

STA Review

Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association
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2022

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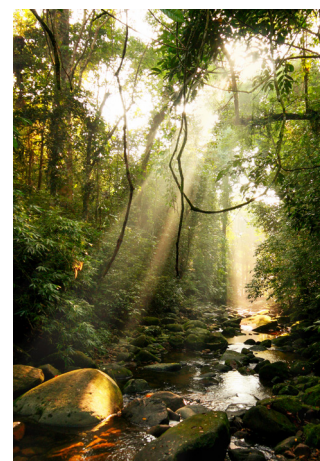


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STA

Annual General Meeting 2022

The STA Annual General Meeting (AGM), which had been deferred twice from the initial date of 29 March 2022 due to unfavourable COVID-19 situation in Sarawak, was held on 30 September 2022 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The AGM was attended by representative from 170 member companies throughout Sarawak.

STA Chairman Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik delivered his message followed by presentation of report on the workings of the Association read by Dato Henry Lau, Honorary Secretary. He said that for much of 2022, the Association had focused on capacity building to springboard the industry towards sustainable growth post COVID-19 and keeping its members up-to-date with latest forestry laws and regulations.

During the meeting, members appointed auditors and public officers for the ensuing years and dealt with matters relating to the subsidiary companies of the Association, namely STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Training Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd and STA Ventures Sdn Bhd. Members also elected Council members for the term of 2022 and 2023, as well as voted to pass the proposed amendments to STA's Constitution.

A Council Meeting was convened immediately after the AGM, during which Office Bearers were elected and Dato Henry Lau was elected as the new Chairman, succeeding Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik.

因砂拉越新冠肺炎疫情趋势而从原定日期2022年3月29日延展两次的本会会员常年大会(AGM)于2022年9月30日假STA大厦召开。来自砂拉越170个会员公司的代表出席了该会员常年大会。

Mesuarat Agung Tahunan (AGM) STA, yang telah ditangguhkan 2 kali dari tarikh awal 29 Mac 2022 berikutan situasi COVID-19 yang tidak memberangsangkan di Sarawak, telah diadakan pada 30 September 2022 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Seramai 170 wakil-wakil daripada 170 syarikat-syarikat ahli telah menghadiri AGM tersebut.



AGM in session (Top photo); Report of the Council on the working of the Association by Dato Henry Lau (Left Photo); Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik (right) handing over chairmanship to Dato Henry Lau (Right Photo)



Election in progress

Chairman's Speech

Annual General Meeting 2022

I warmly welcome each one of you to STA Annual General Meeting (AGM) for 2022. It gives me great pleasure to once again see everyone in person. We had no choice last year but to conduct our first ever virtual AGM due to the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the last two (2) years, the pandemic had caused hardships to all at large. I am glad that we have started to emerge from the pandemic. With the re-opening of economies around the world, the Sarawak timber industry saw an uptick in its exports value. Total export value of Sarawak timber products has grown by 3.9% from RM3.7 billion in 2020 to RM3.9 billion last year. There is a marked increase of 11.7% in the total export value at RM2.0 billion for the first half of this year compared to RM1.8 billion in the same period last year.

STA is optimistic that the momentum and positive trend can be sustained with more supporting policies by the Government, as many companies from Peninsular Malaysia are looking at Sarawak for raw materials in the form of logs, sawntimber, plywood, etc. Since the start of this year, STA has several engagements with organisations from Peninsular Malaysia such as the Malaysian Timber Council, Malaysian Furniture Council, Malaysian Wood Moulding And Joinery Council and Muar Furniture Association to name a few. One very important policy is to facilitate enough manpower from Indonesia or any other source countries such as Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar for the industry to carry this momentum forward.

Moreover, in moving our industry up the value chain, the Sarawak Government has urged our members to value-add and venture into furniture and engineered wood products. The Government, through Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, has taken some initiatives such as developing Furniture Park and building a pool of furniture designers to accelerate the development of furniture industry.

To facilitate the development of furniture industry, the establishment and support of auxiliary industries such as wood adhesives/chemicals/lacquers, upholstery/textiles and logistics are crucial. It is also necessary to upgrade infrastructure such as roads and build more deep sea ports.

Our Sarawak Government has made it mandatory for all long term forest timber licences to be certified by year 2022. Prior to the pandemic, STA members had made significant progress in forest management certification (FMC). Out of a total of twenty three (23) certified Forest Management Units (FMUs) and nine (9) certified Forest Plantation Management Units (FPMUs) in Malaysia, thirteen (13) FMUs and six (6) FPMUs are located in approximately 1.37 million hectares of forest area in Sarawak.

The pandemic had caused significant disruptions to all sectors and industries including the timber industry. Plans made for FMC were affected when ground preparation work towards FMC and onsite audits had to be postponed. No new FMUs were certified yet since year 2021.

With the easing of restrictions in 2022, FMC activities has since started to pick up again and STA hopes that the Government will allow more time for the FMUs to work towards achieving FMC.



Security of tenure is of utmost importance for implementing sustainable forest management as it allows FMUs to carry out long term planning for optimal management of the forests to meet the needs of the present and future generations. With that, STA seeks the Government's understanding in expediting the issuance of the promised 60-year licence to certified FMUs.

Returning to the matters of the Association, this is an election year. Members shall elect Council members for a term of two (2) years, 2022 and 2023. I hope members will set aside their differences and elect members who are prepared to serve and lead the Association as Office Bearers and Council members for the mutual benefits of all members and well-being of the industry.

The workings of our Association shall be presented by Honorary Secretary, Dato Henry Lau. As this shall be my last term as Chairman of STA, I would like to thank all our members for your support, cooperation, tolerance and understanding, especially the outgoing Council Members and I wish the incoming Council Members a successful term.

I have to similarly thank the following for their continuous support to STA:

- The Premier of Sarawak, Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg;
- The Deputy Premier, Second Minister For Natural Resources and Urban Development cum Minister for International Trade and Investment, Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan;
- STA Advisor, Yang Berbahagia Datu Hamden Bin Mohamad, Director of Forests;
- STA Advisor, Yang Berbahagia Datu Hashim Bin Haji Bojet, General Manager, STIDC;
- Officers from the various ministries and agencies under the Sarawak Government; as well as
- Members of the media.

I would also like to thank Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer and her officers at the Secretariat for their hard work and unequivocal support to the Association. I am confident the Secretariat will continue to provide excellent services to the new Council and Office Bearers to be elected today.

Once again thank you for your support and attendance.

