

STA Review

Volume 164 PPK 174/4/2007 Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association

April 2007

Workshop on Collaborative Approach to Research for Forest Management Certification: The role for all forestry-related agencies and institutions

STA menganjurkan bengkel dua hari "Pendekatan Bersama untuk Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan" di Wisma STA dari 12 hingga 13 April 2007. Bengkel bertema "Peranan Para Agensi dan Institusi berkaitan dengan Perhutanan" dihadiri oleh lebih kurang 50 peserta dari pelbagai agensi, institut penyelidikan (termasuk tiga buah universiti tempatan), organisasi-organisasi bukan kerajaan dan sektor swasta.

Bengkel bertujuan mengenalpasti dan membincang pengetahuan teknikal, kaedah-kaedah tinjauan dan siasatan penyelidikan yang diperlukan untuk menyokong usaha Syarikat Ahli STA yang sedang atau dalam proses menjalani Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan Secara Mampam di bawah skim Kriteria dan Indikator 2002 Malaysia Majlis Pensijilan Kayu Malaysia (MTCC). Bengkel ini telah membawa bersama semua pihak yang

■ STA organised the two-day Workshop on Collaborative Approach to Research for Forest Management Certification at Wisma STA from 12 to 13 April 2007. The Workshop was attended by approximately 50 participants from various forestry-related agencies, research institutions including three local universities, NGOs and the private sector.

The workshop aimed to identify and address gaps in technical know-

how, survey methodologies and research investigations that are required to support efforts by Member Companies of STA which are undergoing or intend to undergo Certification under the Malaysian Timber Certification Council's (MTCC) Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (2002) or MC&I (2002) in short. The workshop brought together specialists and industrialists to share their

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Picture: Datuk Leo Chai, delivering his officiating speech

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experiences and find solutions to problems and issues that might be encountered in the process of undergoing Forest Management Certification under the MTCC scheme.

The Workshop was officially declared open by Datuk Leo Chai, Chairman of STA, who is also a member of the MTCC Board of Trustees. In his speech during the opening ceremony, Datuk Leo Chai urged participants to be aware of the challenges faced by developing countries, particularly those in the tropical region. While trying to develop and fine-tune our own scheme that would be compatible with the Forest Stewardship Council's (FSC) scheme, we must be careful not to exceed what was adopted by FSC. We should also try to avoid

introducing too many sensitive social and environmental variables that would not be achievable.

During the workshop, participants were able to share the experiences of three organisations which had achieved or are going for certification. Participants were divided into three groups, namely, economic, social and environment for intensive discussions aimed at identifying shortfalls in research under each grouping and recommending projects for implementation. The eventual output of the Workshop will be a consolidation of project proposals under the three groupings stated above and the identification of organisations which will be able to provide services and input during their subsequent implementation. ❁

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berkaitan untuk berkongsi pengalaman dan mencari pendekatan dan penyelesaian terhadap isu-isu dan masalah yang mungkin timbul semasa menjalani proses pensijilan pengurusan hutan di bawah skim MTCC.



Above:
Participants at
the Workshop



Right:
Participants in
the Economic
group doing their
discussion,
chaired by Dr.
Khamurudin
Mohd Noor from
Universiti Putra
Malaysia,
Serdang

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Picture: Dr. Paul Chai from ITTO, facilitating the Environment group in their discussion



Left: The Social group with the facilitator, Dr. Lim Hin Fui from FRIM

Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak mengadakan taklimat untuk industri perkapuan di Sarawak pada 5 April 2007 di Ibu Pejabatnya di Petra Jaya, Kuching di mana Encik Kazuyuki Morita, Pengarah, Pejabat Perdagangan Hasil Kayu, Agensi Perhutanan, Kementerian Pertanian Perhutanan dan Perikanan, Jepun telah membuat penyampaian bertajuk "Tindakan Jepun untuk Mengatasi Pembalakan Haram: Dasar Kerajaan dalam Pemerolehan Hasil Kayu".

