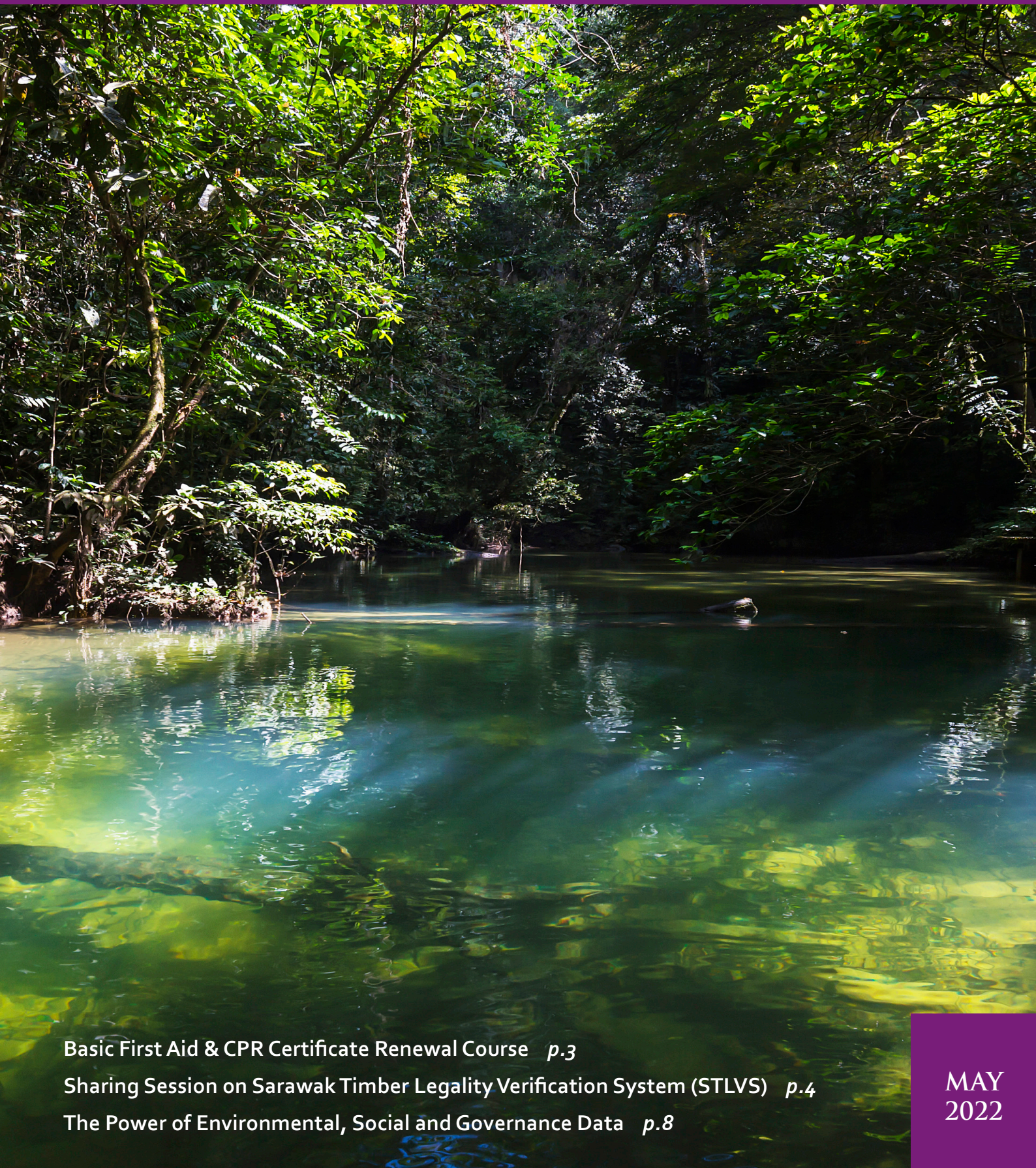


STA Review

Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association
VOLUME 344 PPK 174/05/2013 (032756)



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MAY
2022

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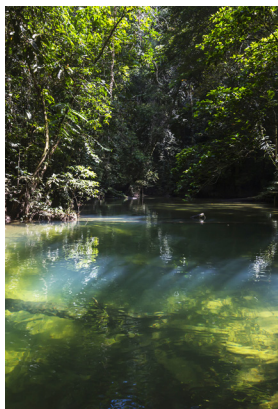
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Location: Mulu National Park
Photo Credit: Hazize Bin San

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STA Mutual Sdn Bhd's Board of Honorary Advisers and Board of Directors Meetings No. 2/2022

Both the Board of Honorary Advisers (BHA) and Board of Directors (BOD) of STA Mutual Sdn Bhd convened their second respective meetings for the year on 11 May 2022. Both meetings were conducted online and chaired by the Chairman, Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik.

The eleven (11) members of the BHA and four (4) members of the BOD approved a scholarship in the sum of RM10,000 to Ms Yvonne Anak Matheus Resen who is currently undertaking Diploma in Forestry at Universiti Putra Malaysia, Bintulu Campus.

They also approved the award of STA Best Graduating Student to Mr Yap Jun Wah and STA Best Final Year Project Award to Ms Brenda Anak Brain for the year 2021, both of whom are from the Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak and financial assistance to non-profit organisations to support their activities.

