

# STA Review

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STA Forest Plantation Category and Committee Meetings *p.3*

Study Visit to the Institute of Forest Tree Improvement and Biotechnology in Vietnam *p.4*

Malaysia Wood Processing and Furniture Production Machinery Exhibition 2022 *p.10*

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# CONTENTS

# PAGE

# STA REVIEW

<i>STA Forest Plantation Category and Committee Meetings</i>	3
<i>Study Visit to the Institute of Forest Tree Improvement and Biotechnology in Vietnam</i>	4
<i>Workshop on Acacia mangium Plantations and Industries in Sarawak</i>	5
<i>STA Council Meeting No.5/2022</i>	6
<i>Workshop on Development and Assessment of Sustainable Livelihood Index for Forest-Dependent Communities in Sarawak</i>	6
<i>MIDA Engagement and Sharing Session</i>	7
<i>Webinar on Carbon Markets &amp; Carbon Pricing Instruments</i>	8
<i>Debriefing Session on European Union Deforestation-free Products Regulation</i>	9
<i>Malaysia Wood Processing and Furniture Production Machinery Exhibition 2022</i>	10
<i>Workshop on the Revision of Malaysian Standard (MS) 1714 by Working Group of Visual Strength Grading</i>	11
<i>Closing Ceremony of the Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) Expo</i>	11

## REGULAR FEATURES

<i>Statistics</i>	12
<i>Operator Training Programme</i>	24

## COVER IMAGE

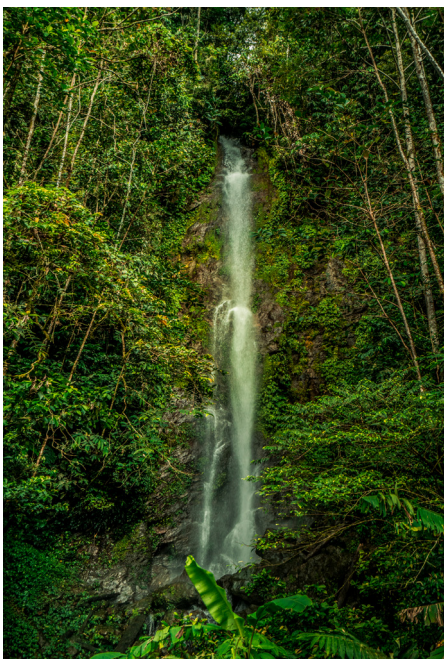


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# STA Forest Plantation Category and Committee Meetings

The STA Forest Plantation Category Meeting, presided over by its newly appointed Category Committee Chairman, Mr Joseph Lau, convened on 26 October 2022 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Category meeting elected the new Committee Members for a term of 2-year (2022 & 2023) as follows:

Member	Alternate
Mr Joseph Lau Ching Hoo, Chairman	-
Datuk Amar Haji Abdul Hamed Bin Haji Sepawi, Vice Chairman	Mr Ling Tiing Tchin
Mr Andy Wong Ko Hock, Honorary Secretary	Mr Tiong Sian Kiing
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Mr Ling Kuok Phiew	Mr Sato Junior Ak Penguang

The newly formed Committee then held its first Committee Meeting and received updates on the requirement for Forest Plantation Management Certification, Forest Licensee Portal developed by Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Study Visit to Vietnam organised by FDS as well as the Survey Study on *Acacia mangium* Plantations and Industries in Sarawak conducted by Malaysian Timber Industry Board.



Also discussed in the meeting were budget and activities for the year 2023 and research proposal submitted for the application of STA Research and Development (R&D) Funding.



(Top photo) Mr Joseph Lau, STA Forest Plantation Category Committee Chairman; (2<sup>nd</sup> Photo) Meeting in progress.



Associate Professor Dr. Ho Wei Seng, Project Investigator from UNIMAS presenting during the workshop.

In conjunction with the Category and Committee meetings, a workshop was held to provide an avenue for Associate Professor Dr. Ho Wei Seng, Project Leader from University Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) to share the historical development and progress of the Kelampayan projects funded by STA since 2013.

He also took the opportunity to provide guidance to interested

STA forest plantation members on the proper method of acclimatising Kelampayan seedlings at plantation nursery.

The Kelampayan seedlings are obtained from the selected candidate plus tree and mutant clones derived from the STA-funded R&D projects granted to UNIMAS, and are propagated using the bioreactor system procured with funding from STA R&D Funding.