Briefing Session for Timber Industry in Sarawak

■ The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) organised a Briefing Session for the Timber Industry in Sarawak on 5 April 2007 at its Headquarters in Petra Jaya, Kuching, which was attended by over 100 representatives from the industry. The main draw of this briefing was Mr. Kazuyuki Morita, Director, Wood Products Trade Office, Forestry Agency, Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries, Japan, who gave a presentation titled "Japan's Action for Tackling Illegal Logging: Government Procurement Policy".

During his presentation and the

subsequent Q&A session, Mr. Morita highlighted several important points including: the Japanese Government revised policy on procurement of timber for government projects, the attitude of the private sector on timber procurement in relation to the revised policy of the government and how the Japanese lumber importers view the legality of timber sourced from overseas. Another important issue raised was green premium for legally verified and certified timber. Mr. Morita explained that this aspect will be market driven and that the Japanese government is not in a position to guarantee such a premium. ❁

STAT Trainer Development Programme - Presentation of Letters of Achievement

■ The presentation of Letters of Achievement was successfully held at the Imperial Hotel, Miri on 10 April 2007. This presentation ceremony was organised as a follow-up to the Trainer Development Programme which was conducted for candidates from the small and medium-sized Member Companies of STA.

This presentation ceremony was officiated by the Vice Chairman of STA, Mr. Lau Swee Nguong. Also present were the Honorary Secretary, Ms. Loretta Lau, three STA Council Members, Mr. Ling Chiong Sing, Ling Lu Kuang and Mr. Law Kiu Kiong, Mr. Elbson Marajan, Consultant of Sarawak Forestry Corporation, Company representatives and members of the media.

This is the first batch of trainers who were trained by STA trainers, who fulfilled all the requirements of a trainer under the *Sarawak Modular Training Framework*. During this presentation ceremony, each trainer

received a Letter of Achievement and Financial Contribution of RM3,000. The respective Companies were also given RM6,000 per successful candidate trained. As a token of recognition, a set of safety equipment consist of hi-viz Shirt, wedges and a safety helmet with attached ear muff were given to both tree feller and log extractor. Through this, it is hoped that these trainers would promote the use of safety gears in the work place.

These successful candidates will return and continue to work for their employers and start organizing training for their own workers. It is hoped that these candidates will improve their performance, efficiency and safety at work place in the effort to achieve sustainable forest management in the State. Successful trainers are encouraged to maintain a close contact with STAT's trainers and provide feedback on problems encountered or suggestions for further improvement on the training. ❁



Picture: Group photo of first batch of successfully trained trainers

Majlis Penyampaian Sijil Pencapaian telah diadakan di Imperial Hotel, Miri pada 10 April 2007. Majlis ini merupakan upacara susulan Program Pembangunan Pelatih yang telah dijalankan untuk peserta-peserta dari Syarikat-Syarikat Ahli STA berbentuk kecil dan sederhana.

Kumpulan pelatih ini merupakan kumpulan pertama yang dilatih oleh pelatih STA, yang memenuhi keperluan seseorang pelatih dalam Rangka Latihan Modular Sarawak. Pelatih-pelatih yang menyempurnakan kursus dengan jayanya akan kembali ke majikan masing-masing dan menganjurkan program latihan bagi pekerja-pekerja lain syarikat mereka. Adalah diharapkan semua pelatih ini akan mempertingkatkan tahap prestasi, kecekapan dan keselamatan di tempat kerja masing-masing untuk mencapai pengurusan hutan secara mampan dalam Negeri.

National Tripartite Seminar on Promoting Decent Work in the Forestry Sector in Malaysia

Seminar Kebangsaan Pakatan Tiga Pihak bertajuk "Mempromosikan Pekerjaan Baik (Decent Work) dalam Sektor Perhutanan di Malaysia" anjuran bersama Kementerian Sumber Manusia Malaysia, Organisasi Buruh Antarabangsa dan *Building and Wood Workers International* telah diadakan di Kuching dari 16 hingga 18 April 2007. Seminar ini bertujuan:

- Untuk memperbaiki kefahaman dan memujuk kerjasama antara pelbagai kumpulan yang berkaitan dalam sektor perhutanan dan kerajaan dalam usaha mempromosikan pekerjaan baik (decent work) dalam industri hutan, dan
- Untuk membincang strategi dan program terbaik untuk memajukan industri supaya memberi faedah dari segi ekonomi, social dan alam sekitar.