2022年5月11日, 本会主席拿督黄启爵爵士主持了本年度第二次召开的STA Mutual有限公司名誉顾问董事会(BHA)和董事会(BOD)线上会议。BHA和BOD都批准了向非营利组织颁发奖学金、STA 奖项和经济援助。



BHA meeting in progress

Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik, Pengerusi, mempengerusikan mesyuarat dalam talian kedua tahun ini untuk kedua-dua Lembaga Penasihat Kehormat (BHA) dan Lembaga Pengarah (BOD) STA Mutual Sdn Bhd pada 11 Mei 2022. Kedua-dua BHA dan BOD meluluskan anugerah biasiswa, hadiah STA dan bantuan kewangan kepada organisasi bukan berasaskan keuntungan.

Basic First Aid & CPR Certificate Renewal Course

Seven (7) staffs from STA Training Sdn Bhd and STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd who are trained first aider attended the "Basic First Aid & Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certificate Renewal Course" organised by Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS) Kuching District from 10 to 11 May 2022.

The Course was conducted by Mr Philip Tiong Ho Sion, First Aid Instructor of MRCS who introduced principles of first aid and covered topics such as safety and adult CPR developed by the American Heart Association (AHA) 2020.

Participants also learned about types of wounds, fractures and injuries, dressing and bandaging a wound, as well as safe way to transport casualty during the 2-day course.

Practical sessions were also held to provide participants with hands-on experience of what was learnt, with emphasis on Hands-Only CPR, which is an acceptable way for bystander to perform CPR on victim suffering from cardiac arrest, without mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.



Group photo with Mr Philip Tiong Ho Sion, First Aid Instructor of Malaysian Red Crescent Society, Kuching District

本会子公司 STA Training 有限公司和 STA Enterprises 有限公司共有7名接受过急救培训的员工参加“基本急救和心肺复苏 (CPR) 证书更新课程”，并学习伤口、骨折和受伤的类型，安全护送伤员的方法以及如何手动心肺复苏术以帮助患有心脏骤停的受害者。

7 kakitangan terlatih pemberi pertolongan cemas daripada STA Training Sdn Bhd dan STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd telah menghadiri "Kursus Pembaharuan Sijil Asas Pertolongan Cemas & Resusitasi Kardiopulmonari (CPR)". Kakitangan terbabit mempelajari tentang jenis luka, patah tulang dan kecederaan, cara selamat mengusung mangsa dan cara melakukan CPR menggunakan tangan untuk membantu mangsa yang mengalami serangan jantung.

Sharing Session on Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS)

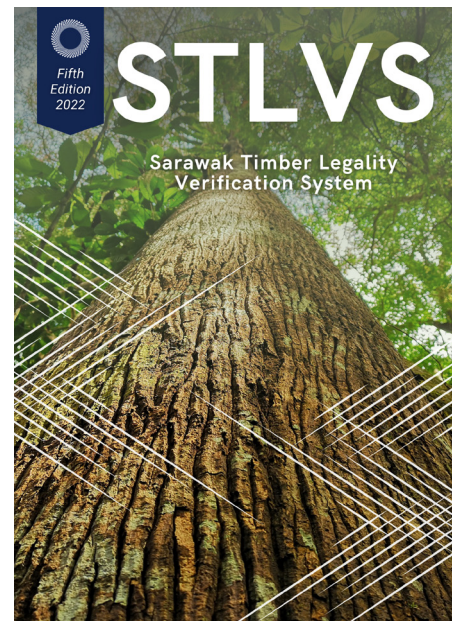
The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd and STA conducted a sharing session on Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS) on 12 May 2022 via online platform.

The objective was to provide latest updates on the policy directions and administrative arrangements that have been adopted by the Sarawak government in regulating its forestry and timber industry, and trade in Sarawak. Approximately 180 representatives from various forestry agencies, relevant enforcement agencies and industry players participated in the sharing session.

Mr Jack anak Liam, the Deputy Director of Forests, in his welcoming speech mentioned that timber industry remains one of the main contributors to Sarawak's export earnings alongside natural gas, petroleum and palm oil products.



Mr Jack Anak Liam, Deputy Director of Forests (seated, centre) delivering his welcoming speech



STLVS Booklet

In the past ten years, the timber industry had contributed a total of RM6.31 billions in terms of revenue to Sarawak as well as provided employment, created business opportunities and connected the rural communities. Mr Jack also highlighted the Sarawak Post COVID-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) launched by Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Abang Johari Tun Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak had identified forestry and timber industry as one of the key economic sectors to drive growth.

The PCDS aimed to have the forestry and timber industry sector be globally recognised in sustainable management of tropical forest and biodiversity conservation while enhancing the rapid growth of timber industry by 2030.