Participants of the workshop also discussed on working plan to properly establish, manage and coordinate the Kelampayan field trials at STA member companies' areas.

STA人工造林小组会议在其新任委员会主席劉晉福先生主持下，于2022年10月26日召开，紧接着是新成立的委员会会议。同时也举办一项工作坊讨论研发工作和进展。

Kategori Ladang Hutan STA yang dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Kategori baharunya, Encik Joseph Lau telah bermesyuarat pada 26 Oktober 2022 dan diikuti dengan mesyuarat jawatankuasa oleh ahli-ahli jawatankuasa yang baru dilantik.

Selain mesyuarat tersebut, satu bengkel turut diadakan untuk membincangkan pembangunan dan kemajuan kerja-kerja penyelidikan.



# Study Visit to the Institute of Forest Tree Improvement and Biotechnology in Vietnam

Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad, Director of Forests, Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) recently led a 21-member delegation from FDS, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd, Sarawak Planted Forest Sdn Bhd and STA on a study visit to the Institute of Forest Tree Improvement and Biotechnology (IFTIB) in Hanoi, Vietnam from 17 to 21 October 2022.

The 5-day visit was organised to (i) gain insight on the tree improvement programmes and research and development (R&D) management framework in Vietnam, (ii) observe the planted timber harvesting and processing system practised locally; and (iii) understand Vietnam's policy and mechanism on the participation of small holders in forest plantation.

Breeding and Technology Transfer, IFTIB at Ba Vi District which includes visits to demonstration plots of *Acacia* hybrid and seed orchard of *Acacia auriculiformis*.

Following the successful visit, Datu Hamden agreed to form a working group on forest plantation R&D consisting of Sarawak forestry agencies and industry players including STA.

The working group will work closely to enhance and execute R&D planning and strategy for a better development of Sarawak forest plantation.



Dr Nguyen, Director of IFTIB (front row, 5<sup>th</sup> from right) and Datu Hamden, Director of Forests (front row, 5<sup>th</sup> from left) posed for photo with the delegation from Sarawak at the Institute of Forest Tree Improvement and Biotechnology. Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA is standing 4<sup>th</sup> from left at the front row.

The delegation was welcomed by Dr. Nguyen Duc Kien, Director of IFTIB who shared knowledge and experience on tree breeding and improvement programmes undertaken by IFTIB. Both parties also discussed forest plantation development in Vietnam and Sarawak, structure and operation of the Vietnamese Academy of Forests Sciences (VAFS) and its forest research institutes. Opportunities for research collaboration between FDS and IFTIB were also explored.

During the visit, Dr Kien accompanied and provided briefing to the delegation at every visiting location namely (i) research institutes and laboratories under VAFS at Yen District; (ii) *Acacia* polyploidy research plot, sawmill and veneer processing factories, smallholder *Eucalyptus* and *Acacia* plantations at Bac Giang City; and (iii) Centre for Experimental



Dr Nguyen Duc Kien, Director of IFTIB (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) welcoming the delegation from Sarawak.



Datu Hamden, Director of Forests (6<sup>th</sup> from right) handing over the appreciation plaque to Dr Nguyen (5<sup>th</sup> from left).



Group photo taken at the Eucalyptus plantation.



STA及其会员近期参加由砂拉越森林局 (FDS) 局长拿督哈姆登带领前往越南河内森林树木改良与生物技术研究 所 (IFTIB)的考察访问。考察访问成功 后, 拿督哈姆登同意成立一个由砂拉 越林业相关机构和包括STA在内的行 业参与者组成的人工林研究与发展工 作组。

Baru-baru ini, STA dan ahli-ahlinya telah mengambil bahagian dalam lawatan sambil belajar yang diketuai oleh Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad, Pengarah Hutan, Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) ke Institusi Penambahbaikan dan Bioteknologi Pokok Hutan (IFTIB) di Hanoi, Vietnam. Berikutan daripada kejayaan lawatan tersebut, Datu Hamden bersetuju untuk menubuhkan kumpulan kerja R&D ladang hutan yang merangkumi agensi-agensi perhutanan Sarawak dan pemain-pemain industri termasuk STA.

