prior to the MAPI20, more than 120 agencies in the State attended the Enforcement Agencies Integrity Seminar on 25 February 2020 at Meritz Hotel, Miri. During the Seminar, a series of presentations was delivered by the State enforcement agencies comprising Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB), Land and Survey Department (L&S) Sarawak, State Security and Enforcement Unit (UKPN) Sarawak as well as Sarawak State Attorney-General's Chambers (SSAGC).

The presentations are as follows:

- **Operation to Combat Illegal Logging in Sarawak**  
by Mr Suliman Jamahari, Head of Preventive & Enforcement Division, FDS

He spoke on the main functions of FDS, inter-agency collaboration in enforcement operations and efforts and achievements in combatting illegal logging. He shared (i) the statistics of violations in forestry sector; (ii) issues and challenges faced by the enforcement agencies; and (iii) initiatives taken by the State such as appointment of Lieutenant-General Datuk Stephen Mundaw as Chief of the Anti-Illegal Logging Special Task Force as well as increasing awareness campaigns on illegal logging through newspapers, social media, dialogues, etc.

- **Combatting Illegal Wildlife Trade in Sarawak**  
by Mr Oswald Braken, General Manager, SFC

He covered the status of various wildlife in Sarawak and shared that hunting has contributed significantly to their losses. He also shared intervention strategies carried out by SFC including monitoring, awareness, enforcement and publicity.

- **NREB Perspective on Integrity and Enforcement**  
by Paul Bond Ferdinand Chamberlin, Acting Deputy Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak, NREB

Mr Paul shared the background of NREB including vision and mission, functions, organisational structure, committees established under the *Natural Resources*

and Environment Ordinance, 1993, legislations as well as guidelines and procedures developed by NREB. He gave examples of several integrity and enforcement initiatives such as the pilot projects for environmental compliance audit between NREB, STA and participating timber companies as well as setting up of the NREB Anti-Corruption Committee which is headed by the Controller of Environmental Quality Sarawak.

- **Land and Survey Department (L&S) Perspective on Integrity and Enforcement**

by Mr Lim Bih Wei, Enforcement Officer, L&S Sarawak

Mr Lim gave an introduction to L&S and shared its roles, functions and jurisdictions. He also explained that to ensure construction of the Pan Borneo Highway Project can be carried out according to schedule, a clearing operation known as “Op Highway” had been conducted by the Government. He shared how this operation was done through intelligence and field studies as well as planning and implementation of the operation. Some of the success factors of “Op Highway” were integrity, professionalism, sense of urgency and ownership, and team spirit.

- **Strategic Security Enforcement**

by Mr Mohamad Daud Bin Jalani, UKPN Sarawak

The speaker mentioned that the purpose of UKPN is to further enhance collaboration among State and Federal enforcement agencies, especially in relation to enforcement operations. He shared the vision, mission, roles and organisational structure of UKPN. In addition, UKPN assisted in the eradication of rabies epidemic including acted as coordinator for all enforcement agencies.

- **Sharing Session**

by Mr Hishamudin Bin Roslan, SSAGC

The speaker introduced background of SSAGC including vision, mission, roles and functions. He also shared examples of legal cases in which SSAGC were involved in, such as illegal logging at national parks, turtle eggs possession, etc.

Majlis Amanat Perdana Integriti 2020 (MAPI20) yang bertemakan “Integriti Pemangkin untuk Pembangunan” telah diadakan pada 26 Februari 2020 di Hotel Pullman, Miri.

Dalam ucapan pembukaannya, Ketua Menteri Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg mengingatkan kakitangan awam bahawa integriti mereka mencerminkan keupayaan negeri untuk merancang program pembangunan dan melaksanakan ekonomi dalam struktur dan cara maju.

Acara turut menyaksikan pelancaran Persatuan Pegawai Integriti Bertauliah.

Sebelum MAPI20, lebih daripada 120 agensi di Negeri ini telah menghadiri Seminar Integriti Agensi Penguatkuasaan pada 25 Februari 2020 di Hotel Meritz, Miri. Semasa Seminar, satu siri pembentangan telah disampaikan oleh agensi penguatkuasaan Negeri seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.