In support of that and in particular, to ensure the timber industry remain sustainable, legal and competitive in the international market, the Sarawak forestry agencies have made various improvements in terms of policy, administrative arrangement and associated procedures. The latest policy directions and administrative updates are:

- i. The Director of Forests had delegated the power to issue licences to all sawmill in Sarawak, under Section 62 of the Forests Ordinance, 2015 to the General Manager of STIDC, effective 2 January 2019.
- ii. The functions of FDS and Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) had been streamlined in a restructuring effort effective 2 January 2020. FDS shall be the sole agency undertaking forest management, forest research and development, forest engineering, forest compliance, revenue collection and planted forests as specified in the Forests Ordinance, 2015. Meanwhile, SFC took over duties enshrined in the National Parks and Nature Reserves Ordinance 1998, and the Wildlife Protection Ordinance 1998 relating to the management and administration of Totally Protected Areas, National Parks, Nature Reserves as well as management and conservation of wildlife.

iii. New royalty rate for natural logs and planted logs exported from Sarawak effective 1 January 2022:

Logs		Royalty Rates (RM/m ³)	
		Old	New
Natural	Certified area	65	90
	Non-certified area	65	130
Planted		10	15

iv. STLVS third party audit/verification is to be carried out on a voluntary basis based on importing countries' requirement and market demand effective 26 January 2022. This is based on the Memorandum on Policy Direction on the Implementation of Third Party Audit/Verification under the STLVS dated 31 January 2022 by Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development.

During the sharing session, Mr Semilan Ripot, Senior Assistant Director, Revenue & Data Management Division of FDS presented on the latest institutional framework of forestry sector in Sarawak, regulating framework for legal compliance along the chain of custody, STLVS 3rd party auditing as well as key documents / verifiers used by enforcement agencies during legality verification process.

Mr Mohammad Mubarak Bin Abdillah Su'ut, Domestic Trade Manager of STIDC shared with participants the required legal documents and processes for importing logs and timber products into Sarawak. Amongst the documents required for issuance of import licence are approved import quota (for log), Certificate of Origin, phytosanitary certificate, commercial invoice, bill of lading and packing list.

He added that in 2021, Sarawak imported a total of RM402 millions of logs and timber products, with by round logs recording the highest value, followed by veneer and other timber products.



Mr Jack Anak Liam (seated, second from right) posed for picture with (left to right) Awang Mentali Bin Awang Mohamed Sulaiman, Assistant General Manager (Trade Control) of STIDC, Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA and Mr Haji Abu Hassan Bin Yusuf, Assistant General Manager (Operations) of Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd as well as representatives from other agencies and STA Secretariat.

2022年5月12日，约有 180 名来自各林业机构、相关执法机构和木材业者的代表参加了一项关于砂拉越木材合法验证系统（STLVS）的线上分享会。分享会除了分享对STLVS 所做的更新外，也分享了砂拉越林业机构所做出的一些最新政策方向和行政更新。

Sesi perkongsian dalam talian mengenai Sistem Verifikasi Kesahan Kayu Sarawak (STLVS) telah diadakan pada 12 Mei 2022 dan dihadiri oleh kira-kira 180 wakil-wakil daripada pelbagai agensi perhutanan, agensi penguatkuasaan berkaitan dan pemain industri. Selain perkongsian mengenai kemas kini STLVS, sesi tersebut turut berkongsi beberapa dasar terkini dan kemas kini pentadbiran oleh agensi perhutanan Sarawak.

MTC Industry Engagement Roadshow to Sarawak

The Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) delegation, led by its Chief Executive Officer, Mr Muhtar Suhaili conducted a 3-day Industry Engagement Roadshow in Sarawak from 26 to 28 May 2022.

The delegation comprises Ms Noraihan Abdul Rahman, Chief Operation Officer; Mr Mokhtar Yaacob, Director, Industry Development & Transformation Division; Ms Alexis Chang Hwei Yee, Director, Market Promotion & Product Development Division; Mr Tan Ting Wai, Director, International Business Development Division Cluster 1; Mr Khairul Anwar, Director, International Business Development Division Cluster 2; Ms Lau Li Har, Director, Strategic Planning and Corporate Communication Division and four (4) MTC officers.

Through the Industry Engagement Roadshow, MTC aimed to strengthen the relationship with the industry members in Sarawak, understand the challenges faced, recommend some incentive through various programme offered by MTC and explore collaboration opportunities between Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak

The 3-day Roadshow kicked off in Miri, where the MTC delegates and officers from Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB) and STA Secretariat were received by Mr Lawrence Chia, Chief Executive Officer of Samling Group of Companies, Mr James Ho, Chief Operating Officer and several other heads of departments from Samling.

Both Mr Muhtar and Mr Lawrence presented the background and development of their organization and welcomed ways for collaboration of mutual benefits. The delegation also took a visit to “The House of Acacia” and Samling Housing Products Sdn Bhd at Kuala Baram which produces doors for export to Japan.

The delegation then travelled to Kuching and paid a courtesy call to Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, Deputy Premier of Sarawak, Second Minister of Natural Resources and Urban Development cum Chairman of STIDC.

This was followed by a Dialogue at DUN Sarawak on 27 May 2022, with Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan; Datu Sr Zaidi bin Haji Mahdi, Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development; Mr Jack Liam, Deputy Director of Forest Department Sarawak; Datu Hashim Bojet, General Manager of STIDC; Mr Haji Abu Hassan bin Yusuf, Assistant General Manager (Operations), HTSB, Annie Ting, CEO of STA; as well as officers from FDS, STIDC and STA.

Representatives from FDS, STIDC, STA and MTC each made a presentation prior to the dialogue session. During the dialogue, Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan shared that Sarawak is committed to taking care of its resources by practising good forest management. He further shared that Sarawak Government is responding to some allegations made by non-governmental organisations that are discrediting certified forest management unit in Sarawak.