## Workshop on *Acacia mangium* Plantations and Industries in Sarawak

STA, in collaboration with Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) organised a workshop on 13 October 2022 at Wisma STA, Kuching to gather data and information required by Fibre and Biocomposite Development Centre (FIDEC) for their study on *Acacia mangium* plantations and industries in Sarawak. FIDEC, a research unit of the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB), is carrying out the study to understand the process flow of *Acacia mangium* from plantation establishment to processing at mills as well as determine the potential and availability of *Acacia mangium* bark residues supply for tannin extraction at commercial level.

In her welcoming speech, Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA informed that the Workshop is a continuation from the online briefing on the study given by FIDEC on 13 April 2022. She added that the Workshop also served as a platform to learn about the process flow from Acacia plantation harvesting to mill operations in Sarawak as well as experience of bark tannin extraction in South Africa.



Ms Zarina Bt Shebli,  
Assistant Director of  
Forests, FDS delivering her  
opening speech

Ms Zarina in her opening speech hoped that a good way forward can be obtained from the Workshop and thanked the Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) holders for demonstrating full cooperation towards the study.

Approximately thirty (30) participants of the Workshop received a briefing on the study from Dr Yeoh Beng



Dr Yeoh Beng Hoong, Deputy Director of FIDEC (seated, 3<sup>rd</sup> from right), Datu Haji Hashim Bin Haji Bojet, General Manager of STIDC (seated, 5<sup>th</sup> from right), Mr Joseph Lau, Council Member and STA Forest Plantation Category Chairman (seated, 5<sup>th</sup> from left) and Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA (seated, 3<sup>rd</sup> from left) joined other participants of the Workshop for a group photo.

Hoong, Deputy Director of FIDEC and benefitted from the sharing session presented by Mr Paul Valentine, General Manager of Sarawak Planted Forests Sdn Bhd; Mr Ling Tiing Tchin, General Manager of Zumida Sdn Bhd; Mr Francois Blignaut, Assistant General Manager (Reforestation) of Samling Reforestation (Bintulu) Sdn Bhd; and Mr Nicholas Andrew Lisse, Assistant General Manager of Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation.

Dr Yeoh then led a discussion on questionnaire prepared for the study and assisted representatives from relevant LPF companies present in filling up the questionnaire form. The Workshop also resolved to organise a field visit at the end of November 2022 for FIDEC to observe the best location for *Acacia* bark extraction along the harvesting operation and processing at mill.

砂拉越森林局(FDS)连同本会于2022年10月13日假古晋STA大厦举办一项工作坊, 以收集纤维和生物复合材料开发中心(FIDEC)对砂拉越马占相思种植和工业研究所需的数据和资讯。

STA, dengan kerjasama Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) menganjurkan bengkel pada 13 Oktober 2022 di Wisma STA, Kuching untuk mengumpul data dan maklumat yang diperlukan oleh Pusat Pembangunan Serat dan Biokomposit (FIDEC) bagi kajiannya mengenai penanaman dan industri *Acacia mangium* di Sarawak.



## STA Council Meeting No.5/2022

The STA Council for the term 2022 and 2023 held its inaugural meeting on 28 October 2022 via video conferencing since taking office on 30 September 2022. Dato Henry Lau, STA Chairman presided over the meeting which was attended by Honorary Secretary Mr Wong Ting Chung, Honorary Treasurer Mr Philip Choo and twenty four (24) members of the Council.



Meeting in progress

The Council put on record STA's appreciation to Dato Sri Wong Kie Yik, KBE for his dedicated long service to the Association over for the last seven (7) terms. He hoped that with the support of the members of the Council, the Association will continue to carry out its existing roles as well as to enhance its position in view of the changes of circumstances in the timber industry.

The Council respected Tan Sri Datuk Ling Chiong Ho's decision to decline his appointment as Vice Chairman for the term 2022 and 2023 and after some deliberation, the Council deferred the appointment of another Vice Chairman to the next Council meeting.

The Council deliberated extensively on the state of the timber industry in Sarawak as well as reviewed the roles of STA going forward. As the current economic situation is still very unpredictable and coupled with the lack of promising factors on the domestic front, the strength of recovery for the timber industry is highly uncertain. The Council therefore resolved that to waive the annual subscription payable by all members for all categories for year 2023.



Mr Kasvenda Kassim (left), Sirim Bhd Regional Director hands over the certification of Segaham FMU to Mr Kenny Law (right), KTS Group Director in a small ceremony held at KTS office on 20 October 2022.