Dalam Seminar tersebut 11 kertas kerja telah dibentangkan.

■ The National Tripartite Seminar on Promoting Decent Work in the Forestry Sector in Malaysia was jointly organized by the Ministry of Human Resources Malaysia (MoHR), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Building and Wood Workers International (BWI) on 16 to 18 April 2007 in Kuching. The seminar aimed:

- to improve the understanding and facilitate cooperation between the various groups involved in the forestry sector and government in promoting decent work in the forest industry, and
- to deliberate on strategies and programmes on how best to develop the industry, so that it can provide benefits economically, socially and environmentally.

At the opening ceremony, speeches were made by Mr. Ng Gek Boo, the Regional Director of ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and Mr. Bob Ramsay, the Global Director for Wood and Forestry Program, BWI. A keynote address was delivered by Dato' Thomas George, Secretary General of MoHR. In his address, the Secretary-General stated that he recognised the different working conditions in the upstream forestry work, and hence, the need for employers to design proper work structure and methods.

There are four main dimensions to the concept of decent work: employment, social protection, fundamental rights and social dialogue. In the ILO's Decent Work agenda, decent work is work which not only provides women and men a

short-term livelihood, but also provides

- Empowerment, i.e., real opportunities for choice and responsibility at work,
- Protection against the risks induced by work and uncertainties of life, and
- Social inclusion or a sense of participation.

The four categories of fundamental principles and rights at work are:

- Freedom of association & effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining,
- Elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour,
- Effective abolition of child labour, and
- Elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

The following papers were presented during the course of the seminar:

- Scenario of Forest Industry in Sarawak & Video Presentation (Upstream Activities) - *Ministry of Planning & Resources Management Sarawak*
- Scenario of Forest Industry in Sarawak & Video Presentation (Downstream Activities) - *Mr. Hamzah Morshidi, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation*
- Introduction to the Concept of

(Continue on Page 6)

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Decent Work with emphasis on the Forestry Sector - *Mr. Edmundo Werna, Technical Specialist in Forestry & Construction of ILO's Sectoral Activities Branch, Geneva*

- ILO Standards & Instruments related to Safety & Health in the Forestry Sector - *Mr. Tim de Meyer, Specialist on International Labour Standards & Labour Law, ILO*
- Role of Government in ensuring the Occupational Safety & Health in the Forestry Sector - *Ir. Ibrahim Md Dol, Director, Department of Occupational Safety & Health*
- Decent Work in the Forestry Sector : Prospects & Challenges - Employers' Perspective - *Ms. Lily Dublin, Malaysian Employers Federation*
- Decent Work in the Forestry

Sector: Prospects & Challenges - Workers' Perspective - *Mr. Mohd Khalid bin Hj Atan, Timber Employees Union Peninsular Malaysia*

- Role of Government in ensuring the Welfare of Workers in the Forestry Sector - *Mr. Jack Merudu, Deputy Director of Labour, Sarawak*
- ILO's Guide on Labour Inspection in the Forestry Sector - *Mr. Edmundo Werna*
- Decent Work in the Forestry Sector: The Way Forward - Employers' Perspective - *Dr. Lee Hua Seng, STA*
- Decent Work in the Forestry Sector: The Way Forward - Workers' Perspective - *Mr. Mohd Khalid bin Hj Atan*

Note: Copies of presentation are available from the STA Secretariat at nominal printing cost.