On the matter of Environment, Social and Governance (ESG), Mr Muhtar informed that MTC is currently drafting ESG chapter and will engage with STA and STIDC to make sure that the chapter is also practical and feasible based on Sarawak's situation. MTC affirmed that they will maintain a close working relationship with forestry stakeholders in Sarawak for the benefit of all parties.

In the last stop of the Industry Engagement Roadshow in Sibu, the delegation visited the Subur Tiasa Bamboo Plantation and Nursery. Mr Daniel Tai, General Manager (Marketing, Business Innovation cum Licence for Planted Forests) of Subur Tiasa Group of Companies informed that the planted area for bamboo currently stands at 2,300 hectares and is expected to increase to 6,000 hectares in the near future if an on-site factory for processing of the



Mr Muhtar Suhaili, CEO of MTC (standing 4th from left) hands memento to Mr Lawrence Chia, CEO of Samling Group of Companies.



Dialogue in progress



Memento from Ms. Noraihan Abdul Rahman, Chief Operation Officer MTC (second from left) to Mr Daniel Tai, General Manager (Marketing, Business Innovation cum LPF) of Subur Tiasa Group (second from right)

harvested bamboo is built. In the last stop of the Industry Engagement Roadshow in Sibul, the delegation visited the Subur Tiasa Bamboo Plantation and Nursery. Mr Daniel Tai, General Manager (Marketing, Business Innovation cum Licence for Planted Forests) of Subur Tiasa Group of Companies informed that the planted area for bamboo currently stands at 2,300 hectares and is expected to increase to 6,000 hectares in the near future if an on-site factory for processing of the harvested bamboo is built.

马来西亚木材委员会(MTC)代表团由其首席执行官姆达先生率领, 于2022年5月26日至28日在砂拉越进行了为期3天的木材业磋商路演。该路演旨在加强与砂拉越业者的关系, 了解所面临的挑战, 通过MTC提供的各种计划推荐一些激励措施, 并探索马来西亚半岛和砂拉越之间的合作机会。代表团与砂拉越的业者接触, 并参观制造厂、种植园和苗圃, 随后与砂拉越副总理兼城市发展和自然资源部第二部长拿督阿马哈兹阿旺登加以及砂拉越林业机构的代表官员进行对话会。

Delegasi Majlis Kayu-Kayan Malaysia (MTC) yang diketuai oleh Ketua Pegawai Eksekutifnya, Encik Muhtar Suhaili telah mengadakan Jelajah Penglibatan Industri di Sarawak dari 26 hingga 28 Mei 2022. Jelajah bermatlamat untuk mengukuhkan hubungan MTC dengan pemain-pemain industri di Sarawak, memahami cabaran yang dihadapi, mengesyorkan beberapa insentif melalui program yang ditawarkan oleh MTC dan menerokai peluang kerjasama di antara Semenanjung Malaysia dan Sarawak. Delegasi melibatkan diri dengan pemain industri di Sarawak dan membuat lawatan ke kilang, ladang dan tapak semaian, serta sesi dialog bersama Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, Timbalan Premier Sarawak merangkap Menteri Kedua Pembangunan Sumber Asli dan Bandar dan perwakilan-perwakilan daripada agensi perhutanan Sarawak.

European Union Regulation on Deforestation - Free Products

On 17 November 2021, the European Commission (EC) announced a proposal for a new Regulation to curb global deforestation and forest degradation driven by European Union (EU) consumption of certain commodities. The EU Regulation on Deforestation - Free Products (EUDR) is part of a set of EU Green Deal legislative proposals to "stop deforestation, innovate sustainable waste management and make soils healthy for people, nature and climate".

The Regulation targets six commodities i.e coffee, cocoa, cattle, palm oil, soy and wood. Companies are obligated to conduct due diligence to ensure only deforestation-free products enter the EU market. Companies must show that commodities are not produced on any land deforested or degraded after 31 December 2020.

Operators will be required to collect the geographic coordinates of the land where the commodities they place on the market are produced. A benchmarking system operated by the EC will identify countries as presenting a low, standard or high risk of producing commodities or products that are not deforestation-free or in accordance with the legislation of the producer country. Obligations for operators and authorities will vary according to the level of risk of the country or region of production, with simplified due diligence duties for products coming from low-risk and enhanced scrutiny for high-risk areas.

In view of this, Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) organised a hybrid consultation session with the timber industry on EUDR on 19 May 2022 at Menara PGRM, Kuala Lumpur. The consultation session was chaired by Mr Muhtar Suhaili, Chief Executive Officer of MTC.

Mr Maurits Bruggink, Managing Director of Ridens Public

Affairs, MTC's appointed public relations agency spoke on the EU Institutional set-up and the structure of the European Parliament and its legislative processes. The meeting deliberated on the ongoing development of the EUDR, its possible impacts on the Malaysian timber trade as well as proposed a Malaysian Timber Industry's Position paper on EUDR. Subsequently, STA submitted inputs to MTC for the position paper which includes respecting Malaysia's sovereignty rights and ownership over her natural resources, including land, forest and timber.