The Council approved financial contribution amounting to RM100,000.00 to Polymore Timber Sdn Bhd for achieving forest management certification under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme in 38,984-hectare Segaham Forest Management Unit (FMU) on 4 October 2022. The financial contribution is given to STA members whose forest timber licence obtained the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme or any recognised forest management certification schemes

As of 31 October 2022, there are sixteen (16) certified natural forests and six (6) certified forest plantations in Sarawak covering a total area of 1,481,122.35 hectares.

2022年和2023年任期的理事会于2022年10月28日通过线上视频召开了自2022年9月30日上任后的就职会议。会议由新上任主席拿督刘利康主持。

Majlis STA bagi penggal 2022 dan 2023 telah mengadakan mesyuarat sulungnya pada 28 Oktober 2022 melalui persidangan video, sejak memegang jawatan pada 30 September 2022. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusi STA baharu, Dato Henry Lau.

## Workshop on Development and Assessment of Sustainable Livelihood Index for Forest-Dependent Communities in Sarawak

Forest Department Sarawak and Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) are conducting a study to develop a sustainable livelihood index for forest-dependent communities in Sarawak. The objectives of the project are to carry out the study on the current practice on sustainable forest management in Sarawak focusing on the sustainable livelihood index; to formulate, develop and quantify the localised sustainable livelihood index for monitoring and improvement of forest dependent community in Sarawak; and to create

a platform for knowledge transfer programme for and sustainable engagement among stakeholders.

A Workshop was held on 19 October 2022 at Hotel Maligai, Kapit to identify and develop suitable indicators as a follow-up consultation process to deliberate on the preliminary results obtained from the visits to sites consisting of several longhouses within Kapit division, which were conducted prior to this.



The Workshop was facilitated by Madam Evelyn Jugi and Dr Florianna Michael and attended by relevant Government agencies, communities, licensee holders and STA.

During the session, participants were divided into groups to discuss on the five indicators identified i.e economy, social, human, physical and natural.

The result of this study will provide insights of the livelihood sustainability and vulnerability in relation to their dependency on forest resources and the availability of alternative livelihood strategies.

Satu Bengkel telah diadakan pada 19 Oktober 2022 di Hotel Maligai, Kapit untuk mengenalpasti dan membangunkan indikasi yang sesuai bagi kajian yang dijalankan oleh FDS dan UNIMAS untuk membangunkan indeks kehidupan mampan bagi komuniti-komuniti yang bergantung pada hutan di Sarawak.

2022年10月19日在加帛梅里凯酒店举办一个为砂拉越森林局和马来西亚砂拉越大学的一项研究识别和制定合适的指标的工作坊，该研究旨在为砂拉越以森林为生的社区制定可持续生计指数。

## MIDA Engagement and Sharing Session

The Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) organised an engagement and sharing session on 21 October 2022 at its office in Kuala Lumpur which attracted physical attendance of 110 representatives and virtual participation from 600 representatives from chambers, trade association and private sectors throughout Malaysia.

Mr Sivasuriyamoorthy Sundara Raja, Deputy Chief Executive Director, Investment Promotion and Facilitation, MIDA in his welcoming remarks shared that MIDA had, in 2013, carried out talent facilitation programme to create opportunities for the youth in meeting the demand for more skilled talent for the economy to move up the value chain.

He added that MIDA has been instrumental in generating high value employment opportunities for quality investment projects in the country through continuous collaborations with stakeholders from related government ministries, agencies and industries.

Ms Aziwati Ismail, Deputy Director, Industry Talent Management & Expatriate Division, MIDA spoke about job matching and information sharing sessions regularly carried out through the Industry Career Talk & Career Fair. She also highlighted on the Internship Facilitation, a programme aimed at ensuring continuous supply of skilled local talent to the industry by linking private companies with talents.

Participants were informed by Ms Afidah Mastor, Senior Deputy Director, Industry Talent Management & Expatriate Division of MIDA that in 2003, MIDA was mandated by the Government to evaluate the application for expatriate post in the manufacturing and services sectors. She further elaborated on



*Welcoming remarks by  
Mr Sivasuriyamoorthy  
Sundara Raja, Deputy  
Chief Executive Director,  
Investment Promotion and  
Facilitation, MIDA*

the scope, criteria and difference between key post and term post. While a key post can be held indefinitely by a foreigner, a term post is a post approved for a specific period of time and is subject to the unavailability of Malaysians to fill up the post.