STA OFFICE BEARERS

(2022 - 2023)

CHAIRMAN

Dato Lau Lee Kong, Henry

VICE CHAIRMAN

Tan Sri Datuk Ling Chiong Ho
Dato' Sri Wong Haw Yeong, Patrick

HONORARY SECRETARY

Mr Wong Ting Chung

HONORARY TREASURER

Mr Choo Kwong Hui, Philip

STA PERMANENT COUNCIL MEMBER

KTS Group of Companies

- Temenggong Dato Lau Lee Ming, Vincent
- Dato Lau Lee Kong, Henry

Rimbunan Hijau Group of Companies

- Tan Sri Datuk Sir Tiong Hiew King
- Mr Tiong Chiong Ong, David

Samling Group of Companies

- Datuk Yaw Chee Chik
- Mr Yap Fui Fook

Shin Yang Group of Companies

- Tan Sri Datuk Ling Chiong Ho
- Mr Ling Chiong Sing

Ta Ann Group of Companies

- Datuk Amar Haji Abdul Hamed bin Haji Sepawi
- Dato Wong Kuo Hea

WTK Group of Companies

- Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik
- Dato' Sri Wong Haw Yeong, Patrick



Council Meeting No.4 2022 in progress

ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

Forest Plantation

1. Mr Lau Ching Hoo, Joseph (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Ling Ting Sie
3. Mr Wong Ko Hock, Andy

Furniture & Other Woodworking

1. Mr Yek Siew Liong (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Cheng Hwa Tang, Desmond

Hill Logging

1. Mr Wong Ting Chung (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Lau Hui Sing, Peter
3. Mr Lau Tee Mei, Roland
4. Mr Law Hui Kong, Kenny
5. Mr Ling Uong Chong
6. Mr Ting Jack Hui
7. Mr Tiong Hoo Chiong
8. Mr Tsen Teck Fen
9. Ms Wong Fei Fei, Happy

Log Marketing

1. Mr Ho Yam Kuan, James (Category Chairman)
2. Dato' Tiong Ing
3. Mr Chang Lik Yang, Gerald
4. Mr Goh Tee Khiang, Collin
5. Mr Kang Dai Yiing, Desmond
6. Ms Lau Kor See, Adeline
7. Ms Wong Haw Ing, Audrey

Moulding

1. Mr Law Buong Hoo, Philip (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Tiong Chiong Chung

Panel Products

1. Datuk Ling Lu Kiong (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Chieng Ai Ung, Vincent
3. Mr Lau Lee Kiong, Stephen

Sawmilling

1. Datin Sri Wong Haw Bing, Annie (Category Chairman)
2. Mr Tai Huei, Samuel
3. Mr Ting Sia Ing, John
4. Mr Wong Hee Sing

Swamp Logging

1. Mr Choo Kwong Hui, Philip (Category Chairman)
2. Ms Lau Kor Ping, Diana

Timber Products Marketing

1. Mr Hii Hium Ung, Stephen (Category Chairman)
2. Ms Ling Lay Kiong, Teresa
3. Mr Teng Kheng Hong, Augustine
4. Mr Teng Kheng Huh, Patrick

Second Workshop to Identify Gaps and Opportunities in Implementing Forest Management Certification in Sarawak

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) and STA jointly organised the “Second Workshop to Identify Gaps and Opportunities in Implementing Forest Management Certification in Sarawak” from 6 to 7 September 2022 at Imperial Hotel, Kuching. A total of 75 participants from FDS, Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC), certified forest / forest plantation management units, timber licensees and STA Secretariat attended the Workshop. The Workshop served as a platform for participants to highlight main challenges faced when implementing and maintaining forest management certification in Sarawak as well as to identify opportunities and necessary key resources in overcoming those challenges.

In the welcoming remarks by Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA, she mentioned that the Workshop was held timely following the adoption of the revised standard namely Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in 2021 and with more and more forest / forest plantation management units in Sarawak being certified. She urged all participants to take this opportunity to share their experiences and challenges faced in implementing forest management certification.

Datu Hamden bin Haji Mohammad, Director of Forests in his welcoming speech shared that since the announcement of mandatory forest management certification for all long-term forest timber licences in 2018, a total of 13 forest management units and 6 forest plantation management units have been certified. This accounts for about 23.8% of certified forests under Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS) and 3.39% of the world’s certified tropical forests which represents a significant amount of

certified tropical forests regionally and globally. He also highlighted that the adoption of forest management certification will also help Malaysia to meet the international commitments and national policies on the aspect of environment, biodiversity and climate change as well as contribute to the country’s national sustainable development goals.



Presenter Mr Wong Ing Yung
from Zedtee Sdn Bhd

The Workshop featured three (3) presentations on the journey and challenges faced in implementing forest management certification in Sarawak. These presentations were made by Mr Andy Wong from Shin Yang Sdn Bhd, Mr Wong Ing Yung from Zedtee Sdn Bhd and Mr Haji Hamzah bin Haji Morshidi from Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation. Amongst the key challenges highlighted were management of unauthorized land use within permanent forest estate, unverified land claims and security of licence tenure for long term investment planning. Ms Siti

Syaliza Mustapha, Chief Executive Officer of MTCC also provided an update on the MTCS which includes changes to the certification standard, recognition of MTCS, export of certified products and certification as a tool for meeting environmental, social and governance criteria.



Following that, participants were divided into three (3) groups to discuss principles of the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management. Capacity building such as training in various fields, control mechanism for encroachment, illegal harvesting and prohibited activities within forest management units and effective engagement with local communities were among some of the gaps and challenges highlighted.



Participants posing for group photo with (seated, left to right) Ms Siti Syaliza, CEO of MTCC, Datu Hamden, Director of Forests and Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA; Presenter Mr Andy Wong from Shin Yang Sdn Bhd (top right photo)

After the workshop was concluded, representatives from FDS, MTCC and STA joined the Chair, Mr Jack Anak Liam, Deputy Director of Forests in discussing the issues and challenges highlighted during the Workshop. Among some of the ways forward are establishing a common understanding on the local terms such as temuda, pulau and community used area, for benefit of auditing in Sarawak. For communicating claims from certified areas, FDS will consider to allow forest manager to stamp the Removal Pass (Transit) document with "100% PEFC Certified" as part of the requirement under chain of custody.



Members present at the discussion

砂森林局(FDS)和本会于2022年9月6日至7日假古晋帝宫酒店联合举办“第二次辨在砂拉越实施森林管理认证的差距和机会的研讨会”。该研讨会为参与者提供一个平台，以强调在砂拉越实施和维持森林管理认证时面临的主要挑战，并辨明克服这些挑战的机会和必要的关键资源。

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) dan STA bersama-sama menganjurkan "Bengkel Kedua Mengenalpasti Jurang dan Peluang dalam Melaksanakan Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan di Sarawak" dari 6 hingga 7 September 2022 di Hotel Imperial, Kuching. Bengkel menyediakan platform untuk peserta mengetengahkan cabaran utama yang dihadapi semasa melaksanakan dan mengekalkan pensijilan pengurusan hutan di Sarawak serta mengenal pasti peluang dan sumber utama yang diperlukan bagi mengatasi cabaran tersebut.

STA Council Meeting No.3/2022

The Council for the term 2020 and 2021 convened its last meeting on 5 September 2022 via video conferencing. The meeting was presided over by STA Chairman, Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik and attended by Honorary Secretary Dato Henry Lau, Honorary Treasurer Mr Philip Choo and twenty six (26) members of the Council.

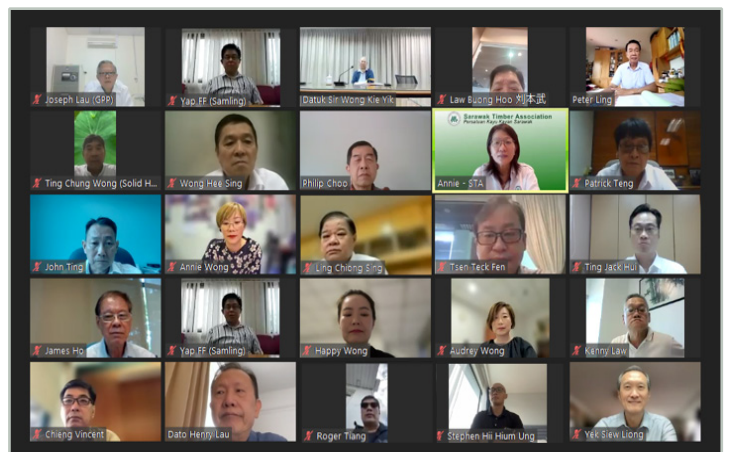
The Council put on record the Association's deepest regret in the passing of the late Mr Lau Swee Nguong as well as its appreciation for his long standing contribution to the Sarawak timber industry and the Association dating all the way back to the 1970s. The late Mr Lau had held several important positions in the Association, which includes Vice Chairman, Honorary Treasurer, Chairman of STA Sawmilling Category Committee and Council member.