2022年5月19日, 由马来西亚木材理事会(MTC)首席执行官姆塔先生主持的咨询会审议欧盟森林砍伐条例的持续发展及其对马来西亚木材贸易的可能影响。欧盟森林砍伐条例是欧盟委员会(EC)提出的一项条例, 旨在遏制因欧盟(EU)消费某些原产品而导致的全球森林砍伐和森林退化。会议还讨论了马来西亚木材工业对于欧盟森林砍伐条例的立场文件的准备工作。

Perkembangan Peraturan Penyahhutan EU (EUDR) dan kemungkinan kesannya terhadap perdagangan kayu Malaysia telah dibincangkan dalam sesi perundingan yang dipengerusikan oleh Encik Muhtar Suhaili, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Majlis Kayu-Kayan Malaysia (MTC) pada 19 Mei 2022. EUDR merupakan peraturan yang dicadangkan oleh Suruhanjaya Eropah (EC) untuk membendung penyahhutan global dan degradasi hutan yang didorong penggunaan komoditi-komoditi tertentu oleh Kesatuan Eropah (EU). Mesyuarat turut membincangkan penyediaan kertas Kedudukan Industri Perkayuan Malaysia mengenai EUDR.

The Power of Environmental, Social and Governance Data

In recognising the urgent need to accelerate responses towards ensuring a smooth and orderly transition to a low-carbon economy, the Bank Negara Malaysia formed a Joint Committee on Climate Change (JC3) in 2019 to pursue collaborative actions for building climate resilience within the Malaysia financial sector. In order to focus on specific topics that manage exposures to climate risks and facilitate businesses on their transition towards sustainable practices, four (4) sub-committees (SCs) were subsequently formed, one of it being SC4 – Engagement and Capacity Building.

JC3 SC4, in collaboration with The Association of Southeast Asian Nations Low Carbon Energy Programme (ASEAN LCEP) launched the JC3 Upskilling Sustainability Training (JUST) Series 2 on Governance and Reporting to expand on the importance of ESG data and better equip participants with the necessary knowledge of the relevant standards and guidelines on ESG reporting. The first online workshop for JUST Series 2 on “*The Power of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Data*” was organised on 19 May 2022.

Dr Aria Putera Ismail, Group President and Chief Executive Officer, SME Bank, highlighted the critical role that financial sector play in tackling ESG issues, in his welcoming remarks. He added that access to the correct ESG data would enable financial institution to direct capital to businesses and projects that pave the way for a sustainable future.

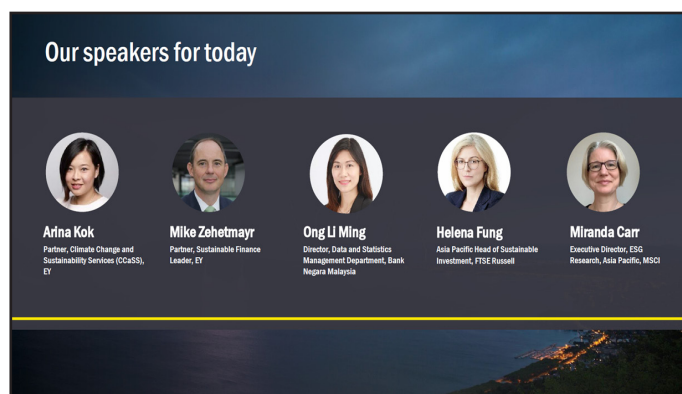
Ms Arina Kok, Partner, Malaysia Climate Change and Sustainability Services Leader, Ernst & Young (EY) shared in her presentation that the increasing focus on the adoption of new global standards for measuring and reporting long term value creation is driving ESG to become the core of future enterprises.

She added that the landscape of doing business is already changing and there are strategies that companies can take to increase value propositions as eventually, the core of enterprises is going to be defined by how they drive ESG-centric agenda, enabling multiple value creation across environmental, social and governance criteria.

Ms Arina recognized that there are still a lot of economic recovery and challenging landscape to navigate post COVID-19 pandemic but added that no organizations will be derailed, in the long term, from the five (5) actions that businesses should take in 2022, the year of sustainability action. The 5 action steps are summarized as follows;

- **Business must contribute to keeping 1.5°C alive, by accelerating its efforts**

More and more leading organizations are shaping their supply chain to align with their commitment to net zero or decarbonization. In moving forward, employees and stakeholders need to be foundationally competent to keep up with the developing understanding of what emission is and what the reduction options are.



Panel of speakers at the workshop

- **Business should prepare for the implications of the changing market and regulatory landscape**

More businesses are starting to take stock of the wave of mergers and acquisitions activity to divest high carbon assets and acquire green technology. Businesses are advised to understand how the supply chain can exert positive influence by focusing on things that are positive such as footprints, biodegradable materials and more sustainable supply sourcing.

- **Businesses should expect and prepare for higher momentum on the convergence of sustainability standards**

The new International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) set up by the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) will start to look at sustainability impact to financial statement because it needs to now, consider sustainability risks and opportunities as well as how these will affect enterprise value. Other parties such as loan and insurance providers, as well as creditors are also starting to look for sustainability disclosure in a more strategic manner.