Ms Kasthuri Bai Venugopal, Head of Immigration Office (Expatriate Division) in MIDA underlined the differences between approving agencies and regulatory agencies in the expatriate application and the difficulty faced in obtaining employment pass is mainly due to delay in documentation process.

A number of issues were raised by participants in the engagement and sharing session such as delay in the application process, online application system that are not user friendly, inadequate services.

马来西亚投资发展局(MIDA)于2022年10月21日在其位于吉隆坡的办公处举办一个交流分享会。参与者了解有关MIDA在为国内创造高价值就业机会并确保为该行业持续提供熟练的本地人才而采取的各种举措。

Lembaga Pembangunan Pelaburan Malaysia (MIDA) telah menganjurkan sesi penglibatan dan perkongsian pada 21 Oktober 2022 di pejabatnya di Kuala Lumpur. Dalam sesi tersebut, para peserta dimaklumkan tentang pelbagai inisiatif yang telah dijalankan oleh MIDA untuk menjana peluang pekerjaan bernilai tinggi dan memastikan kelangsungan bekalan tenaga kerja mahir tempatan untuk industri.



# Webinar on Carbon Markets and Carbon Pricing Instruments

The Malaysian Sustainable Finance Initiative organised a webinar on “Carbon Markets and Carbon Pricing Instruments” on 27 October 2022 with the goal to further the understanding of Malaysian financial sector intermediaries on carbon markets and developments in carbon pricing instruments.

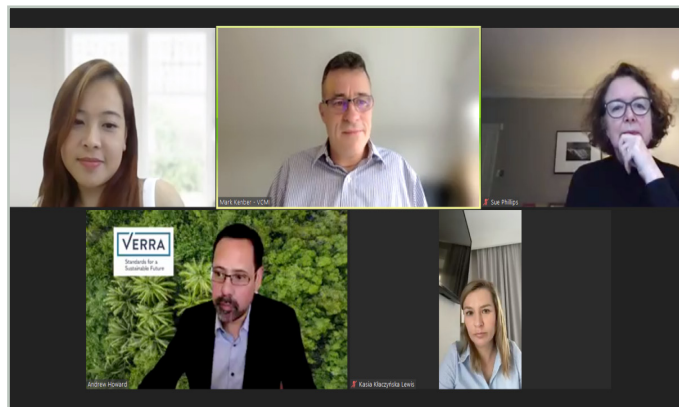
The line-up of speakers, consisting of professional experts in the field of carbon and sustainability who have been involved in discussions on green policies in Malaysia and climate change law in the European Union (EU) along with independent consultant responsible for developing opportunity for carbon related standards, attracted over 300 participants.

Ms Arina Kok, Partner in the Climate Change and Sustainability Services of Ernst & Young (EY) Consulting Sdn Bhd highlighted that carbon market and the ability to offset emissions is a vital part of realising the 2015 Paris Agreement’s target of limiting the impact of climate change to 2 degree Celsius above pre-industrial level. 195 countries, including Malaysia are signatories to the Paris Agreement. She added that carbon market is expected to develop rapidly to support this commitment and there are four (4) different ways to decarbonise, namely science based targets, carbon neutral, carbon negative and net zero.

The role and contribution of carbon credits were also elaborated in her presentation with competitive advantage being one of the outcomes driving businesses towards low-emission efforts and solutions. She highlighted that Malaysia is set to launch Voluntary Carbon Market (VCM) exchange by the end of 2022 with Bursa Malaysia intending to offer standardised carbon credit products for trading via a rules-based VCM exchange. The supply of carbon credits is to be sold by way of auction to interested buyers.

Ms Kasia Klaczyńska, Leader of EY EU Green Deal, Centre of Excellence and EY Centre for Climate Policy introduced how carbon pricing can be structured and roles that financial institutions play in carbon markets. It was learned that financial institutions can act as a provider of capital for decarbonisation projects, market maker, trader or investor in voluntary carbon projects.

Mr Andrew Howard, Senior Director, Climate Policy and Strategy at Verra helped participants understand the carbon verification standard.



Panelists of the webinar.

Verra is an independent, non-profit organisation that develops and manages standards to help private sector and countries achieve ambitious sustainable development and climate action goals. One of the standards developed at Verra is the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) Programme, world-leading greenhouse gas (GHG) crediting programme, which allows certified projects to turn their GHG emission reductions and removals into tradable carbon credits.

