

STA Review

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Continues Its
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COVER IMAGE:



Coelogyne mayeriana;
Photo credit Mr Joanes Unggang,
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STA REVIEW

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STA Mutual Sdn Bhd Continues Its Corporate Social Responsibility Projects

Sarawak Timber Association (STA) through its subsidiary company, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) continues to provide assistance to students studying in schools located within the concession areas of STA member companies this year. STA channels the assistance through its member companies with the aim to provide a more conducive learning environment to the students in these areas.



Photo: Students of SK Long Kevok, Baram with their bags and set of stationeries

On 11 April 2017, 100 students of Sekolah Kebangsaan (SK) Long Kevok, Baram in Miri received assistance-in-kind in the form of a school bag and a complete set of stationeries. The ceremony was witnessed by Ms Ivy Bolok, Senior Assistant of SK Long Kevok, Mr Dennis anak Lalen, Senior Assistant for Student Affair of the School, Mr Marcus anak Bonaventure, Senior Assistant Curriculum, Mr Sim Kit Chui and Mr Lia Tuked, Community Service Executives from the Samling Group of Companies.



Photo: Students of SK Long Luteng, Baram with their bags and set of stationeries

On 12 April 2017, 100 sets of bag with stationeries were handed over to students of SK Long Luteng, Baram in Miri. As a symbolic gesture, twenty nine (29) Primary Six students were presented with the Assistance-in-kind by Ms Thresa Aji, Administrative Officer of STAM in a simple ceremony. Mr Chali anak Bundak, Headmaster of the School, Mr K Mutharasu, Education District Officer, Baram, Mr Sim Kit Chui and Mr Lia Tuked were also present in the ceremony.

In their welcoming speeches, both Mr Dennis anak Lalen and Mr Chali anak Bundak thanked the Association and Samling Group of Companies for providing such assistance to the students and hope that more assistance will be rendered, especially in the areas of improving facilities in the schools.

本会通过子公司，STA Mutual有限公司(STAM)今年继续提供援助予在会员公司授权区域内就读的小学生。 本会通过会员公司提供援助，目的是希望这些区域的学生能有更好的学习环境。

2017年4月11日，100位美里峇兰Long Kevok国小生获得实物援助，即书包和整套文具。

本会于2017年4月12日，移交100份书包和整套文具予美里峇兰Long Luteng国小生。

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak melalui anak syarikatnya, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) pada tahun ini meneruskan usahanya untuk memberi bantuan kepada pelajar-pelajar dari sekolah-sekolah yang terletak di dalam kawasan konsesi syarikat ahli STA. Bantuan tersebut yang disalurkan melalui syarikat ahli adalah bertujuan untuk menyediakan persekitaran pembelajaran yang lebih kondusif kepada pelajar-pelajar dalam kawasan tersebut.

Pada 11 April 2017, seramai 100 orang pelajar Sekolah Kebangsaan (SK) Long Kevok masing-masing menerima bantuan berupa barangan iaitu sebuah beg sekolah lengkap dengan set alat tulis. Manakala pada 12 April 2017, sebanyak 100 set beg berserta set alat tulis diserahkan kepada pelajar-pelajar SK Long Luten, Baram, Miri.

Roadshow on the Implementation of the Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) in collaboration with SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFC) organised a series of roadshows on the **"Implementation of the Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015"** which were held as follows:

- 26 April 2017 at the Imperial Hotel, Miri
- 27 April 2017 at the Promenade Hotel, Bintulu
- 28 April 2017 at Tanahmas Hotel, Sibul

A total of 173 participants from the timber industry and forestry-related agencies attended this Roadshow.

Tuan Haji Zolkipli Mohd Aton, Acting General Manager, Strategic Planning and Special Project Division of SFC welcomed all participants to the briefing. According to him, the objectives of the briefing were to inform the timber industry on:

1. The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015 (The Rules) which came into force since 1 July 2015 is to regulate compliance with Section 51(1) of The Forest Ordinance, 2015 (Sarawak Cap 71), which requires all forestry companies (as employers) to hire only properly trained workmen to carry out forestry activities;
2. Under The Rules, all workmen in the prescribed forestry activities namely; (i) *Certificate in Tree Felling*, (ii) *Certificate in Log Extraction*, (iii) *Certificate in Log Loading*, (iv) *Certificate in Clear-fell Site Preparation* and (v) *Certificate in Mechanical Site Preparation* are required to be trained and certified; and
3. The roles and responsibilities of STAT as a Training Provider and SFC as an Agent.

Dr Peter Kho, Manager of STAT gave a brief introduction on the background of skills training as well as the appointment of STAT as Training Provider. He further stressed that the roles and responsibilities as Training Provider is to provide training to all workmen in the prescribed forestry activities. In his presentation, he emphasised on the importance of skills training, training courses offered as well as how skills training and assessments are carried out. He further highlighted that the training coordinator plays an important role in ensuring training and assessing programmes are carried out effectively with minimal disruption to forestry operations.

Tuan Haji Zolkipli Mohd Aton gave a brief update on the requirement of The Rules, the responsibilities of the timber licensees or contractors as well as SFC's roles and responsibilities as an Agent. He also highlighted the consequences of non-compliance (*employer and workman*) under the Forest Ordinance, 2015 and The Rules, 2015. He then presented the standard operating procedures for the monitoring of compliance for both employers and workmen.

Participants of the Briefings are urged to fully understand and be aware of the requirements of Section 51(1) of The Forests Ordinance, 2015 and The Rules. For those



Photo: Briefing in Miri



Photo: Briefing in Bintulu



Photo: Briefing in Sibul

who are interested to have their workmen trained in the prescribed skills sets, please contact either Dr Peter Kho or Ms Melinda Chai at 082-332222.

STA培训有限公司(STAT)与砂拉越林业机构有限公司(SFC)分别在以下日期和地点联办“执行2015年森林（员工培训）法令”系列巡回简报会：

- 2017年4月26日假美里帝宫酒店
- 2017年4月27日假民都鲁长廊酒店
- 2017年4月28日假诗巫金地酒店

SFC策略规划和特别计划部代总经理哈兹佐奇毕利先生告知参与者巡回简报会的目的为木材工业讲解关于2015年森林（员工培训）法令自2015年7月1日开始执行以符合2015年森林法令第51(1)条例（砂拉越第71章），所有林业公司（雇主）只能雇用经过适当培训的员工进行林业活动。所有员工必须在指定的林业活动中接受培训和认证以及STAT作为培训机构和SFC作为培训代理的角色和责任。

参与此讲座者会被敦促充分理解和明白2015年森林法令第51(1)条例和2015年森林（员工培训）法令的要求。如有兴趣参与这项技能培训，请拨打082-332222联系本会秘书处许晋生博士或蔡莲珍女士。

STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 2/2017

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) dengan kerjasama Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd telah menganjurkan satu siri jelajah "Pelaksanaan Peraturan Hutan (Pekerja Terlatih) 2015" yang pada

- 26 April 2017 di Hotel Imperial, Miri
- 27 April 2017 di Hotel Promenade, Bintulu
- 28 April 2017 di Hotel Tanahmas, Sibul

Tuan Haji Mohd Zolkipli Aton, Pemangku Pengurus Besar, Bahagian Perancangan Strategik dan Projek Khas SFC berkongsi objektif jelajah dengan para peserta, iaitu memaklumkan kepada industri perikanan mengenai Peraturan Hutan (Pekerja Terlatih) 2015 yang berkuat kuasa sejak 1 Julai 2015. Peraturan Hutan (Pekerja Terlatih) 2015 dilaksanakan bertujuan untuk mengawal selia pematuan kepada Seksyen 51(1) Ordinan Hutan, 2015 (Sarawak Bab 71) yang mengkehendaki semua syarikat perhutanan (sebagai majikan) untuk mengupah hanya pekerja terlatih untuk menjalankan aktiviti perhutanan.

