

STA Review

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Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association

August 2011



HIGHLIGHTS:

- 3 *The 26th Management Committee Meeting*
- 4 *The 27th Board of Directors Meeting of STA Training Sdn Bhd*
- 4 *STA Furniture and Other Woodworking Committee Meeting*
- 5 *STA Mutual Sdn Bhd News Update*

CONTENTS

PAGE

<i>The 26th Management Committee Meeting</i>	3
<i>The 27th Board of Directors Meeting of STA Training Sdn Bhd</i>	4
<i>STA Furniture and Other Woodworking Committee Meeting</i>	4
<i>STA Mutual Sdn Bhd News Update</i>	5
<i>Focus Group Meeting on Minimum Retirement Age and Labour Law</i>	6
<i>MEF Meeting of Members in Sarawak</i>	7
<i>New Levy Rates for Foreign Worker Visit Pass</i>	8
<i>Invitation to Participate in Sarawak Timber Selling Missions and Exhibitions</i>	9
<i>Malaysia's Free Trade Agreement and Latest Developments</i>	10
<i>Scholarships For 3rd Cohort</i>	24

REGULAR FEATURES

<i>Statistics</i>	12
<i>Rainfall data</i>	24



COVER IMAGE:

Talang Satang National Park

Water Bodies : 19,414 (ha)

Date Gazetted : 4 November 1999

Location : Kuching Division (near the coast of western Sarawak)

The park is created for the primary purpose of marine turtle conservation and includes the islands of Pulau Satang Besar, Pulau Satang Kecil, Pulau Talang-Talang Besar, and Pulau Talang-Talang Kecil. They are the major marine turtle nesting sites in Sarawak. Hence, conservation is vital for this park to protect these turtles and the coral reefs around the area.

Photo courtesy of Sarawak Forestry Corporation

STA REVIEW

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THE 26TH MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING



Photo: Meeting in progress

The Sarawak Timber Association (STA) Management Committee held its 26th meeting on 16 August 2011 at Wisma STA in Kuching. Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik presided the meeting which was attended by six (6) Management Committee Members.

The Meeting mainly addressed the financial and operational matters of the Association and its two wholly-owned companies namely STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) and STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT).

The Meeting also reviewed the Association and its two wholly-owned companies' mid-year 2011 Annual Budget taking note of the major expenses as well as the proposed

additions and deletions. With the revisions, the Meeting approved the Association's proposed additions of eighteen (18) items amounting to RM318,476.00 and deletions of six (6) items amounting to RM36,870.00 to its 2011 Annual Budget.

The Committee endorsed the activities of STAM and STAT which were approved by their Board of Directors in the respective meeting held recently. The Committee took note of the criteria for the award of STAM scholarships which will be revised to take into account the household income of the applicants, and will be opened to local communities in the concession areas as well as members of staff and their family of the Association's members.

The Committee also looked into its future potential funding from its wholly-owned company, STA Venture Sdn Bhd (STAV), and resolved to appoint a consultant to study STAV's model control structure for the investment of funds.

Jawatankuasa Pengurusan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak telah mengadakan mesyuarat ke-26 pada 16 Ogos 2011 di Wisma STA, di Kuching.

Mesyuarat membincangkan perkara berkaitan kewangan dan operasi Persatuan dan kedua-dua anak syarikat milik penuh iaitu STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) dan STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT).

Jawatankuasa menyokong aktiviti-aktiviti STAM dan STAT yang telah diluluskan oleh Lembaga Pengarah dalam mesyuarat masing-masing yang diadakan baru-baru ini.

Jawatankuasa ini juga melihat ke dalam pembiayaan masa depan yang berpotensi melalui anak syarikat milik penuh, STA Venture Sdn Bhd (STAV), dan memutuskan untuk melantik seorang perunding untuk mengkaji model struktur kawalan STAV bagi pelaburan dana.

STA 管理委员会于2011年8月16日在古晋, STA大厦召开第26届会议。

会议主要讨论本会及其两间全资拥有的公司, 即STA Mutual有限公司 (STAM) 和STA Training有限公司 (STAT) 的财务及经营事宜。

委员会赞同STAM和STAT的活动事宜。这已在最近召开的董事会会议上批准。

委员会还研究本会全资拥有公司, STA Venture有限公司 (STAV) 其未来的潜在资金并决定委聘顾问研究STAV基金的投资模型控制结构。

THE 27TH BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF STA TRAINING SDN BHD

The adjourned 27th Board of Directors' Meeting of STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) was held on 22 August 2011 at Wisma STA, Kuching. Pursuant to the resolution passed by the Company at its Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 30 March 2011, the Board noted that the approved amendments to the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association (M&A) shall take effect on 3 June 2011.