He added that companies move into carbon crediting projects to, among many others, supplement work on their own climate footprints, drive finance into effective climate action in host countries and add benefits to communities, biodiversity and sustainable development. Under the VCS Program, the Verified Carbon Units (VCUs) issued are real, measurable, independently verified and uniquely numbered.

马来西亚可持续金融倡议于 2022 年 10 月 27 日举办一个关于“碳市场和碳定价工具”的线上研讨会，以进一步了解马来西亚金融业中介对碳市场和碳定价工具的发展。专家们的分享帮助参会者了解全球碳市场的发展、定价工具的含义和碳核查标准。

Inisiatif Kewangan Mampan Malaysia telah menganjurkan webinar “Pasaran Karbon dan Instrumen Penetapan Harga Karbon” pada 27 Oktober 2022 untuk mendalami perantara sektor kewangan Malaysia mengenai pasaran karbon dan perkembangan dalam instrumen penetapan harga karbon. Perkongsian oleh pakar-pakar profesional membantu peserta memahami pertumbuhan pasaran karbon global, implikasi instrumen harga dan piawaian pengesahan karbon.



# Debriefing Session on European Union Deforestation-Free Products Regulation (EUDR)

The European Union Deforestation-Free Products Regulation (EUDR) was announced in November 2021 by the European Commission (EC) in its effort to minimise consumption of products coming from supply chains associated with deforestation or forest degradation.

The new Regulation includes a much wider range of impact commodities, namely soy, beef, palm oil, wood, cocoa and coffee and is set to replace existing European Union Timber Regulation.

In addition to that, the definition of deforestation-free sets a cut-off date of 31 December 2020 which means that no commodities and products in the scope of the Regulation would be allowed to enter or exit the EU market if they are produced on land subject to deforestation or forest degradation after that date.

In early September 2022, a delegation of six (6) members from Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) and Malaysia Timber Association (MTA) comprising Mr Goh Chee Yew, President of MTA; Mr Yong Teng Koon, Consultant of MTA; Ms Noraihan Abdul Rahman, Chief Operations Officer of MTC; Ms Aimi Lee Abdullah, MTC's Advisor on Sustainability Issues; Ms Pang Suet Kum, Senior Executive Officer of Malaysian Wood Industries Association, and Mr Gopinathan Tanikudy, MTC Europe Regional Head engaged with selected European Union (EU) members of the Parliament and relevant stakeholders in Europe in a bid to better understand the EUDR.

Following the visit by MTC and MTA delegation to Europe on EUDR, a debriefing session was held on 14 October 2022 to share key findings from the visit. The session was attended by over 70 participants both physical and online.

Ts. Haji Muhtar Suhaili, Chief Executive Officer of MTC, stated in his welcoming remarks that Malaysia regards EU as an important market and MTC has, since the proposed Regulation was announced, organised several engagement session with stakeholders from all three (3) regions of Malaysia impacted by the Regulation as well as with representatives from the EC.

He also disclosed that a position paper to express the Malaysian timber industry's view on EUDR, signed by MTA members and MTC, had been



*Meeting in progress.*

presented to the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities.

This was followed by a presentation from Mr Goh who introduced the EUDR, highlighted Malaysia's export of timber products to Europe, the institutional structure of the EU as well as way forward and recommendations.

In the discussion that ensued, it was shared that the cut-off date was revised to 31 December 2019 and the EC has introduced much stricter requirements into the proposed Regulation, particularly on native customary rights, workers' rights as well as free, prior and informed consent.

Some possible implications arising from the EUDR were also highlighted and while every effort should be taken to meet the requirement, there is a growing concern that social and environmental barriers are being created in export.

来自马来西亚木材理事会(MTC)和马来西亚木材协会(MTA)的6名成员于2022年9月与欧盟(EU)议会成员和欧洲利益相关者进行交流。此次访问是为了更好地了解欧盟无森林砍伐产品法规(EUDR),而其调查报告随后在2022年10月14日举行的汇报会上分享。

Delegasi seramai 6 ahli daripada Majlis Perakayuan Malaysia (MTC) dan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Malaysia (MTA) bertemu dengan ahli-ahli Parlimen Kesatuan Eropah (EU) terpilih dan pihak berkepentingan yang berkaitan di Eropah pada September 2022. Kunjungan tersebut bertujuan untuk memahami Peraturan Produk Bebas Penyahutan Kesatuan Eropah (EUDR). Hasil utama daripada pertemuan tersebut dikongsikan dalam sesi taklimat yang diadakan pada 14 Oktober 2022.