On the amendments to the STA Constitution which were recommended and successfully approved by the Registry of Societies Malaysia (ROS) on 8 April 2022, the Council had voted in favour of Clause 8(1)(a)(i) of STA Constitution in person at the last meeting or through postal ballots issued on 5 July 2022. Having achieved the Unanimous Assenting Vote (UAV) of a Council meeting, the amendment shall now be tabled at the Annual General Meeting for UAV of a General Meeting.

2020年和2021年任期的理事会于2022年9月5日通过线上视频召开了最后一次会议。会议由主席拿督黄辟爵士主持，会议接纳多份各个小组委员会和工作委员会的报告以及处理本会和三个子公司的行政事宜。

The Council received reports from the various Category Committees and Working Committees. The STA Forest Plantation Committee is planning to join the study visit to Vietnam organised by Forest Department Sarawak, while the STA Timber Products Marketing Committee plans to participate in the Wood Processing & Furniture Production Machinery Exhibition in Shah Alam, both of which shall take place in October 2022.

Administrative matters of STA as well as its three (3) subsidiary companies, namely STA Training Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd and STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd were also addressed during the meeting.



Meeting in progress.

Majlis bagi penggal 2020 dan 2021 telah mengadakan mesyuarat terakhirnya pada 5 September 2022 melalui persidangan video. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusi STA, Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik. Mesyuarat menerima laporan daripada pelbagai Jawatankuasa Kategori dan Jawatankuasa Kerja serta menangani hal-hal Pentadbiran STA dan 3 syarikat subsidiarinya.

STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No.3/2022

The STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No.3/2022 convened on 14 September 2022 at Wisma STA, Kuching. Updates on activities with several forestry agencies and trade association were shared in the hybrid meeting, attended by all the Committee members. The Committee also deliberated on the collaborative research and development (R&D) projects with Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS).

After the meeting, the Committee visited trial plot established at Sejingkat, Kuching to observe the growth performance of the Kelampayan tissue culture clones under the STA-UNIMAS collaborative R&D project. This was followed by a visit to UNIMAS to look at the bioreactor system which was purchased for the study on mass propagation of Kelampayan funded by STA. Associate Professor Dr Ho Wei Seng, project leader for this project received the Committee at both sites.



Meeting in session.

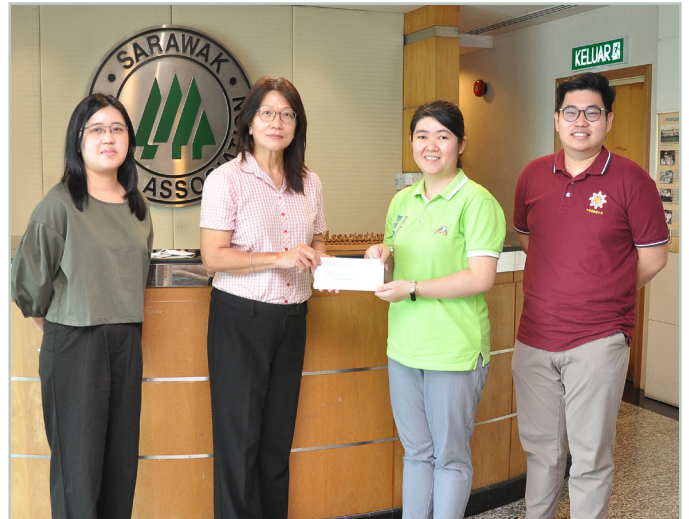
STA人工林委员会于2022年9月14日在古晋STA大厦召开本年度第3次会议，随后参观在古晋实仁甲建立的种植实验地，以观察组织培养的克隆团花的生长表现。该委员会也前往马来西亚砂拉越大学(UNIMAS)视察由本会资助的发展和研究项目下所购买的生物反应器系统。

Jawatankuasa Ladang Hutan STA mengadakan Mesyuarat Bil.3/2022 pada 14 September 2022 di Wisma STA, Kuching, diikuti dengan lawatan ke plot percubaan yang ditubuhkan di Sejingkat, Kuching untuk mengetahui prestasi pertumbuhan klon kultur tisu Kelampayan, dan Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) untuk melihat sistem bioreaktor yang berkaitan dengan projek penyelidikan dan pembangunan yang dijalankan oleh UNIMAS dengan pembiayaan daripada STA.

STA Sponsors Suicide Prevention Education Exhibition

The Kuching Bodhi Counselling Centre is organising the Suicide Prevention Education Exhibition at the Vivacity Megamall, Kuching from 8 to 9 October 2022. The Exhibition, held in conjunction with World Suicide Prevention Day and World Mental Health Day, is fully supported by STA. Ms Ng Kia Jee, Registered Counsellor from Kuching Bodhi Counselling Centre was at Wisma STA on 9 September 2022 to receive a cheque from Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA.

Through this Exhibition, Kuching Bodhi Counselling Centre aims to raise awareness on suicide and normalise discussion on mental health by enlightening the public on the warning signs, risk factors as well as help available to them. The Exhibition will also feature several interactive psychotherapy activities such as drum circle therapy and yoga therapy as well as booths by mental health groups.



Ms Ng Kia Jee (second from right) receiving a cheque from Ms Annie Ting (second from left).

古晋菩提辅导中心在STA的全力支持下，将于2022年10月8日至9日在古晋Vivacity Megamall举办预防自杀教育展览。古晋菩提辅导中心的注册辅导员吴嘉怡女士于2022年9月9日在STA大厦从本会首席执行官陈燕贞女士手中接过支票。

Pusat Kaunseling Bodhi Kuching, dengan sokongan penuh daripada STA, menganjurkan Pameran Pendidikan Pencegahan Bunuh Diri di Vivacity Megamall, Kuching dari 8 hingga 9 Oktober 2022. Cik Ng Kia Jee, Kaunselor Berdaftar daripada Pusat Kaunseling Bodhi Kuching hadir di Wisma STA pada 9 September 2022 untuk menerima cek daripada Cik Annie Ting, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif STA.

Mastering Training Delivery Course

In an effort to upgrade their training skills and deliver impactful training, seven (7) trainers and a training officer of STA Training Sdn Bhd took the initiative to attend 2-day course on “Mastering Training Delivery Course”.

The course, conducted by Mr Dominic Jay from 12 to 13 September 2022 at the GEM Consultancy Sdn Bhd. is designed to enhance learning by making subjects and information more enjoyable and interesting through the introduction of comprehensive and useful training best practices. Six (6) modules were covered during the 2-day course which encompassed climate setting, understanding human learner, building engagement, promote interactions, training delivery impact, and developing assessment.

Mr Dominic emphasised that engagement, interaction and involvement are essential for effective training delivery. Participants were also introduced to a variety of interactive methods, role-plays and exercises that could help deliver engaging training and drive behavioural change as well as developing assessment tools to evaluate learning and competencies through pre and post assessment, solving and presenting case studies and demonstration in group presentation.

STA Training 有限公司的7名培训师和执行员参加由多米尼克先生于2022年9月12日至13日在GEM咨询有限公司举办为期2天的“掌握培训传递课程”。该为期2天的课程涵盖六个课程，其中包括气候设置、了解人类学习者、构建参与感、促进互动、培训传递影响和开发评估。



Group photo with GEM Facilitator.