Menurut Peraturan tersebut, semua pekerja dalam aktiviti perhutanan yang ditetapkan hendaklah dilatih dan disahkan terlebih dahulu. Selain itu, peranan dan tanggungjawab STAT sebagai Penyelia Latihan dan SFC sebagai Agen turut dinyatakan kepada peserta taklimat.

Pesertataklimatjugadisarankan untuk memahami sepenuhnya dan mengambil kira keperluan Seksyen 51(1) Ordinan Hutan, 2015 dan Peraturan Hutan (Pekerja Terlatih) 2015. Bagi individu yang berminat dengan latihan kemahiran, sila hubungi Dr Peter Kho atau Cik Melinda Chai di 082-332222.



Photo: Meeting in progress

The Chairman of STA Forest Plantation Committee, Mr Peter Ling Kwong Hung convened the STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 2/2017 on 21 April 2017 at Wisma STA, Kuching.

The Meeting discussed a few matters/issues; namely weight to volume conversion factor study of various planted species, *Ceratocystis* study on *Acacia mangium*, conventional drying study on *Acacia*, field visit to members' forest plantations and etc. The Meeting also deliberated on the proposal as well as the terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) of the newly approved *Falcataria moluccana* research project.

The Meeting was informed of a few decisions made by the Chief Minister of Sarawak during the courtesy call held on 9 March 2017, in which the Chief Minister of Sarawak strongly emphasised on strengthening the Research and Development (R&D) in forest plantation and has agreed to consider to waive the royalty and cess for trees harvested from forest plantations provided that the waived sum is used for R&D purposes.

The Meeting was also updated with the progress of the two (2) R&D projects funded by Sarawak Timber Association (STA), i.e. SNP Discovery Research by Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) and Biofertiliser Formulation Research by Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus (SUTS).

人工造林小组于2017年4月21日假STA大厦召开本年度第二次会议。会议由人工造林小组主席林光训先生主持。

会议通知委员关于STA在2017年3月9日礼貌拜访本州首席部长以及他对木材业的展望。首席部长强调会员须加强森林种植研究与开发 (R&D) 和同意考虑免除从种植林所采伐原木的开采费和税费, 前提为该款项用于研发。

Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Ladang Hutan STA, En Peter Ling Kwong Hung mengadakan Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Ladang Hutan STA Bil. 2/2017 pada 21 April 2017 di Wisma STA, Kuching.

Mesyuarat dimaklumkan mengenai keputusan semasa yang dibuat oleh Ketua Menteri Sarawak semasa kunjungan hormat ke atasnya pada 9 Mac 2017, di mana Ketua Menteri Sarawak menekankan penyelidikan dan pembangunan (R&D) dalam ladang hutan dan bersetuju mempertimbangkan pengecualian royalti dan ses bagi pokok yang dituai dari ladang hutan dengan syarat jumlah pengecualian tersebut digunakan untuk tujuan R&D.

MTA Executive Committee Meeting No 1/2017

The executive committee members of the Malaysian Timber Association (MTA) met for the first time this year in its MTA Executive Committee (EXCO) Meeting No 1/2017 on 12



Photo: Meeting in progress

April 2017 at One World Hotel, Bandar Utama, Selangor. The Meeting was chaired by its President, Dato' Low Kian Chuan.

Eight (8) out of nine (9) EXCO members attended the meeting together with their supporting Secretariat staff. Members were updated on the current assets of MTA, membership fees and placement of fixed deposits.

Mr Tham Sing Khaw, Advisor/Coordinator - Timber Task Forces, Timber Industry Forum presented the Executive Summary on MTA Timber Workshop 2016 to the members of the Meeting. The Meeting resolved for the President of MTA to lead a delegation of its members to present the Executive Summary together with recommendations/way forward for the MTA Timber Workshop 2016 to the Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC), Datuk Seri Mah Siew Keong.

The Meeting has also tentatively fixed its Annual General Meeting to be held in Sabah on the 4th week of June 2017.

马来西亚木材协会 (MTA) 执行委员会会员于2017年4月12日假雪兰莪万达世界酒店召开本年度MTA执行委员会(EXCO)第一次会议。会议由主席拿督卢成全主持。

会议报告了MTA的流动资产、会员费和放置定期存款事项。

谭星球先生向出席会议的会员报告2016年MTA木材研讨会的执行摘要。会议决定由MTA主席带领其会员代表团提呈2016年MTA木材研讨会的执行摘要和建议予种植及原产业部 (MPIC)。

会议也暂时把其年度会员大会定于2017年6月的第四个星期在沙巴召开。

Ahli-ahli Jawatankuasa Eksekutif Persatuan Kayu Kayan Malaysia (MTA) bertemu buat kali pertama tahun ini di Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Eksekutif MTA (EXCO) Bil. 1/2017 yang diadakan pada 12 April 2017 di Hotel One World, Bandar Utama, Selangor. Mesyuarat telah dipengerusikan oleh Presidennya, Dato' Low Kian Chuan.

Ahli-ahli telah dikemaskini mengenai aset semasa MTA, yuran keahlian dan penempatan deposit tetap.

En Tham Sing Khaw membentangkan Ringkasan Eksekutif mengenai Bengkel Perkayuan MTA 2016 kepada ahli-ahli Mesyuarat. Mesyuarat memutuskan untuk mengetuai delegasi ahli-ahlinya bagi membentangkan Ringkasan Eksekutif bersertakan dengan cadangan / langkah ke hadapan untuk Bengkel Perkayuan MTA 2016 kepada Menteri Perusahaan Perladangan dan Komoditi (KPPK).

Mesyuarat turut tentatif menetapkan Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan yang akan diadakan di Sabah pada minggu keempat Jun 2017.

The Malaysia Marketing

In conjunction with its 25th anniversary celebration, the Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) organised the Marketing Seminar 2017 with the theme "Global Timber Market Outlook and Export Opportunities for Malaysian Timber Products and Furniture" on 18 April 2017 at Hotel InterContinental, Kuala Lumpur.

The opening speech by the Minister of the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC), Malaysia, which was read by Datuk Datu Nasrun Datu Mansur, the Deputy Minister of MPIC, highlighted that timber and timber products constitute the country's third most important commodity and commodity-based products exported, after palm oil and rubber. They accounted for 17.92% of the total export earnings of the commodity sector and 2.78% of the country's total export earnings.

The Minister urged members of the timber industry to increase their exports to cover the bilateral and regional Free Trade Agreement (FTA) markets which Malaysia has established, and leverage on prospective markets such as China, India and the ASEAN countries.

The Seminar gathered relevant industry speakers from China, Europe, India, South Africa, the Philippines and the United States to share their experiences as well as insights on global timber market outlook. One speaker from Singapore shared with the participants of the Seminar her knowledge on global economic scenarios. The Seminar also served as a platform for participants to network, share ideas and experiences in these markets.

About 170 participants attended the Seminar and majority of the participants were from the industry in Peninsular. Also present at the Seminar was Datuk Dr Abdul Rahim, MTC Chief Executive Officer, who chaired the plenary session together with seven (7) speakers.

