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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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Sarawak Investment and Timber Selling Mission to Seoul, the Republic of Korea

The Sarawak Investment and Timber Selling Mission to Seoul, the Republic of Korea, jointly organised by the Ministry of Industrial Development (MID) and the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) with the support from the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) Seoul, the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) Seoul and the Korea Forest Service (KFS) was held from 9 to 15 January 2012. The Honourable Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan, the Second Minister of Resource Planning and Environment, the Minister of Public Utilities and the Minister of Industrial Development Sarawak cum the Chairman of STIDC Board of Management led sixty-six (66) delegates comprising four Assistant Ministers, STIDC Board Members, senior government officers, the Sarawak Timber Association (STA) which was represented by pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, the Chairman and Ms Annie Ting, the Senior Manager of the STA Secretariat and representatives from the timber and other industries.

The main highlight of the mission was the Sarawak Investment and Timber Selling Seminar which was held on 11 January 2012 at the Lotte Hotel Seoul, the Republic of Korea. The seminar was well attended by approximately two hundred (200) Korean participants from the government agencies, industries and media. The seminar commenced with the welcoming remarks by the Malaysian Ambassador to South

Korea, His Excellency Dato' Ramian Ibrahim followed by the keynote address by the Honourable Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan. The participants were informed of the investment opportunities in Sarawak as well as the legality compliance with reference to timber source through four presentations, namely "Investment Incentive in Sarawak" presented by Datu Liaw Soon Eng, the Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Industrial Development (MID); "Investment Opportunities in Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE)" presented by Datu Haji Ismawi Haji Ismuni, the Director of the State Planning Unit (SPU) under the Chief Minister's office; "The Status of the Timber Industry in Sarawak" presented by Ms Dayang Nena Abang Bruce, the Senior Assistant General Manager of STIDC and "Legality Verification of Logs in Sarawak" presented by Tuan Haji Ali Yusop, the Director of Forests Sarawak.

Three other events were also held, including a business meeting with potential timber business partners, a round table meeting between the Captains of the Industries from Seoul and the Honourable Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan, accompanied by four Assistant Ministers and related senior officials.

This significant day concluded with an official dinner hosted by the State Government of Sarawak,
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Malaysia. During the dinner function, the Minister of KFS, Mr Lee Don-Koo witnessed the signing of the three separate Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) between STA and three associations, namely Korea Lumber Industry Cooperative (KLIC), Korea Timber-Plywood Confederation (KPTC) and Korea Wood Association (KWA).

The Honourable Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan in his address highlighted that the MoUs would further strengthen the timber trade relationship between two countries, particularly amongst the members of these two state's associations. The Minister of KFS praised the Government of Sarawak for making this special effort to strengthen the ties in the trade between Sarawak and the Republic of Korea through the seminar and discussions which were held successfully and well attended by the Korean businessmen and government officials.

The delegation members were briefed on the Korean economic outlook and its forestry policies. They were then divided into three groups and made separate visits factories/companies related to timber products as well as IT and ICT.

On 13 January 2012, a smaller group of nine (9) members had a discussion with the senior officials of KFS including Mr Lee Chi-Myeung, the Team Manager of Forest Resources Bureau / Trade Negotiation Team and Mr Lee Kyu-Tee, the Head of International Forest Cooperation Centre. The discussion was fruitful and resulted in a better understanding on each other's roles in the forestry and timber industry of Sarawak and South Korea as well as expectations in term of legality requirements. It was noted that the Koreans have great demand for wood residues as well as interests to participate in the tree plantation projects in Sarawak.



Photo (above) The Honourable Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan with the Minister of KFS and representatives from Sarawak and Korea in a group photo and (right) Participants at the timber selling mission.



Did you know that.....



At the Safari and Marine Park in Bali, Indonesia, elephant dung produced by elephants at the park are being converted into tons of high-quality, hand-made paper. Each day, around 100 kilograms of elephant dung are created. The villagers will then collect the dung, and each pile is able to create 15 sheets of highly-fibrous paper.

Source: MTIB News Extracts 01/01/2012

Did you also know that....

Viet Nam became the largest exporter of timber and wood products in ASEAN last year with US\$3.9 billion in export sales. Wood products accounted for more than 80 per cent of Viet Nam's total exports, a significant increase over the previous level.

