



STA dan Rakan2

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This monthly news bulletin is produced by Sarawak Timber Association (STA) to disseminate information to our counterparts on training, research and other relevant areas.

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Workshop on the Drafting of the State Forestry Policy



Photo: Group photo of the participants of the Workshop

Forestry is a State matter and the State Governments have complete jurisdiction over their respective forest resources. The Forest Department Sarawak organised a Workshop on the drafting of the State Forestry Policy from 14 to 15 September 2015 at Damai Beach Resort, Kuching. The objective of the Workshop was to obtain input and feedback from stakeholders of the Draft State Forestry Policy. The

Forestry agencies' officers, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the Secretariat of Sarawak Timber Association were invited to give inputs to the Draft State Forestry Policy.

Participants of the Workshop were divided into eleven (11) groups to discuss the 11 main Thrusts and 25 Strategies and 104 Action Plans in the Draft State Forestry Policy in details.

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Briefing on the Guidelines to Control the Number of Coupes Being Issued with Permit to Enter Coupes

A briefing on the Guidelines to Control the Number of Coupes Being Issued with Permit to Enter Coupes (PECs) was organised by SARAWAK FORESTRY for the logging operators in Kuching and Sibu regions on 28 September 2015 in Sibu. The Briefing was conducted by Mr Ting Chek Hieng, Manager for Management and Compliance of SARAWAK FORESTRY. Approximately sixty (60) participants

attended the Briefing.

The purpose of the Briefing was to keep the logging operators abreast on the changes in the Guidelines as well as to go through the conditions stated in the Guidelines to establish a common understanding on the requirements.

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Briefing Session on Due Diligence System of Chain of Custody Standard PEFC ST 2002:2013 Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products – Requirements



Photo: Participants at the Briefing session

The Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) held a Briefing Session on Due Diligence System (DDS) of Chain of Custody (CoC) Standard PEFC ST 2002:2013 CoC of Forest Based Products – Requirements for all relevant stakeholders on 15 September 2015 at the Grand BlueWave Hotel, Shah Alam.

The objective of the Briefing was to provide participants of the Briefing especially the CoC certificate holders a better understanding of the implementation of the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) DDS on raw materials entering the supply chain, and subsequently putting a claim on the output products from the CoC of the certificate holders.

The Briefing was conducted by Mr Harnarinder Singh, Senior Manager (Product) of MTCC. He informed the participants of the Briefing that the PEFC ST 2002:2013 CoC of Forest Based Products – Requirements has incorporated the DDS mechanism, which applies to all certificate holders and PEFC certified material to avoid materials from controversial sources entering the supply chain.

There are four (4) elements in PEFC DDS i.e. information gathering, substantiated comments or complaints, risk assessment and risk mitigation. The

organisation should have access to the information gathered on the product details e.g. source of timber, trade name, tree species, country of harvest and etc. This information can also be obtained from documents such as Removal Passes, Delivery Order and Invoice.

He further informed the participants of the Briefing that the awareness and investigation of substantiated comments or complaints shall be part of the organisation's procedures on handling materials with PEFC claim. The organisation needs to ensure that substantiated comments or complaints provided by third parties concerning supplier compliance with legal requirements and other aspects of controversial sources are promptly investigated.

For risk assessment, the organisation needs to carry out risk assessment when procuring raw material from controversial sources for all input forest based materials except for (i) PEFC certified materials and PEFC controlled sources of material delivered with a claim by a supplier with PEFC recognised certificate, and (ii) other materials delivered with a claim by a supplier with PEFC recognised CoC certificate.

Risk mitigation is necessary if risk assessment indicates a significant risk. The organisation needs to request for additional information from supplier, performs an on-site inspection and corrective action. If risk mitigation is unsuccessful, no input is allowed to be included in the PEFC CoC system.

Mr Harnarinder also informed the participants of the Briefing that the Standard prohibits the input of material from the conversion of primary forest to plantation into the supply chain.



Did you know that.....

On 2 September 2015, the Indonesian government has pledged for a 29% reduction of the country's greenhouse gas production by 2030. In 10 years, Indonesia plans to increase its renewable energy production to about a quarter of its energy demand. Additionally, 12.7 million hectares of forest has been designated as conservation area.

Source: MTIB News Extracts (Vol.36/09/15)

Did you also know that....