Conference on Forestry and Forest Products Research 2007

■ The Forest Research Institute Malaysia together with the Malaysian Wood Preservation Association will be organizing the biennial national Conference on Forestry and Forest Products Research 2007 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Details as follow:

Date: 27 - 29 November 2007

Registration Fees:

RM550 (Early Bird, Before 1 June 2007), RM600 (After 1 June 2007), RM250 (Students), RM500 per person (For group registration of same organisation for 3 or more)

This Conference with the theme "Balancing Economic and Ecological Needs" is designed to introduce the

latest R&D findings in forestry and forest products to the private sector, researchers, academicians, forest managers, industrialists and policy makers.

The objectives of the Conference are:

- To discuss issues in tropical forestry research and development
- To explore, exchange and update scientific and technological findings and information related to tropical forestry; and
- To provide a forum for forestry researchers to present their

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Institut Penyelidikan Perhutanan Malaysia dengan kerjasama Persatuan Pengawet Kayu Malaysia akan menganjurkan Persidangan Perhutanan dan Penyelidikan Hasil Hutan 2007 di Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia dari 27 hingga 29 November 2007. Persidangan bertema "Memperseimbangkan Keperluan Ekonomi dan Ekologi" bertujuan untuk mengemukakan pencarian terbaru R&D dalam bidang perhutanan dan hasil hutan kepada sektor swasta, penyelidik, pendidik,

pengurus hutan, pihak industri dan pembentuk dasar.

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results and findings, state-of-the-art technologies, products and services.

For further enquiries, please contact;

The Secretariat
Conference on Forestry and Forest Products Research 2007

(CFFPR 2007)
Forest Research Institute Malaysia
52109 Kepong, Selangor, Malaysia
(Attn: Dr. Lim Hin Fui)

Tel: + 60 3 6279 7541
Fax: + 60 3 6280 4620
Email: cffpr2007@frim.gov.my
Website: <http://www.frim.gov.my>

Financial Contribution Scheme for Training

Lembaga Pengarah STAT dalam Mesyuarat ke-11nya pada 20 Julai 2006 telah meluluskan Skim

Sumbangan Kewangan untuk Latihan (Pelatih dan Operator). Skim ini telah disokong oleh Majlis STA dalam mesyuarat ke-59nya pada 18 Disember 2006.

Skim ini dikenakan bagi tiga Program yang ditawarkan oleh STAT, iaitu Sijil dalam Penebangan Pokok, Sijil dalam Pengeluaran Balak dan Sijil dalam Pemuatan Balak, Sumbangan kewangan ini merupakan bantuan kepada syarikat-syarikat yang hilang masa penghasilan apabila kakitangan mereka dicalonkan untuk menjalani kursus latihan.

Untuk maklumat lanjut silalah hubungi Dr. Peter Kho di Urusetia STA.

■ The Board of Directors of STA Training Sdn. Bhd. (STAT) had, at its 11th Meeting on 20 July 2006, approved a *Financial Contribution Scheme for Training (Trainers and Operators)*. The Scheme was subsequently endorsed by the STA Council at its 59th Meeting on 18 December 2006.

The Financial Contribution Scheme is applicable to the three Programmes currently offered by STAT, namely *Certificate in Tree Felling*, *Certificate in Log Extraction: Tractor and Certificate in Log Loading* to help defray cost of production time lost when company staff are nominated for training.

For the *Financial Contribution Scheme for Training (Trainers)*, a sum of RM 9,000.00 will be made in

respect of each candidate who successfully completes the Trainee Trainer Programme. The amount of RM9,000.00 will be disbursed in the following way:

- RM6000.00 to the Company; and
- RM3000.00 directly to the successful candidate.

For the first 1000 successfully trained, each of them will receive RM1000. In addition for each of the training operators trained, the Company Trainer will receive RM100.00 and the Company for which the Trainer works for will receive RM300.00.

For further enquiries, please contact Dr. Peter Kho at the STA Secretariat at Tel: 082-332222. ☎



Above: Demonstration on maintenance of chainsaw



Right: Training on log loading

Export Performance of Major Sarawak Timber Products for 2006

■ For the year 2006, the Sarawak timber sector recorded a total export value of RM8,023 million. This is an increase of 17.1% over the corresponding period in 2005. For period under review, plywood was the highest contributor at 60.8%, followed by logs 22.3%, sawn timber 11.8%, veneer 4.3%, others 0.8% consisting of moulding 0.6% and dowels 0.2%.

