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STA dan Rakan2

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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The news bulletin is circulated to designated readers free of charge.

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Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (STFM) Course – 3rd Cohort

Section 54B of the Forests Ordinance, which will most likely to come into force on 1 July 2011 will phase in trained workforce for the entire forest industry. Initially, only the following prescribed forestry activities; Tree Felling, Log Extraction, Log Loading, Clear-Fell Site Preparation and Mechanical Site Preparation (Excavator) will be enforced. Eventually, the State will insist on only trained workmen in all skilled work.

As part of this drive towards a properly trained workforce for better management of our forests, it is recommended that each logging contractor have "Sustainable Forestry Personnel" to oversee all forest operations in accordance with the laws and guidelines set for sustainable forest management. STA is working with State agencies, principally the Forest Department and Sarawak Forestry Corporation to offer training and to certify appropriately trained persons to be "Sustainable Forestry Personnel". Apart from forest management, these trained personnel will be able to assist company to work towards

forest certification.

The training programme for such a person is incorporated into a Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management) course to be run in association with Lincoln University of New Zealand. The Postgraduate Diploma is designed for on-the-job training, based on block release. The Postgraduate Diploma consists of eighteen (18) subjects offered over three years. Each subject will be taught in Kuching over a one-week period. Participants must pass all eighteen subjects to be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma by Lincoln University.

For more information on the course, please refer to STA's website. Please contact Dr Peter Kho for more information and clarification.

An orientation week will be conducted in Kuching for all selected participants in May 2011, followed by the first subject in June 2011.

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Royalty Rate For Logs For The Year 2011

The Association had received a letter from Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) ref DF.93.13 (Jld.8) – 37 dated 10 January 2011 stating that the rate of royalty for logs under the First Schedule of the Forests Ordinance [Section 52(2)] for the year 2011 is:-

Single (flat) rate of RM65.00 per m³ in round or RM130.00 per m³ converted

Presentation of Financial Contributions

On 25 January 2011, the Sarawak Timber Association (STA), through its wholly-owned company, STA Mutual Sdn. Bhd. made a financial contribution of RM350,000 to 14 private Chinese Secondary Schools in Sarawak and to the Sarawak United Association of Private Chinese Secondary Schools Management Board. STA had been contributing financially to these schools and the Management Board since 2006.

This financial assistance is intended to assist the schools to overcome their financial deficits, provide better facilities for students to improve their upkeep and help the Board of Management to organise more teacher training courses to upgrade their skills.

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Presentation of STA & Daiken Scholarships

STA Scholarship

Sarawak Timber Association, through STA Mutual Sdn. Bhd. has been providing scholarships to local students pursuing degree courses related to forestry and timber industry in Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) since 2005. The STA Scholarships have so far been awarded to six students pursuing the course of B.Sc. Degree in Science and Management of Plant Resources at the Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, UNIMAS, four students pursuing the Bachelor of Forestry Science Degree and one student pursuing the Bachelor of Wood Science Technology Degree at the Faculty of Forestry of UPM. Six STA Scholarship recipients had graduated from both UNIMAS and UPM since 2008. This year the STA Scholarship is also awarded to a student pursuing the Diploma of Electronic Engineering at the School of Engineering, Computing and Science of Swinburne University of Technology, Sarawak Campus, Kuching.

The three scholar recipients are:

- (1) Mr Ogary Kinshen Anak Migas is awarded with the 2009 STA Scholarship. He is currently pursuing his second year of B.Sc. Degree in Science and Management of Plant Resources at the Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, UNIMAS.
- (2) Mr Godfred Eugene Anak La-en is awarded with the 2010 STA Scholarship. He is pursuing his first

year B.Sc. Degree in Science and Management of Plant Resources at the Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, UNIMAS.

(3) Mr Mohamad Nazari Bin Mohamad Zaidi is the new STA Scholarship recipient for the year 2010 pursuing his second year Diploma of Electronic Engineering at the School of Engineering, Computing and Science of Swinburne University of Technology, Sarawak Campus, Kuching

Daiken Scholarship

Daiken Corporation made a financial contribution of 4 million Yen or approximately one hundred and twelve thousand Malaysian Ringgit to set up the Daiken Scholarship Fund in 2007. The amount has been raised through the Mutual Aid Society of Daiken Corporation. Two subsidiaries of Daiken Corporation, namely the Daiken Sarawak Sdn. Bhd. and Daiken Miri Sdn. Bhd. are involved in the manufacture of medium density fibreboards in Sarawak.

This fund in turn is being channelled to the timber industry in Sarawak due to the support and co-operation that Daiken Corporation have received from the State and industry over the years. Daiken Corporation is seeking the assistance of the Sarawak Timber Association to administer the Fund, as the Association is well-known for its involvement in providing community

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Did you know that.....

New regulation to ban the sale of products derived from illegally harvested timber or of illegal timber on the European market will be effective throughout the European Union. The regulation will be implemented from 3 March 2013 in all Member States. The Regulation will be applicable to a broad range of timber products like pulp, furniture, paper and plywood among others. The responsibility of applying sanctions to operators breaking the rule will rest with the Member States.