After the one-day Seminar, clinic sessions were held at MTC office in

n Timber Council Seminar 2017

Kuala Lumpur the following day on 19 April 2017 to provide industry members a one-on-one consultation session with the six (6) invited international industry speakers.

为了配合25周年庆典，马来西亚木材理事会(MTC)于2017年4月18日在吉隆坡洲际酒店举办以“马来西亚木材产品和家具的全球木材市场展望和出口商机”为主题的2017年营销研讨会。

种植及原产业部(MPIC)部长的致词是由MPIC副部长拿督纳都纳斯伦(译音)代读。

他敦促木材工业的成员需提高出口以覆盖马来西亚建立的双边和区域自由贸易协定(FTA)市场，并放眼中国、印度和东盟国家的潜在市场。

研讨会聚集相关行业发言人，分享他们的经验及对全球木材市场前景的见解。研讨会也成为参与者在这些市场上进行交流、分享想法和经验的平台。

Bersempena dengan sambutan ulang tahun ke-25, Majlis Perakayuan Malaysia (MTC) telah menganjurkan Seminar Pemasaran 2017 dengan tema "*Prospek Pasaran Kayu Global dan Peluang Eksport Produk Kayu dan Perabot Malaysia*" pada 18 April 2017 di Hotel InterContinental, Kuala Lumpur.

Ucapan pembukaan oleh Menteri Perusahaan Perladangan dan Komoditi (KPPK), Malaysia, dibacakan oleh Datuk Datu Nasrun Datu Mansur, Timbalan Menteri KPPK.

Menteri menggesa ahli-ahli industri perakayuan untuk meningkatkan eksport bagi menampung pasaran dua hala dan Perjanjian Perdagangan Bebas serantau (FTA) yang ditubuhkan oleh Malaysia, dan memanfaatkan potensi pasaran seperti China, India dan negara-negara ASEAN.

Seminar mengumpulkan penceramah daripada industri berkaitan untuk berkongsi pengalaman serta pandangan mengenai tinjauan pasaran kayu global. Ianya turut menjadi landasan bagi para peserta untuk meluaskan rangkaian, berkongsi idea dan pengalaman dalam pasaran ini.

Meeting with KPA on Port Tariff on Timber Products

A meeting between Kuching Port Authority (KPA) headed by its General Manager, Mr Robert Lau and Sarawak Timber Association (STA) was held on 28 April 2017 at KPA Head Office, Kuching. Mr Nobel Pang, Managing Director of KPA Port Sdn Bhd, an associate company of KPA was also present in the Meeting.

During the Meeting, Mr Robert Lau explained that the port tariff has never been increased since 1984. The port tariff charge on timber products for Receiving, Sorting and Delivery (RS&D) is statutorily fixed at RM9.00 per tonne/cubic metre. However, the RS&D charge of RM1.00 per tonne/cubic metre was agreed after negotiation between KPA and STA back then.

Effective 1 April 2017, the RS&D charge on timber products shall be RM5.00 per tonne/cubic metre in view of the following value-added services provided by KPA Port Sdn Bhd:-

- Receiving the timber products from the lorries
- Storing the timber products in an orderly manner in the warehouse at the port
- Loading the timber products onto ships for export at a later date

KPA Port Sdn Bhd ensures members of STA who are also shippers, they will enjoy the following benefits:-

1. Fixed port charges;
2. Cost savings as the shippers no longer need to look for their own contractors for off-loading cargo from the lorries or stevedoring services at the port and bear the private contractors' charges which may vary from time to time;
3. Minimise damages to the timber products during handling;
4. Efficient loading of the timber products onto the ships/vessels resulting in shorter stay of the ships/vessels at the port;
5. Minimise the risk of incurring additional demurrage charges; and
6. Minimise the risk of the cargo being shipped to un-designated port.

The current RS&D charge of RM5.00 per tonne/cubic metre shall gradually increase to the statutory rate of RM9.00 per tonne/cubic metre. It was mutually agreed in the Meeting that there will be prior consultations before any future increment in the RS&D charge on timber be implemented.

本会于2017年4月28日假古晋港务局(KPA)总部与KPA总经理罗伯特.刘先生(译音)召开会议。

刘先生在会议中解释自1984年起港口关税保持不变。木材产品的接收，分拣和配送(RS&D) 港口关税法定在每吨或每立方米为马币9令吉。然而，RS&D收费每吨或每立方米马币1令吉是当时本会与KPA开会洽商后所达成共识。

自2017年4月1日起，木材产品的RS&D收费每吨或每立方米为马币5令吉。这包含KPA港口有限公司所提供的额外服务。

现有的RS&D收费将逐步提升至每吨或每立方米马币9令吉。双方在会议中也承诺未来在执行任何港口关税增加课题上，将会进行事先磋商。

Satu mesyuarat di antara Lembaga Pelabuhan Kuching (KPA) yang diketuai oleh Pengurus Besar, En Robert Lau dan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah diadakan pada 28 April 2017 di Ibu Pejabat KPA, Kuching.

En Robert Lau menjelaskan bahawa tarif pelabuhan tidak pernah dinaikkan sejak 1984. Caj tarif pelabuhan pada produk kayu untuk Menerima, Menyusun dan Pelaksanaan (RS&D) adalah mengikut undang-undang yang ditetapkan pada RM9.00 setiap tan/meter padu. Walau bagaimanapun, caj RS&D RM1.00 per tan/meter padu telah dipersetujui selepas rundingan antara KPA dan STA ketika itu.

Berkuat kuasa 1 April 2017, caj RS&D produk kayu ditetapkan pada RM5.00 per tan/meter padu memandangkan perkhidmatan nilai tambah yang disediakan oleh KPA Port Sdn Bhd.

Caj semasa RS&D RM5.00 per tan/meter padu akan meningkat secara beransur kepada kadar berkanun iaitu RM9.00 per tan/meter padu. Ia telah dipersetujui dalam Mesyuarat bahawa rundingan akan diadakan terlebih dahulu sebelum pelaksanaan apa-apa kenaikan tarif pelabuhan pada masa depan.

Verification of the Weight to Volume Conversion Constant of *Albizia falcataria*

A trip to verify the weight to volume conversion constant for *Albizia falcataria* was organised by Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA) from 17 to 20 April 2017 and was conducted in LPF0017 Kejin Plantation near Miri and LPF0018 Seping Plantation near Bintulu.

This study was initiated upon receiving requests from members to validate the weight to volume conversion constant of *Albizia falcataria* as they found that the conversion constant calculated by them, varied significantly from the conversion constant [2 cubic meters:1 metric ton] that was approved by the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) in 2012 through the DF Circular No 2/2012. This study involved the representatives from SFC, FDS and Shin Yang Forestry Sdn Bhd and STA.

The diameters, length and weight of thirty (30) *Albizia falcataria* planted logs felled at each sampling site were measured and recorded. Disc samples were collected at middle and both ends from the six (6) randomly selected logs and kept in plastic bags with proper labelling. The disc samples will be tested in Timber Technology Centre (TTC), Applied Forest Science and Industry Development Division (AFSID) of SFC to further verify the weight to volume ratio of *Albizia falcataria*.