主题为“廉政发展催化剂”2020年廉正大会（MAPI20）于2020年2月26日假美里铂尔曼酒店举办。

砂拉越首长拿督巴丁宜阿邦佐哈里致词时提醒公务员，他们的廉正反映了国家能够以结构性及先进的方法规划发展计划和经营经济。该活动也见证了廉政官员协会的成立。

为配合MAPI20，该州的120多个机构也参加了2020年2月25日在美里美乐大酒店举行的执法机构廉政研讨会。在研讨会期间，文章也列出州政府执法机构的一系列演讲。

## Pre-12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan Lab

Organised by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Industrial Terminal and Entrepreneur Development (MINTRED) Sarawak, the Pre-12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan Lab (2021-2025) (Pre-Lab) was held from 5 to 6 February 2020 at the Waterfront Hotel, Kuching. Approximately 120 participants from various industries and agencies attended the Pre-Lab.

The objective of the Pre-Lab was to seek inputs and comments on industrial and entrepreneur development from the relevant industries and agencies in order to come up with a proposal to be submitted to the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) Sarawak in preparation for the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan.

In his Welcoming Remarks, Datu Liaw Soon Eng, Permanent Secretary of MINTRED Sarawak, urged participants particularly those who are in the private industry to provide inputs as there has been a lack of involvement from the industry. He also shared that Sarawak's total export value from January to August 2019 stands at RM68 billion. The contributing sectors are services (34.9%), followed by manufacturing (26.8%), mining & quarrying (22.2%), agriculture (12.4%), and construction (3.3%). He also highlighted that 98.5% of businesses established for the abovementioned sectors in Malaysia are small and medium-sized enterprises or SMEs.

In order to meet the core objectives of the Sarawak Socio-Economic Transformation Plan which are to accelerate income growth and reduce income disparity among Sarawakians, the two-day Pre-Lab focused on 2 strategic thrusts, namely rural transformation as well as human capital and social development. The participants were divided into three (3) groups including (i) SME and bumiputera development; (ii) non-resource based industries; and (iii) resource based industries. Discussion was carried out based on four (4) elements comprising policies, infrastructure, resources and incentives. Subsequently, each group presented various projects to be proposed to EPU Sarawak.



*Datu Liaw Soon Eng delivering his Welcoming Remarks*

Datu Liaw, in his Closing Remarks, highlighted that MINTRED is offering RM20,000 grant to encourage graduates to become entrepreneurs as well as RM10,000 to individuals in the bottom 40% household income range or B40 group to set up business through micro credit scheme with zero interest and minimum documentation. He added that MINTRED has also been providing subsidies for overseas expos, trade missions and promotional programmes to organisations, but responses are low. Datu Liaw encouraged the industries to approach MINTRED if they encounter any issues which may arise from the current business policies.

MINTRED will look into the inputs and comments received during the Pre-Lab including issues on cabotage policy and the proposed one-stop investment centre known as “InvestSarawak”.

砂国际贸易、工业部、工业管道和企业发展部（MINTRED）于2020年2月5日至6日假古晋海滨酒店举办第十二大马计划（2021-2025）预备研讨会（Pre-Lab）。此研讨会旨予向相关业界和机构对工业和企业发展征求反馈和意见，呈交一项提案给砂拉越经济策划局（EPU）以准备第十二大马计划。MINTRED 常务秘书拿督廖顺荣呼吁参与者提供意见，尤其是缺乏参与的私人界。

为期2天的研讨会着重于两个策略重点，即乡村转型以及人力资本和社会发展。

Kementerian Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri, Terminal Perindustrian dan Pembangunan Usahawan (MINTRED) Sarawak telah menganjurkan Sesi Penyediaan Rancangan Malaysia ke-12 (RMK-12) bagi 2021-2025 dari 5 hingga 6 Februari 2020 di Hotel Waterfront, Kuching.

Objektif Sesi Penyediaan adalah untuk mendapatkan maklum balas daripada industri dan agensi terlibat mengenai perkembangan perindustrian dan usahawan serta mengemukakan cadangan kepada Unit Perancang Ekonomi (EPU) Sarawak sebagai persediaan ke arah RMK-12.

Dalam ucapannya, Datu Liaw Soon Eng, Setiausaha Tetap MINTRED Sarawak menggesa para peserta terutamanya industri swasta untuk memberi input berikutan kekurangan penglibatan daripada industri terbabit.

Sesi Penyediaan 2 hari memberi tumpuan kepada 2 teras strategik iaitu transformasi luar bandar, dan pembangunan modal insan dan sosial.