Source: Business Times (Singapore), 17 Dec 2011t



Legality Verification of Logs in Sarawak



Photo: Sarawak delegation and representatives from JFA and timber associations in a group photo

The Director of Forests Sarawak, Tuan Haji Ali Yusop, led a group of seven members from Sarawak to Tokyo, Japan from 15 to 18 January 2012. The group members comprised Ms Dayang Nena Abang Bruce, Senior Assistant General Manager of the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC); Mr Wong Ting Chung, Deputy General Manager of the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC); Mr Jack Liam, the Head of Revenue and Planning Division of the Forestry Department Sarawak (FDS); Tuan Haji Hadi Abdul Kadir, the General Manager of Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd; and three representatives from the Sarawak Timber Association (STA), namely Dato Henry Lau,

Honorary Secretary; Mr James Ho, Council Member and Ms Annie Ting, Senior Manager.

The group met with the representatives from the Japan Forestry Agency and eight Timber Associations in separate meetings to share with them information on the system that has been implemented to ensure the legality and traceability of logs in Sarawak as well as the Log Tracking System (LoTS). Other issues raised included detail explanations on the Custom Declaration Form 2 and the NGOs' allegations on the logging operations in Sarawak. The group also reaffirmed its commitment to the Japanese that Sarawak will continue to enhance its legality system and welcomed offers to work closely to strengthen the ties between Japan and Malaysia in particular Sarawak. The group also had an opportunity to meet with Mr Kua Kiat Chye, the Director of MATRADE, Tokyo, Japan.

A smaller group met with the representatives from the Friends of Earth Japan and Global Environmental Forum on 16 January 2012. This informal short meeting had provided an avenue for the parties to exchange views on the recent NGO's allegations. STA, in the meeting offered to work with NGOs who are committed to address any issues of mutual concerns.

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The Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) Visit

A 5-member delegation from the Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) visited Sarawak on 16 January 2012 as part of its familiarization programme for the new staff from the MTC Head Office Kuala Lumpur and the MTC Regional Offices. The delegation of five (5) was led by Puan Noraihan Abdul Rahman, the Deputy Director of Trade Promotion and Marketing in MTC Head Office Kuala Lumpur.

Corporation (SFC), the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and the Sarawak Timber Association (STA) of the roles, functions and operations in a joint briefing conducted at Wisma Sumber Alam in Kuching.

MTC also took the opportunity to introduce the upcoming Global WoodMart 2012 which will be held from 4 to 6 October 2012 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre.

The delegation was briefed by the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), the Sarawak Forestry



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Training Opportunities for Forest and Logging Managers

Forest and logging managers are now being called on to deal not only with profitable forest operations, but also difficult environmental and social issues. In addition, many markets are now looking for assurance of sustainable forestry through forest certification. As a result, developing the appropriate skills to successfully manage logging operations that meet the goals of sustainable tropical forestry, which includes social and environment elements, has become an important requirement for managers in the forest sector of Sarawak.

To meet the skill needs of logging managers, the Sarawak Timber Association (STA) and Lincoln University in New Zealand have developed a Lincoln University Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management) (Postgraduate Diploma) and the STA Sustainable Forest Manager programme for managers in the forest industry.

The Postgraduate Diploma comprises eighteen (18) subjects that are taught as intensive, one-week blocks over a three-year period. The subjects cover all aspects of forestry, including silviculture, harvesting, planning, economics, and social factors. At the end of the programme,

students are awarded a Lincoln University degree.

The STA Sustainable Forest Manager recognises that not all managers would have the time to undertake the full Postgraduate Diploma, but that it was still important to provide opportunities for managers to be exposed to important factors related to sustainable forest management in a structured way. The STA Sustainable Forest Manager comprises nine (9) of the eighteen (18) subjects in the Postgraduate Diploma. Students will be required to complete a short assessment of learning for each subject. At the end of the programme, students will be awarded a certificate of achievement by STA and Lincoln University.

The next cohort of the Postgraduate Diploma and the STA Sustainable Forest Manager will begin with an Orientation to University Studies from 23 to 27 April 2012 and the first subject will start on 21 May 2012. For more information, please contact STA at 082-332222 or visit www.sta.org.my.