Photo: Measurements taken at LPF0017 Kejin Plantation



Photo: Cutting a disc sample from the end of the log

本会连同砂拉越林业机构有限公司 (SFC) 于2017年4月17日至20日假美里附近的Kejin人工林许可证编号0017和民都鲁附近的Seping人工林许可证编号0018进行南洋楹验证重量为体积转换常数。

基于会员发现他们所计算的转换常数与砂州森林局于2012年通过砂州森林局局长通告编号2/2012所批准的转换常数有巨大的差别，因此在会员的要求下进行这项南洋楹验证重量为体积转换常数研究。

Satu lawatan untuk mengesahkan kadar penukaran malar berat kepada isipadu untuk *Albizia falcataria* telah dianjurkan oleh SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation dan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak dari 17 hingga 20 April 2017 di LPF0017 Ladang Kejin, berhampiran Miri dan LPF0018 Ladang Seping, berhampiran Bintulu.

Kajian ini merupakan hasil permintaan daripada ahli-ahli Persatuan untuk mengesahkan kadar penukaran malar berat kepada isipadu *Albizia falcataria* setelah mendapati perbezaan ketara antara kadar penukaran malar yang dikira oleh pihak ahli Persatuan dengan kadar penukaran malar yang diluluskan oleh Jabatan Hutan Sarawak pada tahun 2012 melalui Pekeliling DF No 2/2012.

State Task Force of Illegal Logging Meeting No 1/2017

The State Task Force of Illegal Logging Meeting No 1/2017 was held on 21 April 2017 at Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. The Meeting chaired by Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Bin Ali Hasan, Minister of Resources Planning and Environment II (now the Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources) was attended by members of the Committee including the representatives from the timber industry.

In his opening remarks, Datuk Amar stressed on the importance of promoting the Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS) and forest management certification to buyers our timber and timber products. He urged the relevant forestry agencies and the timber industry to work together and to discuss and review the current policies in order for the timber industry to remain competitive in the market.

The Meeting then went through the minutes of the previous meeting and discussed on the arising matters. Three (3) presentations were also delivered at the Meeting as follows:

1. Report on the Achievement Status in the Fight Against Illegal Logging Activities in Sarawak

- by Tuan Haji Sapuan Ahmad, Director of Forests Sarawak

The speaker shared with the Meeting the statistics and activities of ground as well as river enforcements by Forest Department Sarawak.

2. Report on the Effectiveness of the One Stop Compliance Centre (OSCC)

- by Mr Wong Ting Chung, Chief Executive Officer, SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation Sdn Bhd

The speaker informed the Meeting that 48 OSCCs have been established and are fully operational throughout the State. He shared with the Meeting the OSCC activities and the results on revenue collection, detection of non-compliance and campaign against illegal logging.

3. Briefing on the Timber Enforcement, Administrative and Management System (TEAMS) Project

- by Mr David Yeo, Sarawak Information Systems Sdn Bhd (SAINS)

The speaker spoke about the use of modern technology that can be used for combating illegal logging such as drone and introduced Radio-frequency identification (RFID) for forest asset tagging.



Photo: Meeting in progress

砂州非法采伐工作队于2017年4月21日假古晋资源大厦召开本年度第一届会议。此会议由砂州第二资源策划及环境部长拿督阿玛阿旺登雅（译音）主持。

部长在开幕词中强调向木材和木材产品买家推广砂拉越木材合法验证系统（STLVS）和森林管理认证的重要性。他呼吁林业相关机构和木材业共同合作，讨论和审查现行政策，以确保木材业在市场上保持竞争能力。

会议共呈现如英文版中所列出的3张课题报导。

Mesuarat Badan Bertindak Negeri mengenai Pembalakan Haram Bil. 1/2017 telah diadakan pada 21 April 2017 di Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. Mesuarat dipengerusikan oleh Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Bin Ali Hasan, Menteri Perancangan Sumber dan Alam Sekitar II.

Dalam ucapannya, Datuk Amar menekankan kepentingan untuk mempromosikan Sistem Pengesahan Kesahihan Kayu Sarawak (STLVS) dan pensijilan pengurusan hutan kepada pasaran luar negara Sarawak. Beliau menggesa agensi perhutanan berkaitan dan industri kayu untuk bekerjasama bagi membincang dan mengkaji semula dasar-dasar semasa agar industri kayu kekal berdaya saing di pasaran.

3 kertas kerja telah dibentangkan semasa Mesuarat seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.



Photo: Discussion in progress

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) organised a REDD+ National Strategy Workshop in Sarawak on 18 April 2017 at Hilton Hotel, Kuching. Approximately forty (40) participants from various State government agencies, civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) attended the Workshop aimed to identify action plans to be undertaken by the State as well as the role of NGO and CSO in REDD+ implementation and examples of benefit sharing system practiced in the State.

Dato' Sr Dr Azimuddin bin Bahari, Deputy Secretary-General (Environmental Management) of Ministry of NRE, in his opening speech urged various stakeholders to work together to outline actions that would help maintain Malaysia's pledge to the world which is to keep at least 50% of its land mass forested. Development of such strategy is deemed vital as it will not only enhance Malaysia's involvement in REDD+ but also provide result-based payment for the country.

Five (5) presentations were delivered in the Workshop as follows:

1. (i) **National Policy on Climate Change, and**
(ii) **The Paris Agreement and Malaysia's INDC**
- by Mr Yusmazy bin Mohd Yusup, Principal Assistant Secretary, Environmental Management and Climate Change Division, NRE

The speaker shared with the participants of the Workshop that the national policy is set up to mainstream climate change, integrate responses into national policies and strengthen the institutional and implementation capacity.

The speaker also mentioned that the Prime Minister announced in 2009 at COP15 Copenhagen that Malaysia has adopted a voluntary indicator to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) intensity of GDP by up to 40% by 2020 relative to emissions intensity of GDP in 2005, fully conditional upon receipt of climate finance, technology transfer and capacity building from developed countries. Building on this, the Prime Minister announced during the United Nations Climate Summit in 2014 that Malaysia was well on track to hit a 40% reduction on GHG by 2020.

He also informed the participants of the Workshop that the National Policy on Climate Change is one of the policies that formed the basis for the development of Malaysia's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs), owing to the mutually supportive and balanced mitigation and adaptation initiatives stipulated in the Policy.

2. Draft of Sarawak's Forestry Policy

- by Mr Abang Ahmad Abang Morni, Assistant Director, Forest Management & Planning Division, Forest Department Sarawak

Participants of the Workshop were given to understand that the Department has formed a Task Force to review and re-evaluate the Statement of Forest Policy, 1954 as well as to propose a new forestry policy for the State. The review process for current forestry issues and development is still ongoing but delayed by the various policy changes introduced in the past couple of years.

3. National Biological Diversity Policy

- by Ms Chitra Subramaniam, Principal Assistant Secretary, Biodiversity Management and Forestry Division, NRE

The speaker gave a brief presentation on the National Biological Diversity Policy with an implementation period of ten (10) years; from 2016 to 2025. The policy, which is a revised version of the National Policy on Biological Diversity 1998, outlines five (5) key principles on biodiversity management namely heritage, precautionary, shared responsibility, participatory and good governance.

4. REDD+ Implementation in Malaysia

- by Dr Elizabeth Philip, Head of REDD Unit, Ministry of NRE

The speaker shared with participants of the Workshop that forestry sector contributed to the highest GHG reduction in the country. Therefore, state level efforts directed towards protecting and reducing carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission will need to be gathered for the purpose of receiving incentives from developed countries. This is in line with the goal of transforming forest as a natural capital by 2030.