## Town Hall Session with Ministry of Human Resources

The Ministry of Human Resources (MoHR) held a Town Hall Session at Pullman Waterfront Hotel, Miri, on 10 February 2020. The objective of the Session was to gather feedback on policies and revisions proposed by MoHR. Various stakeholders comprising employers, employees, non-governmental organisations, relevant agencies and STA members were present at the Session.

During the Session, inputs were received specifically on the (i) 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan (12MP) and National Human Resources Policy; (ii) Code of Practice for Industrial Harmony (COC); and (iii) National Labour Advisory Council Constitution (NLACC).

On the 12MP and National Human Resources Policy, one of the highlighted matters was the minimum wage (MW) policies which should consider other benefit-in-kind provided to employees and the ability of employers, especially small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), to pay the new MW rate. The MoHR was also asked to clarify the 'boundary' issues resulting from the implementation of the new MW rate of RM1,200 in fifty-six (56) cities, as gazetted. According to Mr Awang Raduan Bin Awang Omar, Director of Labour Sarawak, the Department of Labour Sarawak had received instruction from MoHR to organise a roadshow to clarify this issue and this would be done very soon. Furthermore, the Session highlighted that the Government's aspiration of having 59% women workforce in all sectors to be included in the 12MP needs to be reviewed because this policy is not feasible for all sectors or industries. It is certainly impractical for the timber industry, especially in the upstream sector where almost all the jobs require physical strength. The MoHR was also urged to reduce bureaucracy in the recruitment of foreign workers for labour intensive industries which includes the timber industry.

As for the COC, there was recommendation to incorporate a performance management system which is akin to productivity-linked wage system. Meanwhile, various significant issues were brought up in connection to the NLACC. These comprised the inclusion of the Sarawak Oil Palm Plantation Owners Association (SOPPOA) as a representative in the National Labour Advisory Council (NLAC) because it may not be appropriate to single out SOPPOA and its functions, as well as requests to include representatives from Sabah and Sarawak Governments and also all sectors of the economy. The Session also underscored that the Minister of Human Resources should not be given the power to revoke appointment of NLAC members as the International Labour Organisation Convention No 144 states that *"the most representative organisations of employers shall propose members to be represented in the NLAC"*. In addition, the issues discussed at NLAC meetings should not be classified as secret under the *Official Secrets Act 1972* as it makes it difficult for members to get feedback from the group they represent.

Before the Session in Miri, two (2) other Town Hall Sessions were conducted by the MoHR in Kuala Lumpur and Penang. The STA Secretariat has circulated the relevant documents incorporating comments gathered by MoHR for the abovementioned three (3) Town Hall Sessions to members on 13 February 2020 for feedback.



Miri Town Hall Session in progress



Participants of the Miri Town Hall Session

人力资源部（MoHR）于2020年2月10日假美里铂尔曼海滨酒店举办研讨会，以收集参与者对人力资源部所提出的政策和修订的反馈。

研讨会期间所收集的反馈专注于（i）第十二大马计划和国家人力资源政策；（ii）工业和谐实务守则；和（iii）国家劳工咨询委员会章程。

Kementerian Sumber Manusia menganjurkan Sesi Town Hall di Hotel Pullman Waterfront, Miri pada 10 Februari 2020. Objektif Sesi ini adalah untuk mengumpulkan maklum balas mengenai dasar dan semakan yang dicadangkan oleh KKM.

Semasa Sesi, input khusus telah diterima mengenai (i) Rancangan Malaysia ke-12 dan Dasar Sumber Manusia Kebangsaan; (ii) Kod Amalan untuk Harmoni Perindustrian; dan (iii) Perlembagaan Majlis Penasihat Buruh Kebangsaan.

## 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of APEC EGILAT

The 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade (APEC EGILAT) was held at the Palm Garden Hotel, Putrajaya, Malaysia, from 6 to 7 February 2020. Representatives from a total of twelve (12) member economies attended the Meeting, namely Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Chinese Taipei, Thailand and the United States (US); while two (2) member economies, namely China and the Philippines, participated remotely via video conferencing. The Meeting was chaired by Ms Emma Hatcher, Director of International Forest Policy, Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, Australia.

In his Opening Remarks, Mr Ravi Muthayah, Secretary General of Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI), spoke on Malaysia's commitment in combatting illegal logging and promoting a sustainable trade ecosystem. He emphasised that the country remains committed in maintaining at least 50% of its land area under forest cover even though Malaysia is a timber producing economy. He also highlighted that Malaysia has established its own timber legality assurance system, i.e. the Malaysia Timber Legality Assurance System (MYTLAS) for Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS) and Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS).