In 2006, Sarawak produced a total of 11.9 million m³ logs with 92.3% from hill forests and the rest 7.7% from peat swamp forests. The total log production decreased 1.4% over the corresponding period of 2005. For 2006, the volume of logs harvested from both hill forest and peat swamp forest decreased by 0.2% and 14.2% respectively compared to 2005.

Sarawak exported a total of 3.8 million m³ of logs valued at RM1,791 million for 2006. This is a decrease of 12.5% in volume and 2.6% in value over 2005. Out of the total logs

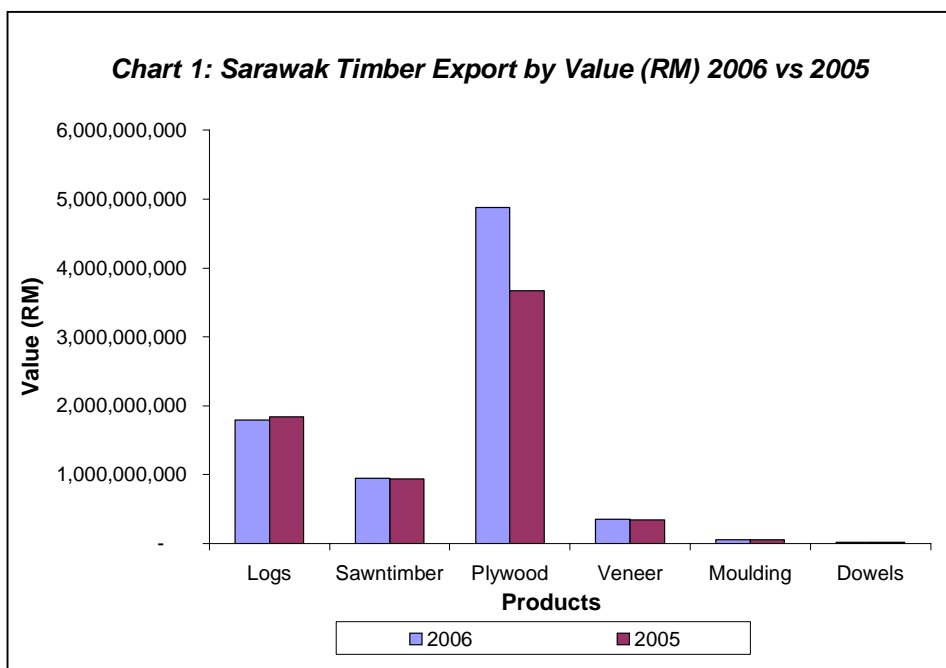
exported, Meranti species accounted for 22.8%, Mixed Light Hardwood (Swamp) 24.4%, Selangan Batu (Balau) 12.1%, Kapur 7.7%, Keruing 7.0%, and others 26.0%.

By destination, India, our leading buyer, imported 36.3% (1.4 million m³) of the total volume exported. This is a decrease of 2% from the corresponding period of 2005. Japan is the second highest importer of Sarawak logs at 21.6%, followed by China 16.8%, Taiwan 15.7%, Vietnam 5.6%, and other countries 4.0%.

For 2006, Sarawak exported a total of 1.04 million m³ of sawn timber valued at RM944 million. This is a decrease of 3.9% in volume and an increase of 1.2% in value over the corresponding period of 2005. By destination, Thailand, as the leading buyer of sawn timber, imported 21.8% (227,414 m³) of the total volume exported. Other major buyers

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Bagi tahun 2006, sektor kayu Sarawak mencatatkan eksport bernilai RM8,023 juta. Ini merupakan peningkatan 17.1% berbanding dengan jumlah yang dicatatkan bagi tempoh yang sama pada 2005. Papan lapis merupakan penyumbang terbesar iaitu 60.8%, diikuti oleh kayu balak 22.3%, kayu gergaji 11.8%, venir 4.3% dan lain-lain hasil 0.8% (kayu kumai 0.6% dan kayu penetak 0.2%). Bagi 2006 pula, Sarawak mengeluarkan kayu balak sejumlah 11.9 juta m³, 92.3% terdiri dari hutan bukit iaitu dan bakinya 7.7% dari hutan paya gambut. Bagi tempoh ini, jumlah pengeluaran merosot 1.4% berbanding dengan jumlah yang dicatat dalam jangkamasa yang sama pada 2005.