Participants of the Workshop were then divided into two (2) groups; State Government group and NGO/CSO group to discuss on the REDD+ action plans. In closing, the Secretariat informed participants of the Workshop that a draft REDD+ National Strategy, which takes into account all the inputs received from participants of Workshops conducted in the three (3) regions in Malaysia, will be circulated to all for comments. A final consultation will be held in the last week of May 2017 to produce Malaysia's REDD+ National Strategy which will be submitted to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to obtain and receive results-based payments.

自然資源與環境部（NRE）於2017年4月18日在古晉希爾頓酒店舉辦減排森林砍伐與退化，保護角色，持續性森林管理及提高森林碳儲量(REDD+)國家戰略研討會。研討會旨在確定砂州政府所採取的行動計劃以及非政府組織和民間社會組織在實施REDD +中所扮演的角色以及實行惠益分享制度的例子。

NRE副秘書長（環境管理）拿督納茲里在致開幕辭時敦促各利益關方共同努力，提出有助於維護馬來西亞向世界承諾的行動，則保持其土地至少五十百分比森林覆蓋率。此策略的發展是至關重要，因為這不僅可以增加馬來西亞參與REDD +並也提供馬來西亞基於結果支付。

研討會共呈現如英文版中所列出的5張課題報導。

秘書長通知參與者，REDD +國家戰略草案將收集在馬來西亞各3地區進行研討會參與者的評論。這隨後將分發給各利益關方征求意见並在2017年5月最後一周將進行最後磋商會以制定馬來西亞REDD +國家戰略。這項戰略將提交予“聯合國氣候變化框架公約”（UNFCCC）以取得和接納結果支付。

Kementerian Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar (NRE) menganjurkan Bengkel Strategi Nasional REDD+ di Sarawak pada 18 April 2017 di Hotel Hilton, Kuching. Bengkel bertujuan untuk mengenal pasti pelan tindakan yang akan dilaksanakan oleh Kerajaan Negeri serta peranan NGO dan CSO dalam pelaksanaan REDD+ dan contoh sistem perkongsian faedah yang diamalkan di negeri ini.

Dato' Sr Dr Azimuddin bin Bahari, Timbalan Ketua Setiausaha (Pengurusan Alam Sekitar) Kementerian NRE, dalam ucapan perasmian menggesa pelbagai pihak berkepentingan bekerjasama untuk menggariskan tindakan yang akan membantu mengekalkan ikrar Malaysia kepada dunia dalam mengekalkan sekurang-kurangnya 50% daripada tanahnya diliputi hutan. Pembangunan strategi itu adalah sangat penting kerana ia bukan sahaja akan meningkatkan penglibatan Malaysia dalam REDD+ tetapi juga menyediakan pembayaran berasaskan pencapaian negara.

Sebagai penutup, Sekretariat memaklumkan kepada peserta Bengkel bahawa draf Strategi Nasional REDD+ yang mengambil kira semua input yang diterima daripada peserta Bengkel yang dilaksanakan di 3 Wilayah di Malaysia akan diedarkan kepada semua pihak untuk ulasan. Rundingan akhir akan diadakan pada minggu terakhir bulan Mei 2017 untuk menghasilkan Strategi Nasional REDD+ Malaysia yang akan dikemukakan kepada Konvensyen Rangka Kerja PBB mengenai Perubahan Iklim (UNFCCC) bagi mendapatkan dan menerima bayaran berdasarkan keputusan.

5 pembentangan telah diadakan dalam Bengkel seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.

Technical Committee for Research on *Ceratocystis* in *Acacia mangium*

The Technical Committee Meeting for Research on *Ceratocystis* in *Acacia mangium* No 1/2017 was chaired by Tuan Haji Kamaruzaman Othman, Director of Forest Plantation, Malaysia Timber Industry Board (MTIB) on 12 April 2017 at Menara PGRM, Kuala Lumpur. The Meeting was attended by nineteen (19) representatives from relevant State and Federal forestry agencies, forest plantation companies, Timber Associations and support staff from MTIB.

The Meeting was briefed on details of the three (3) components of the 2-year study; (i) Management of *Ceratocystis* (ii) Genetic Research and (iii) Wood Properties Research. The study will focus on biological and ecological aspects and the impact of *Ceratocystis* in *Acacia mangium* to develop strategies for its control. Members present at the meeting were of the opinion that the proposed wood properties study on 7-year old infected *Acacia mangium* trees should be not be included as this project is aimed at eliminating / mitigating *Ceratocystis* in *Acacia mangium*.

馬來西亞木材工業局(MTIB) 總監,卡馬魯查曼先生於2017年4月12日假吉隆坡民政大廈召开大叶相思树枝干枯萎病(*Ceratocystis*) 研究技術委員會本年度首次會議。

會議告知委員有關這項為期兩年研究的三部分細節。該研究將着重關注在生物和生態方面以及研發控制大叶相思树枝干枯萎病影響的策略。

Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Teknikal Penyelidikan mengenai *Ceratocystis* di dalam *Acacia mangium* Bil. 1/2017 telah dipengerusikan oleh Tuan Haji Kamaruzaman Othman, Pengarah Ladang Hutan, Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia (MTIB) pada 12 April 2017 di Menara PGRM, Kuala Lumpur.

Mesyuarat dimaklumkan mengenai butiran-butiran bagi 3 komponen yang terdapat di dalam penyelidikan selama 2 tahun. Kajian menumpukan kepada aspek biologi, ekologi dan kesan *Ceratocystis* ke atas *Acacia mangium* serta untuk membangunkan strategi kawalannya.

Official Launch of the Conservation Internship Programme for Forest Management Certification

SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation's (SFC's) Conservation Internship Programme (CIP) for Forest Management Certification which rides on the platform for *Research for Intensified Management of Bio-rich Areas* (RIMBA) Sarawak was launched by Mr Wong Ting Chung, its Chief Executive Officer on 3 April 2017.



Photo: Participants of the Conservation Internship Programme posing with the Chief Executive Officer, Mr Wong Ting Chung (6th from the right), Dr Peter Kho from Sarawak Timber Association (5th from the right) and members of SFC Management Team.

In his opening address to the fifteen (15) interns, Mr Wong said that the Programme's primary objective is to train new graduates in forest conservation and social forestry who, upon completion of the programme, can take the lead to set up conservation department in Forest Management Unit (FMU) undergoing forest management certification. These trained personnel are also expected to assist FMUs to ensure all the forest operations meet the requirements in the areas of forest conservation and social forestry for sustainable forest management certification.

The 9-month intensive Programme covers two (2) months of theory, three (3) months of practical / field exposure and four (4) months of attachment with FMUs, who had either been certified and are undergoing certification.

Mr Wong also acknowledged the assistance of several agencies / organisations, in particular the timber industry, tertiary educational institutions and conservation non-governmental organisations (NGOs) as well as the support rendered by the State Government, through the Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment (MRPE).

砂拉越森林企业机构(SFC)在强化生物丰富区管理研究(RIMBA)下成立的森林管理认证保育实习计划(CIP)于2017年4月3日由SFC首席执行官黄禎俊先生主持推展礼。

他在致词时向15名实习生表示该项实习计划首要目的是培训新大专毕业生在森林保护和社会林业方面的知识，一旦计划完成后，他们可率先在正在进行森林管理认证的森林经营单位(FMU)设立保育部门。

这些经过培训的人员也有望协助FMU，以确保所有森林经营活动符合在森林保护和社会林业领域的可持续森林管理认证要求。

Program Latihan Pemuliharaan SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation untuk Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan yang dijalankan melalui Penyelidikan Pengurusan Intensif Bidang Kaya Biodiversiti (RIMBA) Sarawak telah dilancarkan oleh En Wong Ting Chung, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif pada 3 April 2017.