According to Mr Ravi, there should be a balanced approach between protection of the environment and ensuring a competitive trade of forest products towards achieving shared prosperity in the APEC region. Therefore, he believed that promoting trade for legally harvested forest products should continue to be one of the important agenda for member economies.

Taking on the APEC 2020 theme "*Optimising Human Potential Towards a Future of Shared Prosperity*", Ms Sabariah Sofian, Officer of APEC 2020 Secretariat, briefed the member economies on three (3) priorities including (i) improving the narrative of trade and investment; (ii) inclusive economic participation through digital economy and technology; and (iii) driving innovative sustainability. The Meeting also discussed and agreed on the EGILAT Work Plan for year 2020.

Ms Cindy Squires, Chief Executive of International Wood Products Association, US, shared details about the Workshop on "*Advancing the Trade and Distribution of Legally Harvested Forest Products in the APEC Region*" which was held from 4 to 5 February 2020 in conjunction with the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of APEC EGILAT. She then highlighted the need to involve the timber industry in the design and implementation of legality measures as well as the importance of building capacity among small and medium-sized enterprises or SMEs to understand and participate in the trade of legal timber.

The Meeting received project updates from (i) the US on the development of "*Advancing the Trade and Distribution of Legally Harvested Forest Products in the APEC Region*", including the appointment of Nathan Associates Inc, an international economic and analytics consulting firm, to lead the work of a survey; and (ii) New Zealand on the progress of "*Compendium of Resources for the Facilitation of the Trade and Distribution of Legally Harvested Forest Products in the APEC Region*".

The Meeting also received updates on existing efforts and domestic work done to combat illegal logging and promote the trade of legal forest products. Representing Malaysia, Dr Lee Soon Leong, Head of Genetics Laboratory (Forest Biotechnology Division), Forest Research Institute Malaysia, shared the DNA profiling and barcoding system for timber tracking and plant species identification. Meanwhile, South Korea made a presentation on "*Restricting Illegal Logging and Associated Trade: The Progress of Korea's New Regulation*". Delivered by Ms Sunmi Lee, Deputy Director (Forestry Trade Division), Korea Forest Service, she covered topics on timber legality requirement, sanction system and the authorities' roles. She mentioned that the one-year trial period from 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2019 for the revised "*Act on the Sustainable Use of Timbers*" has ended, and the non-compliance rate has declined due to various education and promotion activities. She also talked about the challenges encountered in promoting legal timber and its way forward such as development of anatomical database and automation technology for domestic and foreign timber species identification. New Zealand also shared its ongoing policy work to strengthen its forestry supply chain.

A cross-fora information exchange session was conducted with updates from several regional and international organisations:

- International Tropical Timber Organisation shared outcomes of the 55<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Tropical Timber Council which was convened from 2 to 7 December 2019 in Lomé, Togo;
- Malaysian Timber Certification Council on behalf of the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification highlighted opportunities for APEC member economies to utilise certification system to promote trade in legal timber;
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime outlined its law enforcement assistance programme as a mechanism to assist member economies in securing trade supply chain and reduce deforestation; and
- Forest Trends shared its work on developing products to help stakeholders understand the main risk factors, and offered to collaborate with EGILAT

members to use the tools in a manner that will meet their particular needs.

The Meeting also discussed the possibility of a collaboration among the Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group, Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures as well as EGILAT involving a cross-fora policy dialogue in August 2020 in Penang where the next APEC EGILAT Meeting is to be held. The dialogue will focus on revisiting efforts to reduce illegal logging and wildlife trafficking, improving revenue collection of member economies, as well as combatting corruption.

The Oceans and Fisheries Working Group shared its efforts done on reducing illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the APEC region. One other noteworthy presentation was the “*La Serena Roadmap on Women and Inclusive Growth*” by Chile, where the Roadmap seeks to provide guidance to catalyse policy actions to ensure greater integration and empowerment of women in the Asia Pacific region. Chile encouraged all working groups to include consideration of gender issues and implementation of the La Serena Roadmap in their planning processes.

The Meeting took note that ten (10) member economies including Malaysia have completed and submitted their timber legality guidance template (TLGT), and encouraged the remaining member economies to work towards developing and finalising their TLGT.