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were Taiwan 12.1%, China 9.7%, Philippines 8.5%, Republic of Yemen 7.7% and other countries 40.2%.

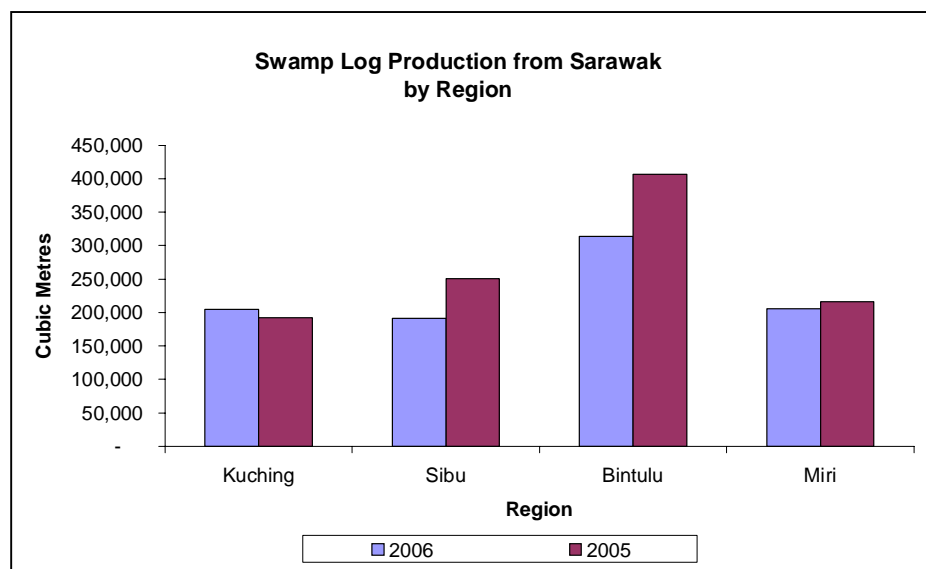
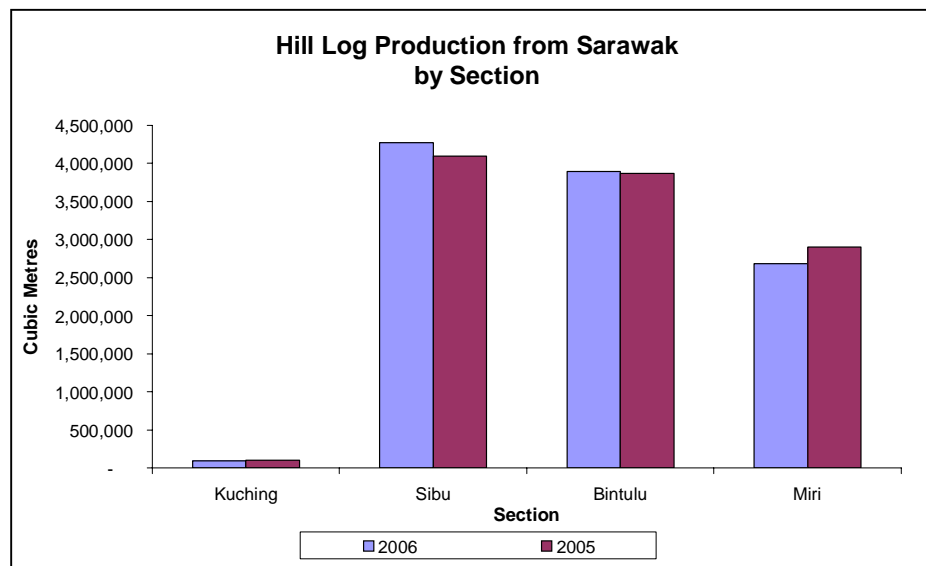
A total of 3.4 million m³ of plywood valued at RM4,880 million was exported from Sarawak in 2006. This is an increase of 13.6% in volume and 32.9% in value over the same period in 2005. By destination, Japan remained the leading plywood importer from Sarawak, importing 59.2% (2.01 million m³) of the total volume exported. This is an increase