The Finnish Forest Certification Scheme has become the first ever system to achieve PEFC endorsement for the fourth time. This confirms that Finland continues to meet PEFC's globally recognized Sustainability Benchmarks and ensures that Finnish certified forest owners continue to benefit from the global acceptance of PEFC. Finland was one of the first countries to achieve endorsement of its national forest certification system back in 2000, followed by two successful re-endorsements of the system in 2005 and 2010. Fifteen years later, most of Finland's forests are PEFC-certified – and as one of the most heavily forested countries in the world, only Canada and the US have more PEFC-certified hectares.

Source: <http://www.pefc.org>, 1 September 2015



International Science and Nature Congress 2015

Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), Malaysian Scientific Association (MSA), Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) and Malaysian Nature Society (MNS) have successfully co-organised the International Science and Nature Congress 2015 (ISNaC 2015) from 21 to 23 September 2015 in Kuala Lumpur. This event was held in conjunction with the celebration of their respective 30th, 60th, 20th and 75th Anniversaries. The aim of the Congress was to promote science through sharing of the latest scientific research findings, technological development and environment conservation efforts. Approximately 500 academicians and researchers from both local and international research institutions, university students and related Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) attended the Congress.

A total of 134 papers and 100 posters were presented at the three-day Congress. The Congress comprised four (4) concurrent symposia, namely:

- Conference on Forestry and Forest Products Research (CFFPR) 2015;
- Symposium on Nature and Biodiversity (SNB);
- International Symposium on Materials Science & Nanotechnology (ISMSN); and
- International Symposium in Organic Chemistry: Synthesis, Reactivity and Mechanism (ISOC)

The Congress was launched by the Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Datuk Seri Panglima Madius Tangau. Also present were MSA President, Tan Sri Dr Salleh Mohd Nor; ISNaC 2015 Chairman, Datuk Dr Soon Ting Kueh; FRIM Director-

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At the Briefing, Mr Ting highlighted the conditions stated in the Guidelines for long term licence under the working plan and felling plan as well as for short term licence, Occupation Ticket (OT) and Letter of Authority (LA), which included control on the number of coupes being issued with PEC; time frame for

General, Dato' Dr Abd Latif Mohmod; and MNS President, Mr Henry Goh.

The keynote address on 'STEM – Missing the Roots for the Branches' was presented by ASM Fellow Professor, Tan Sri Dato' Dr Dzulkifli Abdul Razak, also the Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia Islamic Leadership Chairman and International Association of Universities President. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) addresses the development of all these disciplines in technical terms, particularly in workforce development and for improving competitiveness in the market place.

ASM Council Member, Professor Datuk Dr Halimaton Hamdan, also the ASM Science Outlook Steering Committee Chairperson; who spoke on 'Science Outlook – Action Towards Vision' stressed the importance of having a master plan under a special legislation on science, technology and innovation (STI) in Malaysia to coordinate all the policies and Research and Development (R&D) activities.

MSA Council Member and FRIM Biodiversity Division Director, Dr Saw Leng Guan, whose presentation topic was 'Future of Malaysia's Biodiversity in Peril', shared information and facts on the uniqueness and richness of the country's biodiversity; and the shrinking green areas resulting from land use change and development over time. He also stressed the need to conserve unique flora, fauna and habitats such as the limestone hills which make up less than 1% of the country's area but contain many rich and endemic species.

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completion of harvesting in a coupe; harvesting period within a block; and conditions for granting extension of time for completion of harvesting in a block.

A similar briefing for the logging operators in Bintulu and Miri regions was held earlier on 17 September 2015 in Miri.



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Campaign on Occupational, Safety and Health for the Timber Industry in Sarawak

The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) in collaboration with the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) Sarawak organised a campaign on Occupational, Safety and Health for the timber industry in Sarawak from 17 to 18 September 2015. Approximately forty (40) participants from the timber industry attended this Campaign.

In his welcoming speech, Mr Ahmad Nazari representing Mr Paul Lau, Assistant General Manager of Resource Development of STIDC, mentioned that the safety and health issue, especially in the workplace has become an important issue in many companies. Any accident or injury which occurred would have a negative impact on the company, especially if the accident involved losing the life of an employee. He also mentioned that the global market now demands for certified wood-based products and one of the elements for forest certification is the safety and health of the workers. Employers must be aware and know how to manage the safety and health of the employees effectively. In addition, employees themselves must also practice safe working culture in the work place.

The Campaign was conducted by Mr Sadiyuk

Henry Rigit, Head of Enforcement Section, DOSH Sarawak. He briefed the participants of the Campaign on the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1994, hazard identification, risk assessment and risk control (HIRARC) as well as notification of accident, dangerous occurrence, occupational poisoning and occupational disease regulations 2004 (NADOPOD). The participants of the Campaign were also divided into five (5) groups for two practical exercises.