Dalam ucapan pembukaannya kepada 15 orang pelatih yang terpilih untuk mengikuti program tersebut, En Wong berkata objektif utama program tersebut adalah untuk melatih graduan baru dalam pemuliharaan hutan dan perhutanan sosial. Setelah tamat program, para pelatih diharapkan boleh menerajui penubuhan jabatan pemuliharaan di Unit Pengurusan Hutan yang melalui proses Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan.

Kakitangan terlatih hasil dari program ini juga dijangka dapat membantu Unit Pengurusan Hutan dalam memastikan semua operasi hutan memenuhi keperluan pensijilan pengurusan hutan yang mampan dalam bidang pemuliharaan hutan dan perhutanan sosial.

Workshop on the Outcome-Based Study on the Effectiveness of Training Incentive for SMEs



Photo: Mr Ganesan Periakarruppan giving his opening remarks

Ipsos Business Consulting, on behalf of the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF) held a Workshop on the Outcome-Based Study on the Effectiveness of Training Incentive for SMEs on 20 April 2017 at the Pullman Hotel, Kuching. Approximately twenty (20) participants attended the Workshop.

The objectives of the Workshop are to discuss the employers' experience with training programmes attended by their employees and to gather employers' suggestions on how training programmes can be improved, especially from the perspective of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). The Workshop also discussed measures that would encourage SMEs to send their employees for training and upskilling.

Mr Ganesan Periakarruppan, Consulting Manager of Ipsos Business Consulting informed participants of the Workshop that Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad (PSMB) is currently conducting the outcome-based study on the effectiveness of training incentive for SMEs under the Tenth Malaysia Plan (10th MP). The training incentive for SMEs scheme was introduced under the 10th MP between 2011 and 2015, to assist employers of SMEs who have insufficient levy balance to continuously retrain and upgrade the skills of their employees. He said the information gathered in the survey will be used to help the Government to assess the effectiveness of the scheme and to contribute towards policy implementation in the future.

Breakout sessions were conducted in three (3) groups to discuss the measures of effectiveness from the different angles and types of return on investment that employers look for; and the barriers to sending employees for training and what all parties can do to improve training programmes and training incentives.

The Meeting was also informed that the study is on-going and the final report of the study shall be presented to HRDF in May 2017.

Ipsos Business Consulting 代表人力资源开发基金 (ERDF) 于2017年4月20日假古晋铂尔曼酒店举办中小企业培训奖励效益结果导向研究研讨会。

研讨会旨在讨论雇主在职员参加培训计划方面的经验，并收集雇主如何改进培训计划的建议，特别是从中小企业的角度。研讨会也讨论如何鼓励中小企业委派职员进行培训和训练的措施。

Ipsos Business Consulting 咨询经理，甘尼山先生告知研讨会参与者，调查所收集的信息将用于帮助政府评估该计划的效益并作为今后即将实施政策的参考。

研讨会通知参与者，将于2017年5月提交最后研究报告给人力资源部。

Ipsos Business Consulting, bagi pihak Kumpulan Wang Pembangunan Sumber Manusia (HRDF) telah mengadakan Bengkel Kajian Berasaskan Pencapaian bagi Keberkesanan Insentif Latihan untuk PKS pada 20 April 2017 di Hotel Pullman, Kuching.

Objektif Bengkel adalah untuk membincangkan pengalaman majikan mengenai program-program latihan yang dihadiri oleh pekerja mereka dan untuk mengumpul cadangan daripada majikan bagi memperbaiki program latihan, terutama daripada perspektif Perusahaan Kecil dan Sederhana (PKS). Bengkel turut membincangkan langkah-langkah yang akan menggalakkan PKS untuk menghantar pekerja mereka untuk menjalani latihan dan peningkatan kemahiran.

En Ganesan Periakarruppan, Pengurus Konsultasi, Ipsos Business Consulting memaklumkan kepada peserta Bengkel bahawa maklumat yang dikumpul dalam kajian ini akan digunakan untuk membantu Kerajaan menilai keberkesanan skim latihan dan menyumbang ke arah pelaksanaan dasar pada masa hadapan.

Mesyuarat juga dimaklumkan bahawa laporan akhir kajian akan dibentangkan kepada HRDF Mei 2017.

The International Wood Products Association (IWPA) organised its 61st World of Wood Annual Convention from 5 to 7 April 2017 at Hotel Nikko in San Francisco, California. This year's Convention had attracted over 300 participants from nearly thirty (30) countries, with nineteen (19) participants from Malaysia.

on 7 July 2010. TSCA Title VI establishes formaldehyde emission standards identical to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) limits, and it also directs the implementation of regulations to ensure compliance with formaldehyde emission standards. This regulation will take effect on 22 May 2017 and all regulated composite wood products must be labeled as TSCA compliant from 12 December 2017 onwards.



Photo: Malaysian delegation led by Mr Khairul Anwar of the Malaysian Timber Council (standing 9th from left)

Mr Bronson Newburger, the President of IWPA highlighted in his opening speech that the shifting political winds could impact growth prospects for the global wood products market in 2017. IWPA members must keep abreast of market developments that will have a direct impact on profitability. He commented that "World of Wood is the one North American event that brings together leaders from every segment of the global wood products supply chain. The information my staff and I take away each year is critical to our business."

This year's Convention provided participants the opportunity to learn from and interact with speakers and panelists, their foremost expertise in regulatory compliance, market intelligence and corporate branding.

The highlights of the Convention included the keynote address delivered by Mr Marc Chandler, Brown Brothers Harriman Global Head of Currency Strategy on the latest currency trends and the impact on the global wood products market; a timely deep dive session on formaldehyde emissions for composite wood products; panel discussion on a new petition initiated with the International Trade Commission and Department of Commerce which could result in higher duties on plywood products imported from China; and a timber market forum which highlighted the global demand for wood products and the downtrend in the demand for tropical wood products.

During the deep dive session on formaldehyde emissions for composite wood products, Mr Erik Winchester of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) informed the participants that the Formaldehyde Standards for Composite Wood Products Act was signed into law to become Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) Title VI

TSCA Title VI requires the regulated composite wood products to be certified by an EPA-recognised third-party certifier (TPC), also called an EPA TSCA Title VI TPC. The regulated composite wood products covered under TSCA Title VI are (1) Hardwood Plywood; (2) Medium-Density Fiberboard (MDF), including thin-MDF; and (3) Particleboard and they must meet the following emission standards from 12 December 2017 onwards:

Product	Emission Standard (ppm of formaldehyde)
Hardwood Plywood – Veneer Core	0.05
Hardwood Plywood – Composite Core	0.05
Medium-Density Fiberboard (MDF)	0.11
Thin Medium-Density Fiberboard	0.13
Particleboard	0.09

This regulation also includes recordkeeping, reporting, and labeling requirements.

The Convention concluded with the passing the gavel reception and banquet.



Photo: Mr Bronson Newburger passed the gavel to the incoming President Ms JoAnn Gillebaard Keller of Holland Southwest International

Annual Convention

On 8 April 2017, the Malaysian delegates also visited two (2) retail timber stores to understand the timber market requirements in San Francisco, in terms of timber quality, usage and prices.