## Workshop on Advancing the Trade and Distribution of Legally Harvested Forest Products in the APEC Region

Chaired by Ms Emma Hatcher and moderated by Ms Cindy Squires, the Workshop was attended by key stakeholders from across the APEC forest products sector including member economies and policy makers, private sector, relevant civil society and international organisations.

The Workshop was held to support the two-year policy theme agreed by APEC member economies during the 15th EGILAT Meeting which focused on:

- issues faced by private sector entities throughout the timber supply chain in trading in legally harvested forest products;
- the existing resources or materials that are available to help private sector entities trade in legally harvested forest products; and
- potential actions that could be undertaken by APEC member economies and other stakeholders to support the trade in legally harvested forest products.

During the Workshop, Mr Mad Zaidi Mohd Karli, Deputy Secretary General (Commodities) of MPI, shared the

overview of Malaysian forest management and timber industry highlighting legislative requirements, trade of legal timber and timber products in Malaysia as well as reiterated the country’s commitment in combatting illegal logging and promoting trade in legally harvested timber and timber products.

Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA, presented the challenges faced by the timber industry in Sarawak to produce legal timber and timber products. She briefly introduced STA and spoke on the background of forestry in Sarawak where all matters relating to land and forests fall under the State’s jurisdiction. She underlined challenges such as different levels of playing field, unverified reporting on “*illegal logging*”, commitments versus competitiveness as well as unintentional “*trade barriers*”. She also urged all stakeholders to be equally responsible in sharing the costs of managing forests towards meeting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as well as APEC’s goal to increase forest cover and promote trade of legal timber.

Several interactive “*World Café*” sessions were also held during the Workshop to gather inputs and perspectives from the participants on various topics including issues on trading legal timber as well as tools or resources in dealing with legal timber trade.



Interactive “World Café” session



From left: Ms Cindy Squires; Mr Mohd Kheiruddin Bin Mohd Rani, Director General of Malaysian Timber Industry Board; Mr Yong Teng Koon, Chief Executive Officer of Malaysian Timber Certification Council; Ms Annie Ting; and Ms Emma Hatcher

第17届亚太经济合作组织非法采伐与相关贸易专家小组 (APEC EGILAT) 会议于2020年2月6至7日假马来西亚博特拉再也棕榈花园度假酒店举行。共有12位经济体成员代表出席会议。会议由来自澳洲国际森林政策、农业与水资源部董事艾玛小姐主持。

马来西亚原产业部 (MPI) 秘书长拉维穆塔亚先生在其开幕词时说明马来西亚在打击非法伐木和促进可持续贸易生态系统方面的贡献。美国国际木产品公会首席执行官辛蒂小姐分享于2020年2月4至5日配合该17届 APEC EGILAT 会议举行的“促进亚太经济合作组织区域合法林产品的贸易和分配”工作坊相关细节。

会议接获来自多个国家于国内打击非法采伐和促进合法林产品贸易所做出的努力的最新情况。会议也记录包括马来西亚在内的十 (10) 个经济体成员已经完成并提交了其木材合法指南范本 (TLGT)。

Mesyuarat Ke-17 Kumpulan Pakar Kerjasama Ekonomi Asia-Pasifik mengenai Pembalakan Haram dan Perdagangan Bersekutu (APEC EGILAT) telah diadakan di Hotel Palm Garden, Putrajaya, Malaysia dari 6 hingga 7 Februari 2020. Sejumlah 12 ahli ekonomi menghadiri Mesyuarat tersebut. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Cik Emma Hatcher, Pengarah Dasar Hutan Antarabangsa, Jabatan Pertanian dan Sumber Air, Australia.

Dalam Ucapan Pembukaannya, Encik Ravi Muthayah, Ketua Setiausaha Kementerian Industri Utama (MPI) menyatakan tentang komitmen Malaysia dalam memerangi pembalakan haram dan mempromosikan ekosistem perdagangan yang mampan. Cik Cindy Squires, Ketua Eksekutif Persatuan Produk Kayu Antarabangsa, AS berkongsi mengenai butiran Bengkel “*Memajukan Perdagangan dan Pengedaran Produk Hutan yang Dituai secara Sah di Kawasan APEC*” yang diadakan dari 4 hingga 5 Februari 2020 bersempena dengan Mesyuarat ke-17 APEC EGILAT.

Mesyuarat menerima kemas kini daripada pelbagai negara mengenai usaha dan tindakan domestik yang dilakukan bagi membanteras pembalakan haram dan mempromosikan perdagangan produk hutan yang sah. Mesyuarat mengambil maklum bahawa 10 ahli ekonomi termasuk Malaysia telah melengkapkan dan mengemukakan templat bimbingan kesahihan kayu (TLGT).