7 orang jurulatih termasuk pegawai daripada STA Training Sdn Bhd telah menghadiri kursus 2 hari mengenai “Kursus Penguasaan Penyampaian Latihan” yang dikendalikan oleh Encik Dominic Jay dari 12 hingga 13 September 2022 di GEM Consultancy Sdn Bhd.

Kursus itu meliputi 6 modul yang merangkumi penetapan suasana, memahami pelajar, membina penglibatan, menggalakkan interaksi, impak penyampaian latihan, dan membangunkan penilaian.

User Requirements Study Lab for Trained Workmen

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) and Sarawak Information Systems Sdn Bhd (SAINS) jointly organised a 1-day lab on user requirements study for trained workmen on 28 September 2022 at the Borneo Cultures Museum, Kuching.

The lab session was attended by twenty (20) officers from FDS, SAINS, STA and STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT). SAINS is the information and communication technology systems provider for Sarawak Government and STAT the appointed training provider for the five (5) prescribed forestry activities. The lab was organised to facilitate the integration of STAT's internal database with FDS systems i.e. Sarawak Logs Tracking and Forest Revenue System (REVLOG) and Licensee Portal.

The participants discussed in depth on the processes of workman nomination to issuance of trained workman certificate.



Briefing by Ms Sim Hui Chin the Project Manager of SAINS, assisted by Programmers, Ms Elaine Bong and Mr Chris Tiaw.

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) dan Sarawak Information Systems Sdn Bhd (SAINS) telah menganjurkan makmal kajian keperluan pengguna untuk pekerja terlatih pada 28 September 2022 di Muzium Budaya Borneo, Kuching.

砂森林局(FDS)和砂拉越资讯系统有限公司(SAINS)于2022年9月28日假古晋婆罗洲文化博物馆联办为期一日的受训员工用户需求研究的研讨会。

Stakeholder Engagement Workshop on Biomass Removal Plan for Baleh Hydroelectric Project

A Stakeholder Engagement Workshop on Biomass Removal Plan (BRP) for Baleh Hydroelectric Project was held on 13 September 2022 at Chemsain Building in Kuching.

The Workshop, organised by Chemsain Konsultant Sdn Bhd, consultant appointed by SEB Power Sdn Bhd, was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development, Ministry of Utility and Telecommunication, Forest Department Sarawak, Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, Sarawak Energy Bhd and affected timber operators namely WTK group of companies, Jaya Tiasa Holdings Bhd, Billion Venture Sdn Bhd as well as STA secretariat.

Among some of the objectives of Workshop were to build-up practical approaches of salvage logging among affected parties in ensuring full compliance to Salvage Logging Guidelines and BRP Approval Conditions as well as identify best practices and methodologies for biomass removal works.

The consultants shared an overview of the biomass removal works in Baleh hydroelectric project. The BRP involves two (2) phases, namely removal of

commercial timber within entire of Baleh dam reservoir through salvage logging followed by total removal of remaining biomass within main dam area covering 9,478 ha with exclusion of areas with slopes more than 35° and imposition of 100 meter buffer from main river system.

Also presented during the Workshop were forestry and environmental requirements to biomass removal, NREB approval conditions for biomass removal works and exploring the possibility of wood chipping as option for biomass disposal.



Stakeholders present at the Workshop.

巴类水坝工程生物质清除计划(BRP)利益相关者交流会于2022年9月13日在古晋Chemsain大厦举行。该交流会的目的是在受影响的各方之间建立清筴伐木的实用方法，以确保完全遵守清筴伐木指南和BRP批准条款，并找出生物质清除工程的最佳实践和方法。

Bengkel Penglibatan Pihak Berkepentingan mengenai Pelan Pembersihan Biojisim (BRP) untuk Projek Hidroelektrik Baleh telah diadakan pada 13 September 2022 di Bangunan Chemsain, Kuching untuk membina pendekatan praktikal pembalakan pembersihan dalam kalangan pihak terjejas, memastikan pematuhan penuh Garis Panduan Pembalakan Pembersihan dan Syarat Kelulusan BRP serta mengenalpasti amalan terbaik dan kaedah-kaedah kerja pembersihan biojisim.

Engagement Session on Industrial Harmony Index

The Department of Industrial Relations Malaysia (DIRM) under the Ministry of Human Resources (MoHR) and UNIMAS Holdings Sdn Bhd (UHSB) jointly organised an engagement session on the industrial harmony index on 22 September 2022.

The session, which aimed at gathering feedback on best practices in industrial relations for industries in Sarawak to assist the Government in formulating better guidelines in maintaining industrial harmony in the country, was moderated by Associate Professor Dr Kartinah Ayup and Dr Dzulzalani bin Eden of UHSB.

Twenty four (24) representatives from association and industries, who attended the session in person,

were informed that the National Industrial Harmony Index (IHI) 2022 was developed to measure industrial harmony using systematic and empirical instrument development procedures, to determine the level of industrial harmony in various sectors in Malaysia.

Five (5) dimensions, namely nurturing relationship, connectedness, mutual peacemaking, mutual cooperation and being responsible are measured in IHI.

Questionnaire for IHI 2022 were distributed to 1,000 employers from all over Malaysia and 15,000 employees from all sectors such as services, manufacturing, construction, agriculture, electricity, gas and forestry.

Preliminary finding from the data collected shows that impacts of COVID-19 on different industries varied. The data also highlighted a reduction in workforce, overtime, working hours and number of shifts caused by COVID-19.

Participants had the opportunity to share challenges faced and measures taken to maintain productivity, company competitiveness and job continuity during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ways to improve industrial harmony between employers and employees were then discussed and staff engagement programme, coffee talk session and town hall workshop were among some of the suggestions raised.



Engagement session in progress.

人力资源部旗下的工业关系局(DIRM)和砂大控股有限公司(UHSB)于2022年9月22日联办工业和谐指数会议，协助政府制定更好的指导方针，以维持我国的工业和谐。

Jabatan Perhubungan Perusahaan Malaysia (DIRM) di bawah Kementerian Sumber Manusia (KKM) dan UNIMAS Holdings Sdn Bhd (UHSB) telah menganjurkan sesi penglibatan berkenaan indeks keharmonian industri pada 22 September 2022. Sesi tersebut bertujuan untuk membantu Kerajaan dalam merangka garis panduan yang lebih baik bagi mengekalkan keharmonian industri di negara ini.

Meeting on the Implementation of Pilot Project for Environmental Compliance Audit

In the long going effort of the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB) and STA to ensure smooth implementation and better understanding of the compliance audit requirement, required under the Natural Resources and Environment (Audit) Rules, 2008, NREB and STA met on 9 September 2022 at Wisma STA to update and discuss on the progress of the second batch of Pilot Projects for Environmental Compliance Audit.

This Pilot Project, kicked off in 2018 with voluntary participation from seven (7) STA member companies is expected to complete in the first quarter of 2023.

Mr Kenny Poon, Assistant Controller (Compliance and Enforcement Section), NREB pointed out that once completed, more than ten (10) companies in the forestry sector will continue with self-regulated compliance, a transition that will hopefully help address the constraint faced by NREB in monitoring compliance of active projects throughout Sarawak.

The NREB also committed to engage with all parties to the Pilot Projects in reviewing the findings from both pilot projects and make necessary changes to fine tune the Guidelines for Natural Resources and Environment (Audit) Rules, 2008.