Photo: Group photo taken at Mac Beath Hardwood Company, San Francisco

The *World of Wood* 2018 will be held from 14 to 16 March 2018 at Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.

美国国际木制品协会(IWPA)于2017年4月5日至7日假美国加州旧金山日航酒店举办第61届世界木材年度大会。

IWPA主席纽铂哲先生在开幕词中强调政治的转移会影响2017年全球木制品市场的增长前景。IWPA会员必须紧贴市场发展因这将直接影响利润。 他也称世界木材年度大会是北美洲其中一项目吸引全球木制品供应链所有的参与领袖。

2018年世界木材年度大会将于2018年3月14日至16日假美国路易斯安那州新奥尔良举行。

Persatuan Produk Kayu Antarabangsa telah menganjurkan Konvensyen Perakayuan Dunia Ke-61 dari 5 hingga 7 April 2017 di Hotel Nikko, San Francisco, California.

En Bronson Newburger selaku Presiden IWPA, dalam ucapan perasmianya berkongsi bahawa perubahan angin politik boleh membawa kesan ke atas prospek pertumbuhan pasaran produk kayu global pada tahun 2017. Oleh itu, ahli-ahli IWPA disarankan agar sentiasa mengikuti perkembangan pasaran, terutamanya yang berupaya membawa kesan langsung dari segi keuntungan. Menurut beliau, *World of Wood* merupakan acara yang mengumpulkan pemimpin-pemimpin dari setiap segmen rantai bekalan produk kayu global.

World of Wood 2018 akan diadakan pada 14 hingga 16 Mac 2018 di Hotel Monteleone, New Orleans, Louisiana, Amerika Syarikat.

3rd SARAWAK TIMBER & SME'S EXPO 2017

The 3rd SARAWAK TIMBER & SME's EXPO 2017 is a bi-annual expo, jointly organised by Sarawak Timber industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and the Ministry of Industrial & Entrepreneur Development, Trade & Investment, Sarawak (MIETI) in conjunction with the State level Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Week 2017 celebration.

Themed "*Timber and Beyond*", the Expo aims to provide a platform for suppliers and manufacturers of timber and non-timber products as well as SMEs entrepreneurs to show-case and promote trade and sales of their products. As a "One-Stop-Centre", the Expo is an ideal avenue to generate potential business opportunities and networking. This year, Sarawak Timber Association (STA) will be participating in the Expo occupying Booths No 1 -5. Please come and visit us to learn more about the timber industry in Sarawak. The detail of the Expo is as follows:

Date : 18 - 21 May 2017
Time : 10.00am – 9.00pm
Venue : Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCCK)

For more information, please visit sarawaktimbersmeexpo.com.my.

The MEF Industrial Relations Conference 2017 was held from 26 to 27 April 2017 at the Holiday Villa, Johor Bahru. Approximately eighty (80) participants attended the Conference. The welcoming address was delivered by Mr Ramadass, the Vice President of the Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) while Datuk Ismail bin Ibrahim, Chief Executive Officer of Iskandar Regional Development Authority delivered the keynote address and launched the latest MEF publication entitled *"MEF Survey on Managing Employees During Economic Downturn"*.

There were five (5) papers presented and two (2) Panel Discussions in the Conference as follows:-

Paper 1: "Social Media – Use & Abuse"

- by Datuk Haji Shamsuddin Bardan, MEF Executive Director

The speaker spoke about employees incorporating social media into a wide range of activities while on the job in the current workplace. Despite some activities are explicitly professional or job-related, others are more personal in nature. He was of the view that it is high time for organisations to come up with effective networking policy and establish the expected behavioral norms in the use of social media as well as outline disciplinary measures for employees violating social media policy.

Paper 2: "Leveraging on Older Workforce"

- by Mr Edwin Lye, Director of Singapore National Employers Federation (SNEF)

The speaker shared with the participants of the Conference Singapore's experience on its re-employment model. The Singapore Government wishes to ensure that the continuous economic growth will translate into employment opportunities for people both young and old. Hence, a bill is to be passed where employers are required to offer re-employment to eligible employees turning 62 i.e. the statutory minimum retirement age in Singapore in the organisation. This law will come into force on 1 July 2017 if passed.

Panel Discussion: "Productivity Linked Wage System"

- Mr Chris Lee, Assistant Director and Consultant for Industrial Relation and Human Resource of SNEF
- Mr Sugumar Saminathan, Senior Manager, Productivity & Competitiveness Development Division of Malayan Productivity Corporation (MPC)
- Mr M Vivekanandan, former MEF Adviser – Special Functions

All the three (3) speakers spoke generally about the Productivity Linked Wage System (PLWS) and the growing need to link a wage system to performance which will reflect the value of the job and wage increase to keep pace with productivity growth. A performance linked wage system should also take into account a company's profitability and an individual employee's performance with a variable component in the wage structure which gives

the employer the ability to respond to changing economic situations and business environment.

Paper 3: "Plugging Leakages"

- by Mr Gerard Sankar, Gerard & Associates and MEF Chairman of Southern Region Meetings

The speaker spoke about absenteeism and the cost of absenteeism to the company such as disruption or delay to work schedule, deterioration to quality of product, increase in cost of overtime, etc.

Paper 4: "Managing Poor Performance"

- by Mr Ramadass, MEF Vice-President

The speaker briefed the participants of the Conference on the importance of performance management, who can be considered as a non-performer and how to manage poor performance. He also spoke about the Industrial Court awards on poor performance and legal approach in dealing with poor performance for confirmed staff, probationers and senior management. He also reminded employers to be cautious in dealing with dismissal or termination due to poor performance as employee has a right to lodge a complaint with the Industrial Relations Department within 60 days of the dismissal for a claim of re-instatement due to unfair dismissal in both poor performance and misconduct cases.

Paper 5: "Attracting & Retaining Women Talent"

- by Datuk Haji Shamsuddin Bardan, MEF Executive Director Chairman

The speaker highlighted the statistics on female participation rate in the labour force, number of female employed by occupation and percentage of women in Board of Directors in companies registered with Companies Commission of Malaysia. He felt that women constitute an important part of addressing talent gap in Malaysia and suggested various initiatives to increase women participation. The speaker also spoke about the intention of Ministry of Human Resources (MoHR) to review the labour laws to prevent employers from discriminating pregnant women of which he felt that the existing laws were adequate to allow any party who has been discriminated to pursue a case against the employer.

Panel Discussion: "Aftermath of TPPA – Labour Legislation"

- Mr K Kesavan, Principal Assistant Secretary, Policy Division of MoHR
- Mr Prem Kumar Appukutty, General Secretary of Association of Maybank Executives & General Council Member of MTUC
- Datuk Haji Shamsuddin Bardan, MEF Executive Director Chairman

Mr K Kaesavan gave a brief background of Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA), the Labour Chapter Articles in TPPA and the ensuing law reform of 9 Labour

The 6th International Borneon Frog Race

legislations currently enforced by MoHR. However, the newly elected President of the United States (US), Mr Donald Trump signed the executive order on 23 January 2017, pulling the US out of the TPPA. He informed the participants of the Conference that US is Malaysia's 3rd largest trading partner contributing 9% to our total trade in 2016 and the main objective of entering into TPPA is to see US market opening to Malaysian products.