Source: Environmental Expert, 03 Dec 2010

Did you also know that....

The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) reported that out of 42 plywood mills operating in the state, 24 have already been certified under the Japanese Agricultural Standard (JAS), 15 under the California Air Resources Board of the California Environmental Protection Agency, and 12 under European Union standards. In the first half of 2010, Sarawak exported 1.46 million cu.m of plywood worth RM2 billion, compared to 1.7 million cu.m valued at RM1.45 billion in the same period of 2009.

Source: ITTO MIS Report 1 - 15 Dec 10



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and welfare services to communities living near or in the forest management units belonging to its members.

The Daiken Scholarship Fund will be utilised to provide scholarships to deserving students from Sarawak pursuing study courses related to forestry and the timber industry at local institutions of higher learning. Through these scholarships, Daiken Corporation hopes to contribute towards the development of skilled and knowledgeable human resource to help towards sustaining the timber industry in Sarawak.

Daiken Corporation and the Sarawak Timber Association signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 5 July 2007 towards this end.

Two Daiken Scholarship recipients had graduated from the Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, UNIMAS in 2010. Currently, there are six Daiken Scholarship recipients pursuing their studies at UNIMAS, Swinburne University of Technology, Sarawak Campus and Curtin University of Technology, Sarawak Campus.

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46th International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC) Session

The forty-sixth session of the International Tropical Timber Council (46th ITTC) and the Associated Sessions of its four Committees namely the Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management (CRF), the Committees on Economic Information and Market Intelligence (CEM), and the Committee on Forest Industry (CFI) and the Committee on Finance and Administration (CFA) were held from 13 to 18 December 2010 at the Pacifico Yokohama Convention Center in Yokohama, Japan. The 46th ITTC kicked off with the Opening Council Session with speeches delivered by Mr. Emmanuel Ze Meka, the ITTO Executive Director, Mr. Daniel Birchemier, the 46th ITTC Chair, and dignitaries from Japan, Cameroon, Congo and Gabon.

At the 46th ITTC Session, the Council considered and deliberated on the issues including the Report of the Informal Advisory Group; the status of the entry into force of the International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA), 2006; the extension of the Executive Director's tenure; the proposals on the financing of future Council sessions held outside of its Yokohama Headquarters; the ITTO Biennial Work Programme 2010-11 Progress Report; the Annual Review and Assessment of the International Tropical Timber Situation in 2010; the current status of the implementation of the ITTO Thematic Programmes; the International Year of Forests 2011; and the progress on implementation of the International Tropical Timber

Organization (ITTO)-Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Programme.

The Council also received Trade Statements delivered by ITTO Trade Advisory Group (TAG); and Statements presented by the Civil Society Advisory Group (CSAG).

Over the six days, participants convened in concurrent sessions of CRF, CEM, and CFI to discuss and approve projects, pre-project proposals, and policy work as well as to review projects and pre-projects under implementation and ex-post evaluations. CFA met to discuss the administrative budget for 2011, the current status of the administrative account, and resources of the Special Account and the Bali Partnership Fund.

CEM and CFI had a lengthy deliberation on a proposal presented by the Producer Group against the background of proliferating public procurement policies as well as legality and sustainability requirements for timber products which have caused confusions and problems to producers and exporters of tropical timber. The objectives of the proposal are to streamline the requirements for forest certification and verification

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of timber legality in public procurement of consumer markets; to address the increasing costs associated with meeting different requirements set by consumer countries; and to promote healthy competition in a non-discriminating manner and to encourage Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) efforts in producing countries. The Committees agreed that further work to be undertaken by ITTO on this proposal and the background paper on requirements of legality and procurement policies for timber products be prepared in accordance to the terms of reference as agreed for the Committees to consider in the next session.

CEM and CFI also resolved to discuss these policy issues and activities at the next Session i.e Market Access, Forest and Timber Certification, with emphasis on securing remunerative prices for tropical timber products, Selected data and analysis from ITTO Annual Review and assessment of the World Timber situation and Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) analysis.

The Council adopted eight decisions, including the approval of projects, pre-projects and activities; the re-appointment of Emmanuel Ze Meka as Executive Director until 5 November 2015; the celebration of International Year of Forests and ITTO's 25th anniversary in 2011; procedures to respond to additional

funding opportunities; a multi-donor mechanism to facilitate enhanced ITTO-CITES cooperation; the ITTO-Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Collaborative Initiative to conserve tropical forest biodiversity; and financial arrangements for hosting Council sessions outside of ITTO headquarters.

After several rounds of discussions, the Consumer and Producer Groups finally decided that the forty-seventh (47th) session of ITTC will take place in Antigua, Guatemala from 9 to 14 November 2011; the forty-eighth (48th) session of ITTC be held in Yokohama, Japan in November 2012 and the forty-ninth (49th) session of ITTC be held in Libreville, Gabon in 2013.

The Consumer Group elected Mr. Joachim Bilé Allogho from Gabon, as the Chair, and the Producer Group elected Ms Carla Boonstra from the Netherlands, as the Vice-Chair of the forty-seventh (47th) session of ITTC.