- **Business should consider adaptation as an important part of their agenda**

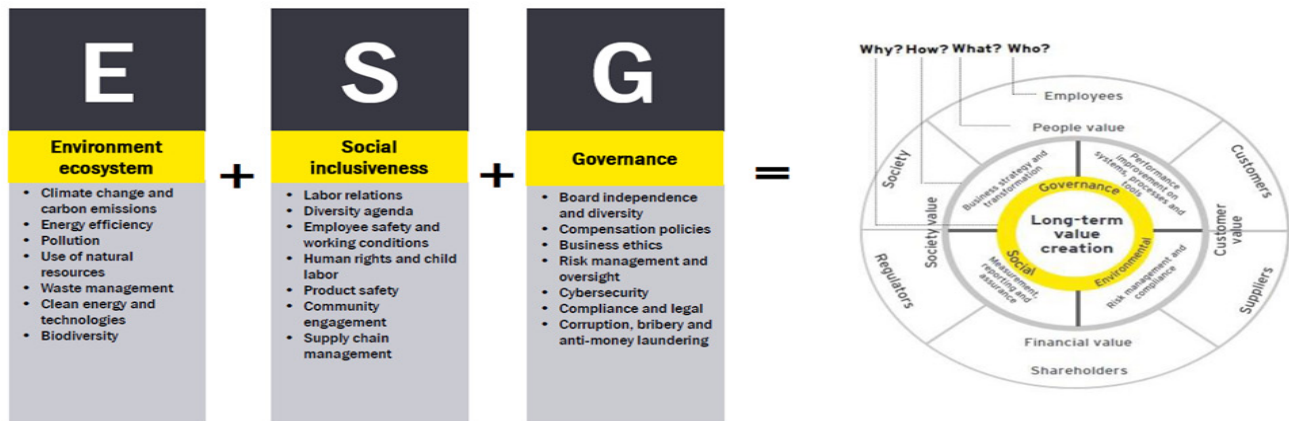
While global investment adapt to the effects of climate change, there are areas whereby it cannot come at the expense of mitigation. One of the direct ways to ensure that temperature does not continue to rise is by encouraging businesses to move towards understanding emission and limiting it.

- **Climate change is everybody's business and business needs to engage with different voices**

Activist must understand that while it is important to create more energy and momentum in highlighting ESG issues, businesses cannot transform their supply chain overnight. There need to be a coordinated transformation that takes into account the holistic view of all parties, building on co-creation of solutions as well as understanding of economics. When the economics falls into place, businesses will naturally pivot to green solution.

She continued to explain the important role that regulators play in driving coordinated advancement towards better adoption of ESG practices.

Building resilience and transforming through ESG to achieve sustainable long-term value



Source: EY Thought Leadership - Setting the ESG agenda to achieve sustainable long-term value

Ms Arina shared that the drivers for ESG data entails a broader area which organizations should look at in order to understand ESG better.

Bursa Malaysia had in 2015, following Malaysia's adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, required all listed issuers to disclose sustainability statements annually by 2018. To date, Malaysia is one of the leading countries in the region to have this made mandatory.

Participants of the workshop also learned that studies have indicated that managing for a low carbon future will improve financial performance. Organizations that invest into reducing their own emission or using renewable energy will be better positioned and have more resilience in cost management when the carbon taxonomy comes in, because by then, emission will eventually be a cost.

Ms Arina added that data remains the biggest ESG investing challenges and listed challenges to the usefulness and effectiveness of ESG reporting as

- lack of information on how to create long term value;
- lack of focus on the material issues that really matter;
- disconnect between ESG reporting and mainstream financial information;
- lack of real-time information; and
- lack of forward-looking disclosures.

Ms Ong Li Ming, Director, Data and Statistics Management Department at Bank Negara Malaysia who is also the Head of Secretariat of SC5 – Bridging Data Gaps, a new sub-committee formed under JC3, spoke on Malaysia's experience and way forward in bridging climate-related data gaps. In her presentation, she highlighted some of the gaps in translating data into usable information as well as the initiatives explored to address these gaps.

Mr Mike Zehetmayr, Partner, Sustainable Finance Leader, EY presented on some use case for ESG data and echoed with Ms Arina in stating that financial institutions can guard against the rise of ESG by integrating ESG considerations into their core strategies. He added that more practitioners are quantifying and integrating ESG data into company valuations and each industry sector will have its own sustainability issues that require critical assessment and monitoring.

The power of ESG data was explored and presented by Ms Miranda Carr, Executive Director, ESG Research, Asia Pacific, Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) and Ms Helena Fung, Asia Pacific Head of Sustainable Investment, FTSE Russell. It was shared that ESG leaders demonstrated increased sophistication across their organisation as they move beyond fundamental equity and integrate ESG into fixed income.

Ms Arina wrapped up the session by encouraging businesses to harness stakeholder viewpoint, keep informed and build capacity across senior leadership and board level on ESG matters related to ESG.