## National Mirror Committee on Timber (ISO/TC 218) Meeting No 1/2020

The Department of Standards Malaysia (DSM) called a National Mirror Committee on Timber (ISO/TC 218) Meeting No 1/2020 on 11 February 2020 at its office in Cyberjaya. The Meeting was chaired by Associate Professor Dr Eric H'ng Paik San of Universiti Putra Malaysia, who is the Chairman of Technical Committee on Timber (TC/V/1–Timber). The Meeting was attended by government officers, lecturers and representatives from timber associations.

The Meeting was updated on the list of Malaysian Standards (MS) under the purview of Malaysian Timber Industry Board as of January 2019. The list of MS was highlighted to enable TC/V/1–Timber to identify which of these MS require revision. After thorough discussion, the TC/V/1–Timber identified a total of twenty (20) MS that need to undergo the revision process and ten (10) other MS to be withdrawn. This progress will also be reported in the next meeting of TC/V/1–Timber.

The Meeting took note of the on-going ballot response for International Organization for Standardization (ISO) documents and two (2) upcoming international meetings, i.e. ISO/TC 287–Sustainable Processes for Wood and Wood–Based Products Meeting to be held from 16 to 20 March 2020 at São Paulo, Brazil, as well as ISO/TC 218–Timber Meeting to be held in Kuching from 5 to 9 October 2020.

Jabatan Standard Malaysia (DSM) telah mengadakan Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Pencerminkan Kebangsaan mengenai Kayu (ISO/TC 218) Bil. 1/2020 pada 11 Februari 2020 di pejabatnya di Cyberjaya. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Profesor Madya Dr Eric H'ng Paik San daripada Universiti Putra Malaysia yang merupakan Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Teknikal Kayu (TC/V/1–Timber).

Mesyuarat dikemaskini mengenai senarai Piawaian Malaysia (MS) di bawah bidang Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia sehingga Januari 2019.

马来西亚国家标准部 (DSM) 于2020年2月11日假赛城召开有关木材 (ISO/TC 218) 附属委员会第一次会议。该会议由马来西亚博特拉大学副教授方毕山博士主持。

会议更新直至2019年1月在马来西亚木材工业局权限下的木材工业大马标准 (MS) 清单。

## Seminar on Explore Business Opportunities in ASEAN and Oceania Market

The *Seminar on Explore Business Opportunities in ASEAN and Oceania Market* was organised by the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) on 26 February 2020 at Hilton Hotel, Kuching. It aimed to help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to better understand guidelines and procedures to do business in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Oceania market. Mr Khairun Khalik Yusof, Assistant Director of MATRADE Sarawak, emphasised that the role of MATRADE is to promote Malaysian companies to the world through extensive activities such as export promotion and exporters' development.

During the Seminar, there were six (6) presentations covering various topics including business opportunities in the ASEAN and Oceania market, market development grant offered by MATRADE, trade and customs facilitation, as well as services provided by SIRIM for the business community.

Seminar Menerokai Peluang Perniagaan di Pasaran ASEAN & Oceania telah dianjurkan oleh Perbadanan Pembangunan Perdagangan Luar Malaysia (MATRADE) pada 26 Februari 2020 di Hotel Hilton, Kuching. Ianya bertujuan untuk membantu perusahaan kecil dan sederhana (SMEs) untuk memahami secara lebih baik mengenai garis panduan dan langkah-langkah menjalankan perniagaan di ASEAN dan Oceania.

马来西亚对外贸易发展局(MATRADE)于2020年2月26日假古晋希尔顿酒店举办探索东盟及大洋洲市场商机研讨会。该研讨会旨在帮助中小型企业(SMEs) 更有效地了解在东南亚国家联盟 (ASEAN) 和大洋洲市场开展业务的准则和程序。

Dear Members and Readers,

Due to the enforcement of Movement Control Order which started on 18 March 2020 to contain the COVID-19 outbreak, the printing of STA Review for February 2020 issue was unexpectedly delayed. As COVID-19 affects our daily lives, we are committed in ensuring that our members and readers continue to receive updates on government policies and regulations as well as statistics on production and export through STA Review with minimal disruption.

We thank you for your kind understanding and support. Stay safe and healthy.

Editorial Board of STA Review