All speakers concurred with each other that due to the requirement of TPPA for a minimum of six (6) countries which account for 85% of the combined Gross Domestic Products (GDP) of the twelve (12) members to ratify before TPPA can enter into force, it is highly unlikely for TPPA to enter into force without US participation as US accounts for about 60% of the combined GDP of the 12 members. Nonetheless, Mr K Kaesaven informed the participants of the Conference that the Malaysian Government's stance will only be known by May 2017 after the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting in Vietnam.

共有80位参与者出席于2017年4月26日至27日假柔佛新山假日别墅所举办的2017年马来西亚雇主联合会(MEF)工业关系大会。MEF副会长拉玛达斯先生代读大会欢迎词。

大会总共呈现如英文版中所列出的5张课题报导和进行2项分组讨论。

Persidangan Persekutuan Majikan Malaysia 2017 telah berlangsung dari 26 hingga 27 April 2017 di Holiday Villa, Johor Bahru dan dihadiri sekurang-kurangnya 80 orang peserta. Ucapan alu-aluan telah disampaikan oleh En Ramadass, Naib Presiden Persekutuan Majikan Malaysia. Sebanyak 5 kertas kerja telah dibentangkan dan 2 Perbincangan Panel berlangsung sepanjang Persidangan seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel ini.

SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation (SFC) together with the Institute of Biodiversity and Environmental Conservation, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) with partial sponsorship by Sarawak Timber Association (STA), jointly organised the 6th International Borneon Frog Race from 28 to 29 April 2017 at Gunung Gading National Park in Lundu, Sarawak. The main objective of this event was to raise public awareness on the rich diversity of amphibian species found in Sarawak.

The Frog Race saw participants of the Event combing the wilds of Borneo to photograph as many species of amphibian as they can find within a given period of time. The winners were selected based on the most number of species photographed and the best photo.

The two-day event included a series of talks on frog conservation, puzzle and drawing competition, frog quiz as well as Junior Frog Watch involving students of primary and secondary schools around Lundu. Datu Ik Pahon Joyik, Permanent Secretary Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Sarawak was the guest of honour to officiate this year's Frog Race on 29 April 2017. Approximately 100 registered local and overseas participants took part in this Event. Experts in frog biology; namely geologists, writers of natural history and wildlife photographers were in the panel of judges for the Frog Race and talks.

砂拉越森林企业机构 (SFC) 和马来西亚砂拉越大学 (UNIMAS) 生物多样性与环境保护研究院 (IBEC) 在本会的赞助下于2017年4月28日至29日假砂拉越伦乐加丁山国家公园联办第六届婆罗洲国际观蛙赛。此项比赛的目的是提高公众对砂拉越两栖动物种类丰富多样化的意识。

观蛙赛的参与者在规定的时间内搜索婆罗洲荒野以拍摄尽可能多的两栖动物。

为期两天的活动还包括一系列的青蛙保育讲座、拼图和绘画比赛、青蛙猜谜以及青少年观蛙活动，并获得伦乐区的小学及中学学生参与。

SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation, bersama-sama Institut Biodiversiti dan Pemuliharaan Alam Sekitar, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, dengan tajaan daripada Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak telah menganjurkan International Borneon Frog Race ke-6 dari 28 hingga 29 April 2017 di Taman Negara Gunung Gading, Lundu, Sarawak. Objektif utama acara tersebut adalah untuk meningkatkan kesedaran orang ramai mengenai kepelbagaian spesis amfibia yang terdapat di Sarawak.

Frog Race tersebut menyaksikan peserta acara mengambil seberapa banyak gambar spesis amfibia yang boleh dalam masa tertentu di sekitar hutan rimba Borneo.

Acara 2 hari tersebut merangkumi beberapa siri ceramah mengenai pemuliharaan katak, teka-teki dan pertandingan melukis, kuiz mengenai katak serta Junior Frog Watch yang melibatkan sekolah rendah dan menengah sekitar Lundu.

PRODUCTION OF LOGS FROM PLANTED FORESTS BY REGION FROM SARAWAK - *ACACIA MANGIUM* & *ALBIZIA* SPECIES PENGELUARAN BALAK DARI LADANG HUTAN MENGIKUT BAHAGIAN DARI SARAWAK - SPESIS *ACACIA MANGIUM* & *ALBIZIA* 砂拉越各区域人工林原木生产量-大叶相思与南洋楹

Region	January '17	January '16	February '17	February '16	March '17	March '16	Jan - Mar '17	Jan - Mar '16
	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)	Vol (m³)
Kuching (ACMG)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
(ALBZ)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sibu (ACMG)	1,856	1,293	561	1,123	1,771	471	4,187	2,886
(ALBZ)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Bintulu (ACMG)	115,658	84,358	103,076	92,923	154,533	91,922	373,266	269,203
(ALBZ)	3,795	1,686	3,301	2,398	4,371	4,511	11,467	8,595
Miri (ACMG)	516	237	240	188	423	688	1,180	1,113
(ALBZ)	336	597	919	1,098	858	922	2,113	2,617
Subtotal (ACMG)	118,030	85,887	103,877	94,235	156,727	93,080	378,633	273,202
(ALBZ)	4,131	2,283	4,220	3,496	5,229	5,433	13,580	11,212
Total:	122,161	88,170	108,097	97,730	161,956	98,514	392,214	284,414

Source of data: Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd

* ACMG - *Acacia mangium*
ALBZ - *Albizia*

National Census on the Timber Industry

UKM Pakarunding Sdn Bhd has been appointed by the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) to carry out a National Census on the Timber Industry. The project started in March 2017 and is expected to take nineteen (19) months. This Census will cover all wood-based mills that have registered with either Federal or State Government Agencies and Timber Associations in Malaysia.

In connection with this project, UKM Pakarunding Sdn Bhd called a workshop on 4 April 2017 at Menara PGRM, Kuala Lumpur to seek inputs and comments on the research instrument and methodology for carrying out the national census to ensure the success of the project. The project will cover four (4) broad areas (i) Labour (ii) Raw Material (iii) Technology and (iv) Production and Markets.

The Workshop started with three (3) presentations; (i) the background of the project, the methodology and questions to be asked in the Census by Professor Dr Sarani Zakaria, (ii) mapping of mills by Professor Mastura Mahmud and (iii) the grouping of data by Dr Mohd Aftar Abu Bakar. This was followed by discussions, comments and inputs from participants of the Workshop.

UKM Pakarunding 有限公司接受马来西亚木材工业局(MTIB)的委托对全国木材工业进行普查。该普查自2017年3月开始,预计在19个月内完成。这项普查预计涉及所有在马来西亚联邦或州政府机构和木材协会注册的木材工厂。

关于这个项目, UKM Pakarunding 有限公司于2017年4月4日在吉隆坡民政大厦召开工作坊, 就进行全国普查的研究仪器和方式征求意见和评论, 以确保该计划成功。

UKM Pakarunding Sdn Bhd telah dilantik oleh Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia untuk menjalankan Bancian Kebangsaan ke atas Industri Perkayuan bermula Mac 2017 dan dijangka mengambil masa 19 bulan. Bancian ini dijangka meliputi semua kilang berasaskan kayu yang telah berdaftar dengan Agensi Kerajaan Persekutuan atau Negeri dan Persatuan-persatuan Perkayuan di Malaysia.

Sehubungan dengan projek ini, UKM Pakarunding Sdn Bhd telah menganjurkan Bengkel pada 4 April 2017 di Menara PGRM, Kuala Lumpur untuk mendapatkan input dan komen berkenaan instrumen dan kaedah kajian bagi menjalankan bancian kebangsaan untuk memastikan kejayaan projek.