气候变化联合委员会第4小组委员会(JC3 SC4)和东南亚国家联盟低碳能源计划(ASEAN LCEP) 于2022年5月19日在线上联合举办“环境、社会和治理(ESG)数据的力量”研讨会。研讨会提醒参与者监管机构在带动协调推进以更好地采用 ESG实践方面所发挥的关键作用, 以及金融机构在解决 ESG 问题方面所发挥的作用。此外, 尽管数据仍然是 ESG 投资最大的挑战, 但 ESG 领导者在将 ESG 整合到机构的固定收益中表现出更高的成熟度。

Bengkel dalam talian mengenai “Kuasa Data Alam Sekitar, Sosial dan Pentadbiran (ESG)” telah dianjurkan pada 19 Mei 2022 oleh Jawatankuasa Bersama bagi Jawatankuasa Kecil Perubahan Iklim 4 (JC3 SC4) dan Persatuan Program Tenaga Karbon Rendah Negara-Negara Asia Tenggara (ASEAN LCEP). Peserta bengkel diingatkan tentang peranan penting yang dimainkan oleh pentadbir dalam memacu perkembangan ke arah amalan ESG yang lebih baik serta peranan sektor kewangan dalam menangani isu ESG. Turut diketahui ialah walaupun data kekal sebagai cabaran utama pelaburan ESG, pemimpin-pemimpin ESG telah menunjukkan peningkatan di organisasi mereka dengan mengintegrasikan ESG ke dalam pendapatan tetap.

MTA Executive Committee Meeting No 1/2022

STA, as Vice President of the Malaysian Timber Association (MTA) joined other MTA Executive Committee (EXCO) members in its first EXCO Meeting this year, chaired by Mr Goh Chee Yew, MTA President.

In the meeting which took place on 9 May 2022 at MTC Headquarters, all nine (9) EXCO members unanimously confirmed and adopted the previous Minutes.

EXCO members also accepted the financial statement of current assets and current liabilities as at 30 April 2022 and adopted the Audited Financial Statement as at 31 December 2021 which will be tabled in the forthcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM).

The EXCO members also reported and provided updates on matters and issues that are currently being undertaken and dealt with by each of the associations. Among issues discussed were shortage of general workers, forced labour, anti-dumping allegations by Viet Nam, shortage of raw materials, Timber Industry Roadmap and the European Union Deforestation-Free Products Regulation.

EXCO members discussed and agreed to postpone MTA's AGM 2022 which was originally scheduled to take place at Sandakan in June to 8 July 2022 in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah.



Meeting in progress

作为马来西亚木材协会(MTA)的副主席，本会与其他 MTA 执行委员会(EXCO)成员一起参加由 MTA 主席吴志耀先生主持的本年度第一次 EXCO 会议。

其中讨论的议题包括员工短缺、强迫劳动、越南反倾销指控和原材料短缺的问题。

STA, selaku Naib Presiden Persatuan Kayu-Kayan Malaysia (MTA) menyertai ahli-ahli Jawatankuasa Eksekutif (EXCO) MTA yang lain dalam Mesyuarat EXCO pertamanya tahun ini. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Encik Goh Chee Yew, Presiden MTA. Antara isu-isu yang dibincangkan ialah kekurangan pekerja am, buruh paksa, dakwaan anti lambakan oleh Viet Nam dan kekurangan bahan mentah.

Meeting of MEF East Malaysia Region Members

Mr Bernard John Kanny, Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) Senior Consultant – Industrial Relations chaired a virtual meeting on 17 May 2022 which was attended by 20 of MEF East Malaysia Region members. The meeting aimed at sharing information on minimum retirement age and the fixed term employee.

Mr Bernard gave a presentation on cases relating to employees being put on fixed term contract. He made reference to the Industrial Court case of *“Wong Mei Yoke v Tien Wah Press (Malaya) Sdn Bhd [2018] 3 MELR 709”* where the Industrial Court decided that the Minimum Retirement Age Act (MRAA) 2012 was applicable to the claimant who was on a fixed term contract.

As a result of this finding, the court said that the employee was therefore entitled to work until she attains the age of 60, notwithstanding that she was on a fixed term contract. This decision, upheld by the High Court shall be treated as precedent for deciding future similar cases.

He also referenced the case of *“Zulkefli Hashim v Uda Holdings [2018] 2 LNS 3169”* where the court held that the MRAA only provides for the minimum retirement age as well as a latest decision by the Industrial Court in the case of *“Saiful Roslin Bin Ahmad Shukri v Binast Sdn Bhd [Award No 853/2022]”* whereby a one year fixed term contract was regarded as permanent employment.

In view of the above cases, employers were advised to be cautious when dealing with employees on fixed terms contracts and are reminded on several matters, namely that fixed term contracts are for a period of more than 24 months and with sufficient break before entering a fresh fixed term contract. There are also no automatic renewals of fixed term contracts and no increment in salary and promotion upon such renewal. Employee needs to make an application for further employment, which the terms and conditions differs from permanent employees.

马来西亚雇主联合会(MEF)劳资关系高级顾问,伯纳德先生于2022年5月17日主持MEF东马区域线上会议,共有20名会员出席了该会议。会议劝勉雇主在处理定期合约的雇员时要谨慎,以避免将来出现突发状况。

Encik Bernard John Kanny, Perunding Kanan Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) – Perhubungan Industri mempengerusikan mesyuarat maya pada 17 Mei 2022 yang dihadiri oleh 20 ahli-ahli MEF Wilayah Malaysia Timur. Mesyuarat menasihati majikan untuk lebih berhati-hati apabila berurusan dengan pekerja kontrak bertempoh tetap bagi mengelak komplikasi di kemudian hari.

Insights of Timber Industry in South Africa – Pre and Post Pandemic

The Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) organised an industry dialogue titled “An Overview of Timber Industry in South Africa – Pre and Post Pandemic” on 17 May 2022.