of 21.8% over the corresponding period in 2005. The rest of the plywood went to Republic of Korea 7.1%, Taiwan 7.0%, U.S.A 6.0%, China 2.7% and other countries 18.0%.

Sarawak exported a total of 339,676 m³ of veneer valued at RM348.6 million. This is a decrease of 11.4% in volume and an increase of 1.8% in value compared to 2005 respectively. By destination, Taiwan was the leading buyer of our veneer,

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Chart 2: Sarawak Log Production for 2006 and 2005



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importing 25.5% (86,761 m³) of the total volume exported. This is an increase of 15.1% over the corresponding period in 2005. Other major importers of our veneer were Peninsular Malaysia 15.4%, Republic of Korea 13.4%, Sabah 12.4%, Indonesia 9.5% and other countries 23.8%.

Sarawak exported a total of RM49.1 million worth of mouldings and RM10.3 million worth of dowels. These represent a decrease of 0.1% and 38.1% over the same period under review in 2005. ❁



International Seminar on Utilisation and Marketing of ACACIAS

Date: 11 - 12 June 2007

Venue: Kuching Hilton

For enquiries, please contact PUSAKA at Tel: + 60 82 443 477 ext 300

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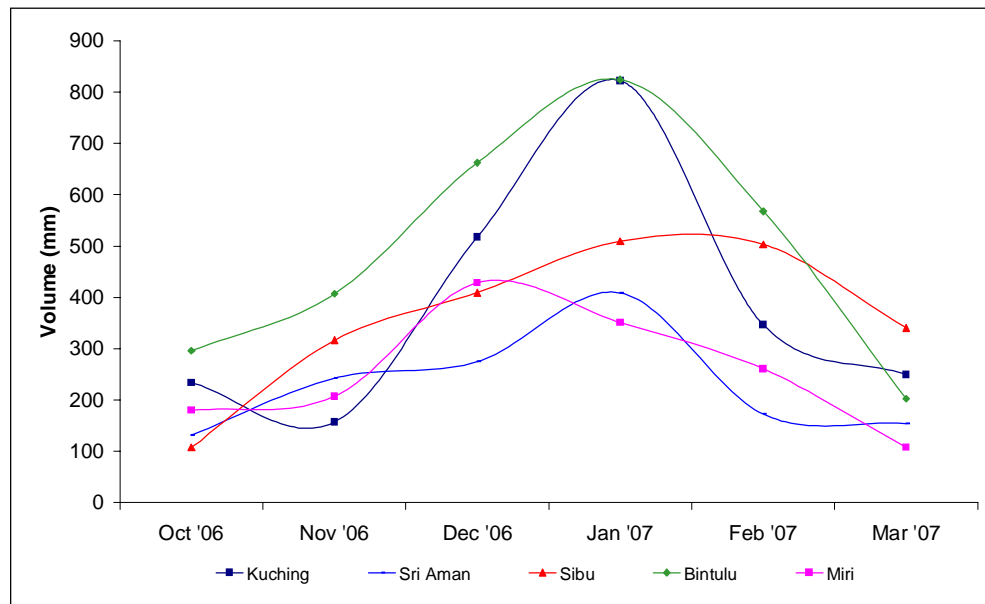
Rubber Planters' Conference 2007

Date: 5 July 2007

Venue: PWTC, Kuala Lumpur

Organised by Malaysian Rubber Board

Rainfall : October '06 - March '07 Kadar Hujan Bulanan



Source : Malaysian Meteorological Services.

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