Meeting between NREB, led by Mr Kenny Poon, Assistant Controller (Compliance and Enforcement Section) (2nd from right) and STA, led by its CEO, Ms Annie Ting (far left).

砂天然资源与环境局(NREB)和STA于2022年9月9日在STA大厦会面以讨论第二批环境合规审计项目的最新进展。NREB致力于与项目的参与者一起审查两个项目的成果，以对2008年天然资源与环境(审计)法令指南进行必要的修改。

NREB dan STA bertemu pada 9 September 2022 di Wisma STA untuk mengemas kini dan membincangkan kemajuan Projek Perintis untuk Audit Pematuhan Alam Sekitar kedua. NREB komited untuk melibatkan semua pihak dalam Projek tersebut bagi menyemak hasil daripada kedua-dua projek perintis dan membuat perubahan yang diperlukan untuk menambahbaik Garis Panduan bagi Peraturan Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar (Audit), 2008.

MTC's Virtual Marketing Seminar 2022

The Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) organized a virtual “*Revitalising the Timber Business*” seminar on 21 September 2022 with the aim to benefit trade-related event for the timber industry players, who are reviving their businesses especially in export markets during the post-pandemic era. The seminar attracted more than 180 participants.

In her welcoming remarks, MTC's Chief Operation Officer, Ms Noraihan Abdul Rahman highlighted that the seminar is one of MTC's effort to keep Malaysia's timber industry well-informed on the global market trends and development.

As the global industry slowly transit into endemic phase of COVID-19, the Malaysian timber industry are encouraged to adapt to the new landscape of global trade and supply chain which has created a new normal in doing business. She also urged the Malaysian timber industry to better position itself in maintaining its traditional market and develop its niche market for their timber products.

The seminar which covered topics from trade to international markets updates, including the challenges and opportunities in the timber industry was moderated by Ms Alexis Chang, Director of Market Promotion & Product Development Division, MTC.

Dr Sailesh K. Jha, Group Chief Economist & Head, Market Research, RHB Bank shared global economic outlook for the second half of 2022 and 2023 and expect that the economy will recover by mid-June of 2023, despite news of global economic recession.

Lic. Jose Sebastian Ceballos Gallardo, Honorary Consul of Malaysia in Guadalajara, Mexico encouraged Malaysian timber industry to explore opportunities in Mexico, as Latin Americans prefers timber and wood products produced from species such as Meranti, Nyatoh, Bintangor, Mersawa and Merbau.



Panel of speakers

Challenges faced by other country's timber industry were also highlighted. Timber merchants and builders in Australia are feeling the impact of fixed pricing in a rapidly changing cost environment and labour shortages while India struggle with inconsistent taxation regime and freight fluctuation, among other issues.

China too, is not spared, as its timber industry is challenged with strict environmental policies, increasing wood prices and inconsistent demand.

马来西亚木材理事会(MTC)于2022年9月21日举办“振兴木材业务”线上研讨会，旨在提供有利于木材业者的贸易相关活动，从而恢复他们的业务，特别是在疫情过后的出口市场。

Majlis Perakayuan Malaysia (MTC) menganjurkan Seminar “*Menghidupkan Semula Perniagaan Kayu*” secara maya pada 21 September 2022 dengan matlamat untuk memanfaatkan aktiviti berkaitan perdagangan bagi pemain-pemain industri perakayuan, dalam usaha memulihkan perniagaan terutamanya dalam pasaran eksport pasca pandemik.

PEFC Webinar

“How the wooden furniture you design, make and sell stores carbon and combats climate change”

Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) attracted participants from 46 countries worldwide in its webinar on “*How the wooden furniture you design, make and sell stores carbon and combats climate change*” on 7 September 2022.

Moderated by Mr Thorsten Arndt, Head of Communications, PEFC International, the webinar featured two (2) speakers, Mr Michael Berger,

Chief Executive Officer/Secretary-General, PEFC International as well as Mr Francesco Negro, who is a Research Associate from the University of Torino.

Mr Berger shared that the world forests absorb 7.6 billion metric tonnes of carbon dioxide per year and sequestered twice as much carbon dioxide as they emitted between 2001 and 2019.

To ensure that forests reach their full potential as a climate change solution, they must be managed sustainably. He added that the wooden furniture received attention in recent years as it is the third largest user of wood and its demand continues to increase.

The products made of wood can only be a climate change solution if they originate from sustainably-managed forests and PEFC plays an important role in helping combat climate change through forest management certification and chain of custody certification.

Mr Negro demonstrated the method to calculate carbon dioxide storage in wood and derived products and shared a scientific case study investigating the amount

of carbon stored by furnishing wood-based products for an apartment in Italy.

He then promoted efficient utilisation of wood including in the furniture sector to extend the total biomass availability within a given system as a way for the wooden furniture to contribute in the race to net zero of carbon emission.

森林认证认可计划(PEFC)于2022年9月7日举办关于“木制家具的设计、制造和销售如何储存碳并应对气候变化”的线上研讨会。

该研讨会讨论来自可持续管理森林的木制家具如何解决气候变化的方案。

Program Pengesahan Pensijilan Hutan (PEFC) menganjurkan webinar tentang “Bagaimana perabot kayu yang direkacipta, buat dan jual simpanan karbon dan menanggapi perubahan iklim” pada 7 September 2022.

Webinar membincangkan bagaimana perabot kayu dari hutan mampan boleh menjadi penyelesaian kepada perubahan iklim.

DF Circular No.5/2022 on Forest Plantation Management Certification

The Forest Department Sarawak issued a DF Circular No 5/2022 with reference number (78) JHS/100-1/8/104/Jld.1 dated 12 September 2022 addressed to all holders of licence for planted forests, and copied to STA on forest plantation management certification.

The circular was circulated to STA forest plantation members on 14 September 2022. The following is an excerpt of the above-mentioned circular, for your information:

DF Circular No.5/2022

Pursuant to Policy Direction on Industrial Forest Plantation in Sarawak endorsed by the Minister of Urban Development and Natural Resources, all licence areas under the licence for planted forest that have been cleared or planted before the year 2010, are required to obtain Forest Plantation Management Certification (FPMC) by December 2025 and such holder of the licence are required to make necessary preparation.

砂拉越森林局于2022年9月12日发布编号5/2022，参考编号(78)JHS/100-1/8/104/Jld.1相关人工林管理认证的通告。

该通告致函于所有人工林许可证持有者，并提供本会有关事项的复本。该通告于2022年9月14日转发给本会人工林会员。上述通告的摘录如英文版中所述。

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak mengeluarkan Pekeliling DF Bil. 5/2022 dengan nombor rujukan (78) JHS/100-1/8/104/Jld.1 bertarikh 12 September 2022 ditujukan kepada semua pemegang lesen hutan ladang dan disalinkan kepada STA mengenai persijilan pengurusan ladang hutan. Pekeliling telah diedarkan kepada ahli-ahli ladang hutan STA pada 14 September 2022.

Petikan daripada pekeling di atas adalah seperti yang dinyatakan dalam artikel ini.

AsiaFlux 2022 Conference

The highly specialised and historically important scientific international AsiaFlux2022 Conference was held in Sarawak from 20 to 22 September 2022 at the Sarawak Tropical Peat Research Institute (TROPI). AsiaFlux is a regional research network that played a vital role in the long-term study of climate change in relation to carbon, water and energy fluxes between terrestrial ecosystems and the atmosphere in Asia.

The conference which was originally scheduled for 2020 but postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic was jointly organised by TROPI, Malaysian Peat Society and Asia Flux Science Steering Committee, in collaboration with the National Institute for Environmental Studies, Hokkaido University of Japan, Forest Research Institute Malaysia, Malaysian Palm Oil Board and Malaysian Agriculture Research and Development Institute.