# Malaysia Wood Processing and Furniture Production Machinery Exhibition (FPM) 2022

STA took part in the Malaysia Wood Processing and Furniture Production Machinery Exhibition (FPM) 2022 from 6 to 9 October 2022 at Setia City Convention Centre (SCCC), Shah Alam, Selangor. The biennial event was organised by Malaysian Woodworking and Machinery Association (MWMA) in collaboration with Expoworks Sdn Bhd.

Themed “*One stop to optimise profitability for wood and furniture production*”, the event served as a platform for industry players from the furniture, wood and woodworking business to connect, exchange views and showcase new innovations.

The opening ceremony was officiated by Dato’ Sri Dr. Wee Jeck Seng, Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC) who shared his hope for new opportunities to emerge from the exhibition as the timber industry builds its resilience, in line with the National Agricommodity Policy (DAKN) 2021-2030.

Also present at the opening ceremony were Mr Lee Seng Thye, President of MWMA, Dato’ Zainal Abidin, Chairman of Expoworks Sdn Bhd, Ms Habibah Ahmad, Deputy Under Secretary of the Timber, Tobacco and Kenaf Industry Development Division, MPIC, Ms Hajah Roslina bt Idris, Deputy Director General of Malaysian Timber Industry Board, Dr. Ismail Parlan, Director General of Forest Research Institute Malaysia and Ms Noraihan Abdul Rahman, Chief Operating Officer of Malaysian Timber Council.

Approximately 200 companies, esteemed organisations and associations from the Malaysian timber industry participated in the exhibition and featured woodworking machinery tools and accessories for furniture products, machinery and equipment for sawmilling and forestry, adhesives and chemicals. STA was represented by STA Timber Products Marketing committee members, led by its Category Chairman, Mr Stephen Hii Hium Ung.

Apart from the large-scale exhibition, FPM also hosted a Woodworking Technical Seminar on ways to improve productivity and efficiency at the factory floor.

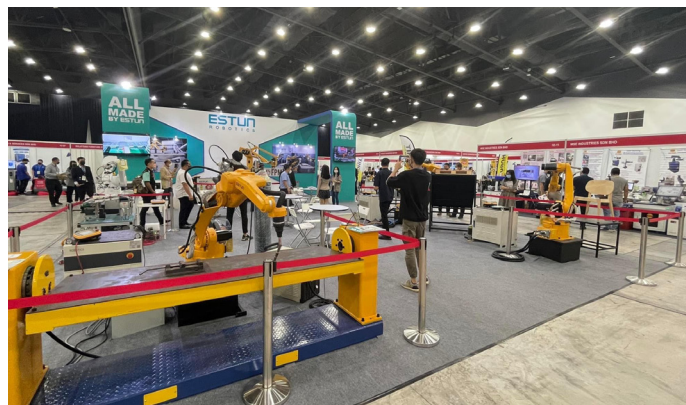
The seminar, held in partnership with Universiti Putra Malaysia, features topics related to research and development works on woodworking and machining, as well as the energy efficiency tools and technology used in the woodworking industry.



Dato’ Sri Dr. Wee Jeck Seng, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC) delivering his opening speech.



Dato’ Sri Dr. Wee Jeck Seng (3<sup>rd</sup> from left) in front of STA’s booth together with Mr Lee Seng Thye, President of the MWMA (2<sup>nd</sup> from left), Mr Stephen Hii Hium Ung, STA Category Chairman for Timber Products Marketing (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) and STA members.



Exhibition hall

本会理事和委员会代表在STA木材产品行销小组主席許勳文先生带领下参加2022年10月6日至9日的2022马来西亚木材加工与家具生产机械展览会(FPM)。

STA, diwakili oleh ahli-ahli Majlis dan jawatankuasanya telah mengambil bahagian dalam Pameran Pembuatan Perabot dan Jentera Malaysia (FPM) 2022 dari 6 hingga 9 Oktober 2022. Delegasi STA diketuai oleh Encik Stephen Hii Hium Ung, Pengerusi Kategori Pemasaran Produk Kayu STA.

## Workshop on the Revision of Malaysian Standard (MS) 1714 by Working Group of Visual Strength Grading

Members of the Working Group (WG) under Technical Committee (TC) 1 – Timber met on 31 October 2022 at Department of Standards Malaysia (DSM), Cyberjaya to review the proposed amendments to Malaysian Standard (MS) 1714 – Specification for Visual Strength Grading of Tropical Hardwood Timber.