The virtual dialogue, which received participation from approximately 50 participants, served as a prelude to MTC’s Marketing Mission to South Africa from 5 – 11 June 2022.

In his welcoming remarks, Mr Muhtar Suhaili, Chief Executive Officer of MTC highlighted the importance of the South African market to Malaysia and hoped that the industry members will benefit from the significant insights and knowledge presented by the speakers.

Mr David Shaw, Director and Consultant at Numill Marketing and Mr Terry Andrews, Managing Director at Panel and Pane Joinery presented their insights on the timber trade in South Africa.

They also provided details on trends and highlighted opportunities and challenges of the timber and timber-based industry within the country, with particular emphasis during the pre and post COVID-19 pandemic.

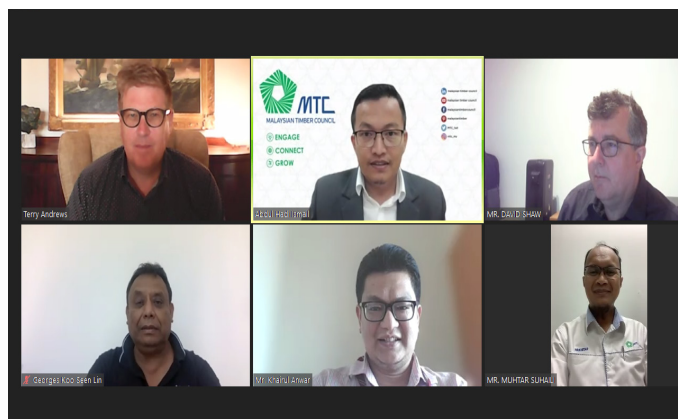
The dialogue was moderated by Mr Abdul Hadi Ismail, MTC Senior Executive cum MTC Regional Representative to Saudi Arabia and Africa, assisted by Mr Georges Koo See Lin, MTC Market Correspondence for South Africa, Mauritius and Africa Region. Also present at the session was Mr. Khairul Anwar, Director of MTC International Business Development Division.

马来西亚木材委员会(MTC)于2022年5月17日举办题为“南非木材工业概览—新冠病毒大流行前后”的工业对话会。

参与者深入了解南非木材贸易,并了解该国木材和以木材为基础的工业的机遇和挑战,特别是在新冠病毒大流行前后。



The virtual dialogue was joined by approximately 50 participants



The panelists of the dialogue

Majlis Kayu-Kayan Malaysia (MTC) telah menganjurkan dialog industri bertajuk “Tinjauan Keseluruhan Industri Perakayuan di Afrika Selatan - Pra dan Pasca Pandemik” pada 17 Mei 2022. Peserta dialog menerima maklumat mengenai perdagangan kayu di Afrika Selatan, peluang dan cabaran industri perakayuan serta industri berasaskan kayu dalam negara, dengan penekanan khusus terhadap jangka masa sebelum dan selepas pandemik COVID-19.

MAY 2022

Operator Training Programme

Skills training in forestry activities have been designed to provide forest workmen with basic knowledge and practical skills required to work safely in the forests. It helps to create awareness on the environment, sustainable forest management as well as occupational safety and health.

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), a subsidiary company of STA, offers training to workmen in the forestry and timber industry. Presently, there are twelve (12) skills sets offered by STAT.

For this month, STAT conducted on ground operator training programmes as follows:



Tree Felling - Chainsaw (Natural Forest); Log Extraction - Tractor (Natural Forest) & Mechanical Site Preparation - Excavator (Forest Plantation)

Date : 12 - 17 May 2022
Location : Medamit Camp, Limbang
STAT Trainer : Mr Sumbang Rani &
Mr Ngumbang Bayang
Company : Billion Venture Sdn Bhd



Tree Felling- Chainsaw (Natural Forest) & Log Extraction- Tractor (Natural Forest)

Date : 21 - 26 May 2022
Location : Lana Camp, Bintulu
STAT Trainer : Mr Ginda Uli
Company : Samling Timber Sdn Bhd



Tree and Log Identification & Log and Timber Identification

Date : 18 - 23 May 2022
Location : Patah Camp, Baram
STAT Trainer : Mr Sumbang Rani
Company : Shin Yang Sdn Bhd



Clear-Fell Site Preparation – Chainsaw (Forest Plantation)

Date : 18 - 23 May 2022
Location : Kejin Camp, Baram
STAT Trainer : Mr Ngumbang Bayang
Company : Shin Yang Sdn Bhd

Tree Felling- Chainsaw (Natural Forest) & Log Extraction- Tractor (Natural Forest)

Date : 17 - 21 May 2022
Location : Silat Camp, Baram
STAT Trainer : Mr Ginda Uli
Company : Samling Timber Sdn Bhd

STAT is the appointed training provider by Forest Department Sarawak to provide skills training for the five (5) prescribed forestry activities (PFAs) as listed in Schedule 1 The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015.

Wishing all Members and Readers

Selamat Hari Gawai



Gayu Guru Gerai Nyamai

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

Pengerusi, Ahli-ahli Majlis, pihak Pengurusan dan kakitangan STA, STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd dan STA Training Sdn Bhd ingin mengucapkan Selamat Hari Gawai, Gayu Guru Gerai Nyamai, kepada semua ahli-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有限公司全体职员全体职员在此祝愿所有达雅会员和读者
丰收节快乐