Themed “*The nexus of land use change, ecosystems & climate: a path toward SDGs*”, the conference is staged at a critical moment in the history of climate change science and attracted scientists from different fields of expertise from various parts of the world as well as researchers, academicians, industry professionals, business entrepreneurs, policymakers and experts.

Dr Lulie Melling, Director of TROPI cum Organising Chairperson of AsiaFlux2022 in her opening speech, underscored the importance of communicating science to the wider community, particularly policy makers and hoped that the conference helped stimulate sharing of

research findings, exchanging of valuable insights and learning from one another towards achieving that end.

Dr Lulie, who is also the President of Malaysian Peat Society, urged everyone to work together, discuss and recommend potential strategies to adapt and mitigate climate change based on best practices

rooted in newly discovered scientific evidence from across the globe.



Dr Lulie Melling, Organising Chairperson of AsiaFlux2022 delivering her opening remarks



Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, Deputy Minister of Urban Planning, Land Administration and Environment delivering his keynote presentation.

Research papers and findings from studies related to carbon cycle and anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) as well as initiatives to minimize the negative impacts of climate change on food security and natural disasters were presented throughout the five (5) thematic sessions of the conference, namely ecosystem dynamics, environmental variability and climate change, land use change, communication science to society and new instrumentation, products and tools.

Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, Deputy Minister of Urban Planning, Land Administration and Environment in his keynote presentation on “*Environment and Environmental Sustainability towards Mitigating Climate Change*” shared that Sarawak, which contributes 44% of total forest cover in Malaysia, is the biggest carbon sink in the country.

He also shared initiatives undertaken by the Sarawak Government to mitigate climate change, one of which is the establishment of Ministry of Energy and Environmental Sustainability, responsible for planning, coordinating and providing direction for the development of green growth, renewable energy, sustainability and climate change. A number of policies and ordinances were also reviewed, such as the Land Code to enable carbon capture usage and storage as well as the Forests Ordinance to regulate forest carbon activity.

国际AsiaFlux2022大会于2022年9月20日至22日在砂拉越热带泥炭研究所举行(TROPI)。该大会在气候变化科学史上的关键时刻举行，来自世界各地不同专业领域的科学家以及研究员、院士、行业专业人士、商业企业家、政策制定者和专家出席了该大会。

Persidangan AsiaFlux2022 antarabangsa telah diadakan di Sarawak dari 20 hingga 22 September 2022 di Institut Penyelidikan Tanah Gambut Tropika Sarawak (TROPI). Persidangan diadakan pada saat kritikal dalam sejarah sains perubahan iklim, dihadiri oleh saintis daripada pelbagai bidang kepakaran dari pelbagai bahagian dunia serta penyelidik, ahli akademik, profesional industri, usahawan perniagaan, penggubal dasar dan pakar.

Malaysian Employers Federation Annual General Meeting 2022

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) was held on 1 September 2022 at Dorsett Grand Subang, Subang Jaya.

In the opening address by MEF President, Datuk Dr Syed Hussain Syed Husman, he highlighted on the challenging situation in the global and domestic fronts due to re-imposition of nationwide containment measures from June to September 2021 to control the spread of COVID-19 variant infections and the continuous cycle of 'on-and-off' closures and re-openings in 2021.

These measures had resulted in massive disruptions in supply chains, causing employers to suffer loss of revenue while still having to bear obligations to cover fixed costs.

He stated that although the Malaysian economy managed to register a growth of 3.1% in 2021, and is expected to improve further in 2022 supported mainly by higher domestic demands, the growth prospects is subjected to many other factors such as global growth, geopolitical conflicts, adverse developments surrounding COVID-19 and heightened financial market volatility.

Unemployment rate increased from 4.5% in May to 4.8% in July 2021 and the labour market conditions only resumed recovery towards the end of 2021 following the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions.

One of the hot issues on the table currently is the need for the Government to provide adequate manpower so that industry can operate at optimum levels, as the efforts by businesses to bring their operations back to pre-pandemic levels were hampered by the shortages of manpower especially foreign workers.

Even though MEF supports the efforts to reduce dependency on foreign workers in certain sectors, he appealed to the Government to address this complex matter on a sectoral basis because many sectors such as manufacturing, restaurants, plantation, and construction depend on foreign workers.

According to Datuk Dr Syed Hussain, the pandemic has shown that timely information, up-to-date strategic agendas, and shorter decision cycles are critical to business sustainability.

He advised both employers and employees to be flexible and agile towards adopting continuous learning attitudes in the face of uncertainty because flexibility of both employers and employees will enable businesses to respond quickly to supply chain disruptions, technological developments, and societal changes.

The AGM saw the election of twenty one (21) Council members. Datuk Dr Syed Hussain retained MEF presidency for the second consecutive term and will lead MEF for the term 2022 – 2024. Ms Peggy Chew, STA's representative at MEF was appointed as the Honorary Secretary.

Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) telah mengadakan Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan (AGM) pada 1 September 2022 di Dorsett Grand Subang, Subang Jaya.

Presidennya, Datuk Dr Syed Hussain Syed Husman menekankan beberapa faktor yang mempengaruhi pertumbuhan ekonomi Malaysia, merayu kepada Kerajaan untuk menangani kekurangan tenaga kerja secara sektoral dan menasihati majikan dan pekerja supaya fleksibel dan tangkas dalam bertindak balas terhadap gangguan rantaian bekalan, perkembangan teknologi dan perubahan masyarakat.

马来西亚雇主联合会(MEF)于2022年9月1日假梳邦再也帝盛酒店召开年度代表大会(AGM)。

其主席拿督赛胡先博士在大会强调影响马来西亚经济增长的几个因素，呼吁政府在部门基础上解决人力短缺问题，并建议雇主和雇员在应对供应链中断、技术发展和社会变革时保持灵活和敏捷。

Engagement Session with Training Coordinators

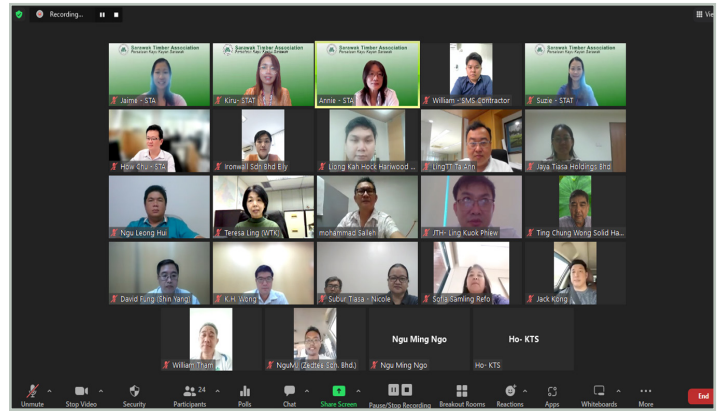
STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), an appointed Training Provider under the Forests (Trained workmen) Rules, 2015 continues to engage with timber companies for better execution of ground training programme.

An engagement session with training coordinators, administrators and managers was conducted virtually on 22 September 2022.

Ms Annie Ting, Manager of STAT facilitated the engagement session by providing an update on the enhanced training schedule for skills sets training programmes offered by STAT. She mentioned that under the newly enhanced training schedule, the assessment of operators will be conducted immediately after training instead of a few months apart. This arrangement which has been agreed by the Director of Forests will take effect from 1 October 2022.