The Workshop, chaired by Dr Mohd Nor Zamri Mat Amin, Director of Industry Development, Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB), discussed and deliberated on comments/suggestions made during the previous workshop held in November 2019 by TC/V/1 – Timber. The WG reviewed the whole content of the standard and was informed that the MS 1714 shall apply to tropical hardwood timber graded in Malaysia and abroad for seasoned timber either rough sawn or dressed, preservative treated or untreated. A few recommendations were put forward by the WG, one of which is for the DSM to extend the review period of MS 1714 at a maximum allowable period of one-year.



Meeting in progress

Ahli-ahli Kumpulan Kerja di bawah Jawatankuasa Teknikal (TC) 1 – Kayu Balak telah bermesyuarat pada 31 Oktober 2022 di Jabatan Standard Malaysia (DSM), Cyberjaya untuk menyemak cadangan pindaan kepada Standard Malaysia (MS) 1714 – Spesifikasi Penggredan Kekuatan Balak Kayu Keras Tropika secara Visual. Kumpulan Kerja tersebut menyemak standard dan mencadangkan pelanjutan tempoh semakan standard.

技术委员会 (TC) 1 – 木材属下的工作小组成员于 2022 年 10 月 31 日在赛城马来西亚标准局 (DSM) 召开会议，以审查马来西亚标准 (MS) 1714 – 热带硬木视觉强度分级规格的拟议修正案。工作小组对该标准进行审查并提议延长该标准的审查期限。

## Closing Ceremony of the Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) Expo

A total of 22 participants from Sarawak's southern zone participated and marketed their products in the non-forest timber products (NTFP) Expo in Plaza Merdeka, Kuching on 17-23 October 2022. The Expo, themed '*Empowering NTFP, strengthening inclusive economy*' is an annual event organised by the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) since 2016.

In the closing ceremony held on 22 October 2022, Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad, Director of Forests expressed his hope for the Expo to continue to provide local communities living near or within the permanent forest estate with opportunity to exhibit and sell their products to the general masses.

Among the NTFP available at the Expo are bags, baskets, mats and handicrafts made from rattans and bamboos as well as honey and salt.



Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad, Director of Forests (seated, centre) posed for photos with other invited guests and participants after closing the NTFP expo.

Seramai 22 peserta dari zon selatan Sarawak telah menyertai dan memasarkan produk mereka dalam Ekspo produk hutan bukan kayu (NTFP) di Plaza Merdeka, Kuching pada 17-23 Oktober 2022. Ekspo yang bertemakan '*Memperkasakan NTFP, mengukuhkan ekonomi inklusif*' tersebut merupakan acara tahunan anjuran Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) sejak 2016.

来自砂拉越南部区域的 22 名参与者于 2022 年 10 月 17 日至 23 日在古晋独立购物广场举行的非森林木材产品 (NTFP) 展览会上展销他们的产品。此展览会以“赋予NTFP权力，加强包容性经济”为主题，是砂拉越森林局 (FDS) 自2016年以来举办的年度盛会。





# October

## 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.

### Log Extraction- Tractor (Natural Forest) & Log Loading- Front End Loader (Natural Forest)

Date: 30 September - 4 October 2022  
Location: Lana Camp, Bintulu  
STAT Trainer: Mr Sang Sanjan  
Company: Samling Timber Sdn Bhd

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

Date: 12 – 17 October 2022  
Location: Song Logging Camp, Kapit  
STAT Trainer: Mr Ginda Uli  
Company: Song Logging Company Sdn Bhd

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

Date: 17 – 22 October 2022  
Location: Sepantu Camp, Sri Aman  
STAT Trainer: Mr Ginda Uli  
Company: WTK Realty Sdn Bhd

### Tree and Log Identification & Log and Timber Identification

Date: 17 – 21 October 2022  
Location: Patah Camp, Baram  
STAT Trainer: Mr Sumbang Rani  
Company: Shin Yang Sdn Bhd

### Clear-Fell Site Preparation- Chainsaw (Forest Plantation)

Date: 18 – 21 October 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) & Mechanical Site Preparation- Excavator (Forest Plantation)

Date: 22 – 26 October 2022  
Location: Medamit Camp, Limbang  
STAT Trainer: Mr Sumbang Rani & Mr Ngumbang Bayang  
Company: Billion Venture 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.