Apart from that, she also updated participants on the registration of STAT and its skills sets training programmes under the Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp). In the future, timber companies can utilise levy contributed by sending their employees to attend HRD Corp claimable courses offered by STAT. The participants discussed at length on the proposed training fees structure.

Ms Ting also updated the attendees on number of trained workmen, financial incentive scheme for the five (5) prescribed forestry activities, and training on the reduced impact logging.



Participants of the engagement session.

STA Training有限公司 (STAT) 经理, 陳燕貞小姐于2022年9月22日通过线上会议, 向会员公司的培训协调员、行政管理员和经理解说 STAT 所提供的技能组合培训活动的增强培训计划的最新资讯。在新增强训练计划下, 将在培训结束后立即对操作员进行评估。此安排已获森林局局长同意, 将于2022年10月1日生效。

Dalam sesi penglibatan maya dengan penyelaras-penyelaras latihan, pentadbir dan pengurus pada 22 September 2022, Cik Annie Ting, Pengurus STAT berkongsi kemas kini jadual latihan yang telah dipertingkatkan untuk program latihan kemahiran yang ditawarkan oleh STAT. Di bawah jadual latihan tersebut, penilaian akan dijalankan sejourus selepas latihan. Perubahan ini yang telah dipersetujui oleh Pengarah Hutan akan berkuatkuasa mulai 1 Oktober 2022.

SIRIM Industrial Engagement Day

SIRIM Berhad (SIRIM) organised an Industrial Engagement Day on 6 September 2022 at the Grand Margherita Hotel, Kuching. Themed *“Bringing SIRIM Closer to Community and Industry”*, it provided a platform for industry players and SIRIM experts to meet and share each other’s experiences and concerns in these challenging times, especially after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tan Sri Dr Ir Ahmad Tajuddin Ali, Chairman of SIRIM in his welcoming remarks affirmed the commitment of SIRIM as premier industrial research and technology organisation in Malaysia in assisting industry players from Sarawak. He added that SIRIM has over forty (40) years of experience and expertise in developing new technologies and improvements in the manufacturing, technology and services sectors.

He urged entrepreneurs from Sarawak to seek out SIRIM for first-hand information on latest solutions and

support available for local industries to add value and increase industrial productivity.

In the keynote address, read by Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, Deputy Minister of Urban Planning, Land Administration and Environment, the Premier of Sarawak Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg mentioned that the Sarawak Government is implementing various initiatives and projects to drive Sarawak’s economy by using renewable energy such as hydro power and hydrogen.

He hoped that SIRIM would play an important part in contributing towards Sarawak’s economic growth and collaborate with government agencies and industries to boost manufacturing sector in Sarawak.

A total of four (4) topics were presented by the team of SIRIM before the dialogue between Dato’ Indera Dr

Ahmad Sabirin Arshad, President and Group Chief Executive of SIRIM and approximately 160 participants from the various industries in Sarawak including food and beverage, oil and gas, steel, logging and electrical industries.

SIRIM Berhad (SIRIM) telah menganjurkan Hari Penglibatan Industri pada 6 September 2022 di Hotel Grand Margherita, Kuching. Dalam uaputama, Premier Sarawak Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg berharap SIRIM akan memainkan peranan penting dalam menyumbang ke arah pertumbuhan ekonomi Sarawak.



Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, Deputy Minister of Urban Planning, Land Administration and Environment delivering keynote address on behalf of the Premier of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg.

SIRIM有限公司(SIRIM)于2022年9月6日在古晋玛格丽特大酒店举办工业参与日。在主题演讲中,砂拉越总理拿督巴丁宜丹斯里阿邦佐哈里希望SIRIM能够在促进砂拉越经济增长方面发挥重要作用。

STA Photography Contest 2022: Prize Presentation Ceremony

STA organised a prize presentation ceremony for winners of the STA Photography Contest 2022 at Wisma STA, Kuching on 15 September 2022. This is the second photography contest, organised in collaboration with Sarawak Photo-Art Society (SPAS) which showcased close up photography of the beauty of flora and fauna found in the forests of Sarawak.

The ceremony was attended by Mr Stephen Hii Hium Ung, STA Council Member; Ms Kam Mui Joon, President of SPAS; Mr Brian Yeo, STA Finance & Administration Senior Manager; prizes' recipients and other invited guests.

In the opening remarks, Mr Yeo welcomed all the guests to the ceremony and congratulated winners of the contest. He shared that the objectives of organising such contest were to showcase the beauty of both flora

and fauna found in Sarawak to the world, promote the development of photography art and technique as well as inspire avid local photographers to be more involved with art and the nature.

The photo captioned “Robberfly foraging” by Mr Tan Song Wei had captured the attention of the judges and won him the first prize of RM3,000.00, a trophy and a certificate.

The second prize went to Mr Liew Yong Fei and the third prize was bagged by Mr Chong Say Liong. Both winners walked away with cash prizes of RM1,500.00 and RM1,000.00 respectively, a trophy and a certificate each.

The consolation prizes of RM200.00 each were also awarded to the top ten (10) consolation winners. The ceremony also showcased a mini exhibition of selected photographs and from the top three (3) winning entries.

本会于2022年9月15日假STA大厦举办2022年摄影比赛颁奖典礼。典礼也展示精选照片和前三名获奖作品的小型展览。



Mr Stephen Hii, STA Council Member (seated, 3rd from left), Ms Kam Mui Joon, President of SPAS (seated, 3rd from right) and Mr Brian Yeo, STA Finance & Administration Senior Manager (seated, 2nd from left) joined the winners of STA photography contest for photo taking.

STA telah mengadakan majlis penyampaian hadiah kepada pemenang-pemenang Peraduan Fotografi STA 2022 di Wisma STA, Kuching pada 15 September 2022. Pameran mini gambar-gambar pemenang turut dipamerkan semasa Majlis tersebut.

Santubong International Nature Trail Run 2022

Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) and Sarawak Economic Development Corporation jointly organised the Santubong International Nature Trail Run 2022 on 18 September 2022 with the support from Sarawak Tourism Board, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, Telekom Malaysia and STA.

The Trail Run held at Damai Central, Santubong Kuching was to promote Santubong Peninsular as an attractive tourism destination for local and global tourists and improve the livelihood of local communities.

A total of 358 local and international runners took part in the 5km and 15km trail categories while invited guests took part in a 2km trail run.

In a show of SFC's devotion in its role as the custodian of Sarawak's natural resources and its landscape, there was a symbolic tree planting by prior to the prize giving ceremony.



Thumbs up from Mr Zolkipli Mohamad Aton, CEO of SFC (centre) and invited guests before participating in a 2km trail run.

砂拉越森林企业机构(SFC)和砂拉越经济发展局在砂拉越旅游局、砂拉越木材工业发展机构、马来西亚电讯公司和STA的支持下，于2022年9月18日在古晋山都望达迈体育文化中心联合举办2022年山都望国际天然越野跑。共有358名参与者参加分为两组的比赛，即5公里和15公里越野跑。

Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) dan Perbadanan Pembangunan Ekonomi Sarawak, dengan sokongan Lembaga Pelancongan Sarawak, Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak, Telekom Malaysia dan STA telah menganjurkan Larian Denai Alam Antarabangsa Santubong 2022 pada 18 September 2022 di Damai Central, Santubong Kuching. Seramai 358 pelari bertanding dalam 2 kategori iaitu larian denai 5km dan 15km.

Announcement on SOCSO and EIS 2022

STA received two (2) Circulars AG 19/2022 and AG 20/2022 dated 2 September 2022 and 10 September 2022 respectively from the Malaysian Employers Federation ("MEF") on the increase in the maximum monthly salary ceiling limit for Contributions under the Employees' Social Security Act 1969 ("SOCSO") and the Employment Insurance System Act 2017 ("EIS").

The respective amendments to SOCSO and EIS were made under the Employees' Social Security (Amendment) Act 2022 ("Act A1658") and the Employment Insurance System (Amendment) Act 2022 ("Act A1657"), which were gazetted on 30 August 2022 via the respective Federal Government Gazettes P.U. (B) 395 and P.U. (B) 393.

In exercise of the powers conferred by the respective subsections 1(2) of both Act A1658 and Act A1657, the Minister of Human Resources appoints 1 September

2022 as the date for both amendments to come into operation.

Previously, the maximum monthly salary ceiling for contributions under SOCSO and EIS was RM4,000.00, as provided in the relevant schedules of SOCSO and EIS. With the amendments, it is now increased to RM5,000.

Based on the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) issued by SOCSO dated 1 September 2022, SOCSO has granted a transitional period of six (6) months from 1 September 2022 to 28 February 2023 for the new contribution rates.

According to MEF, SOCSO can impose penalty against non-compliance with effect from 1 March 2023 in respect to non-compliance occurring during the transitional period of 1 September 2022 to 28 February 2023.

The relevant amendments are as follows:-

A) SOCSO

1. Third Schedule, Paragraph 2 - Part I - Contributions of the First category -for Invalidity and Employment Injury.
2. Third Schedule, Paragraph 4 - Part III - Contributions of the Second category for the contingency of Employment Injury only. (Contributions to be paid entirely by the Employer).
3. Fourth Schedule- Paragraph 4 - Disablement Benefit and Dependants' Benefit

B) EIS

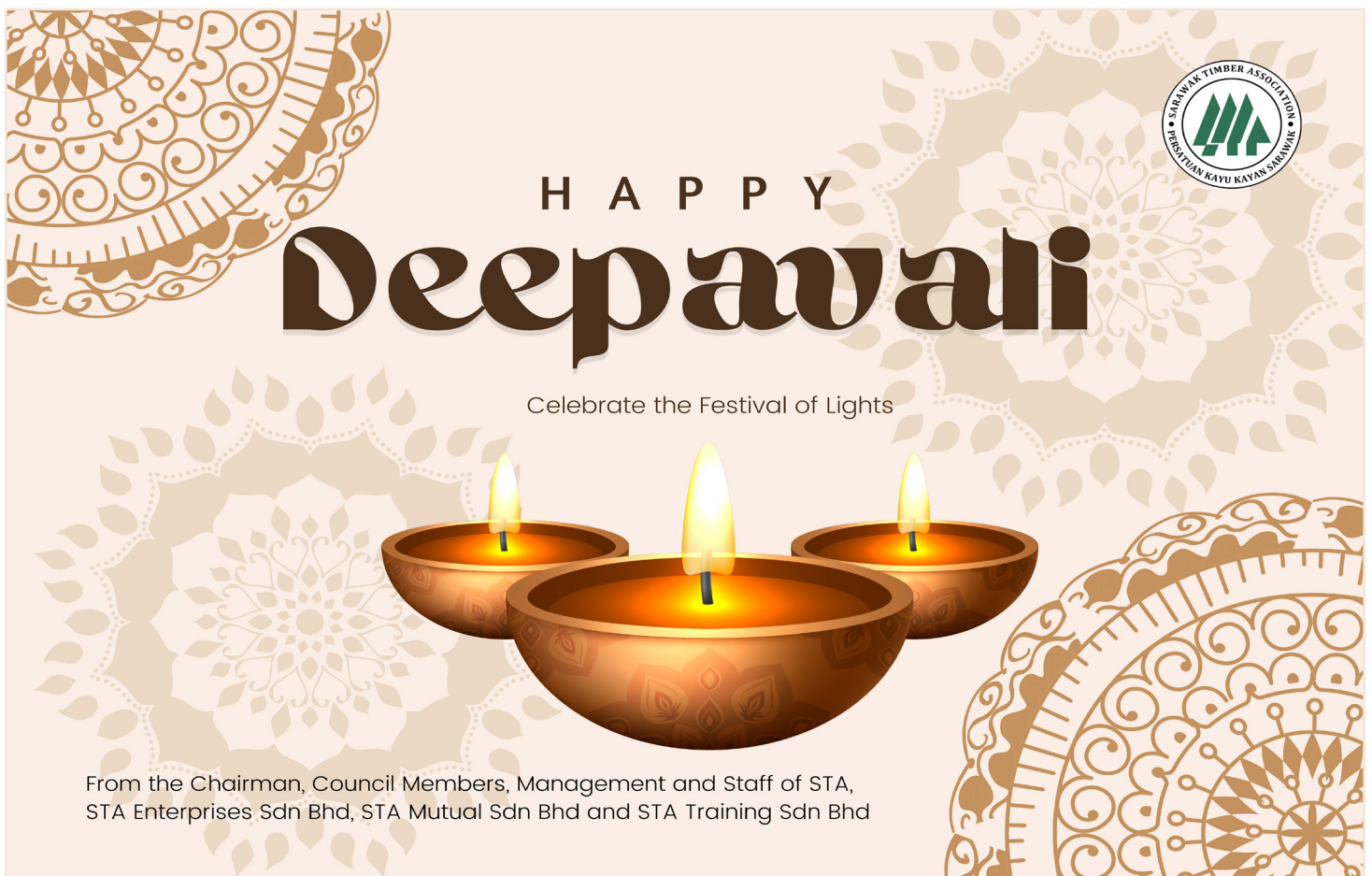
1. Second Schedule, Paragraph 2 - Rates of Contribution
2. Third Schedule, Rates of Benefits, Paragraph 8 – Assumed monthly wages

在1969年雇员社会保障法(SOCSO)和2017年就业保险制度法(EIS)下的供款的最高月薪上限已从马币四千令吉提高至马币五千令吉。

人力资源部部长已指定2022年9月1日为这两项修正案的生效日期。

Had maksimum siling gaji bulanan bagi Caruman di bawah Akta Keselamatan Sosial Pekerja 1969 ("PERKESO") dan Akta Sistem Insurans Pekerjaan 2017 ("EIS") telah dinaikkan dari RM4,000 kepada RM5,000.

Menteri Sumber Manusia telah menetapkan 1 September 2022 sebagai tarikh mula kuatkuasa bagi kedua-dua pindaan tersebut.



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 Deepavali kepada semua penganut agama Hindu.

本会主席，理事会成员，管理委员会和秘书处
STA Enterprises有限公司，STA Mutual有限公司和 STA Training有限公司
全体职员在此祝愿所有印度同胞们屠妖节快乐

September

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 & Timber Identification

Date : 20 - 25 September 2022
Location : Gaat-Menggiong FMU, Kapit
STAT Trainer : Mr Sumbang Rani
Company : Billion Venture Sdn Bhd

Tree & Log Identification and Log & Timber Identification

Date : 25 - 29 September 2022
Location : Pasin Camp, Song
STAT Trainer : Mr Sumbang Rani
Company : Pasin Sdn Bhd

Tree Felling- Chainsaw (Natural Forest); Log Loading- Front End Loader (Natural Forest) & Mechanical Site Preparation- Excavator (Forest Plantation)

Date : 26 - 30 September 2022
Location : Muput Camp, Tatau
STAT Trainer : Mr Sang Sanjan & Mr Ngumbang Bayang
Company : Zedtee 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.