Amongst other agendas, the Board was also informed on the progress of training for the months of January to June 2011, trainers of the Company assessed a total of 169 operators in the various skills sets, and 126 operators completed the first phase of training under the Training Seminar Concept. In view of the impending implementation of the Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, the Board advised the Secretariat to conduct an additional Assessor Course for the Member Companies to ensure that there are sufficient qualified assessors in the industry to carry out the assessment when the Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules come into force. The Board was also informed of the progress made in the recruitment of students for the third cohort of the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management).

Mesyuarat Lembaga Pengarah STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) yang ditangguhkan telah diadakan pada 22 Ogos 2011 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Menurut resolusi yang diluluskan oleh Syarikat di Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan (AGM) yang diadakan pada 30 Mac 2011, Lembaga menyatakan bahawa pindaan yang diluluskan kepada Memorandum dan Artikel Persatuan (M & A) hendaklah berkuatkuasa pada 3 Jun 2011.

Berikutan pelaksanaan Peraturan Hutan (Pekerja Terlatih) yang akan dilaksanakan, Lembaga menasihati Sekretariat untuk menjalankan Kursus Penilai tambahan kepada Syarikat-syarikat Ahli untuk memastikan terdapat penilai yang berkelayakan yang mencukupi dalam industri untuk menjalankan penilaian. Lembaga juga telah dimaklumkan mengenai perkembangan dalam pengambilan pelajar bagi kohort ketiga Diploma Lulusan Ijazah dalam Sains Gunaan (Pengurusan Hutan Tropika Mampan).

STA Training 有限公司 (STAT) 于2011年8月22日假古晋STA大厦召开所展延的第27届董事会会议。根据该公司在2011年3月30日所召开的常年大会(AGM)决议, 董事会接收和核准该公司于2011年6月3日起所生效的修正章程。

鉴于森林(受训员工)规则即将实施, 董事会促请本会秘书处为会员公司提供额外评估员课程以确保木材业有足够的合格评估员。董事会也聆听有关研究生文凭(持续性森林管理)第三批新生招收进展报告。

STA FURNITURE AND OTHER WOODWORKING COMMITTEE MEETING

STA Furniture and Other Woodworking Committee Meeting was held on 11 August 2011 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Meeting was chaired by the Committee Chairman, Mr Desmond Cheng.

The Meeting discussed and shared information on the development of furniture and other woodworking industry as well as sustainable supply of raw material for the industry.

The Meeting also identified suitable training and discussed training requirements for workers in the furniture and other woodworking industry while exploring ways for the Association to fund these training.



Photo: Meeting in progress

Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Perabot dan Lain-lain Kerja Kayu STA telah diadakan pada 11 Ogos 2011 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Mesyuarat tersebut dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusi Jawatankuasa, Encik Desmond Cheng.

Mesyuarat membincangkan dan berkongsi maklumat mengenai perkembangan perabot dan lain-lain industri kerja kayu serta bekalan bahan mentah yang mampan bagi industri tersebut.

Mesyuarat juga mengenal pasti latihan yang sesuai dan membincangkan keperluan latihan bagi pekerja-pekerja industri perabot dan lain-lain industri kerja kayu di samping meneroka cara untuk Persatuan membiayai latihan ini.

STA 傢俬与其它木工委员会在小组主席曾鐸谈先生的主持下于2011年8月11日假古晋, STA大厦召开会议。

会议商讨和分享傢俬与其它木工业发展资讯和原料持续供应课题。

会议也鉴定合适的培训和商议向本会要求拨款予资助培训课程以便傢俬与其它木工会员职员可从中受惠。

STA MUTUAL SDN BHD NEWS UPDATE

The 25th Board of Directors' Meeting of STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) was held on 16 August 2011 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Board acknowledged the approved amendments to the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association (M&A) that took effect on 3 June 2011, and unanimously decided to establish the Board of Honorary Advisers (BHA) in accordance with Article 93A of the M&A. The functions of the BHA are to:

1. guide and assist the Company according to its objectives as stated in the M&A, and
2. deliberate on any issues or matters that have been referred by the STA Council to the BHA to advise on either decisions to be made or the policy to be followed by the Company from time to time.

The Board also approved the award of two (2) new STA Scholarships; are to Ms Beth Anastashia Anak Albert to pursue her Bachelor of Forestry Science degree course for three years and Ms Regina Mariah Kalong to pursue her Bachelor of Wood Science Technology degree course for four years. Both students are currently in their second semester of first year degree courses at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Serdang, Selangor.

To date, the Company has awarded 14 scholarships since 2005 to five students pursuing the Bachelor of Forestry Science and two students pursuing the Bachelor of Wood Science Technology at UPM, six students pursuing Bachelor of Science in Science and Management of Plant Resources at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), Kota Samarahan and one student pursuing the Diploma of Electronic Engineering at Swinburne University of Technology, Sarawak.

Financial contributions to a few non-profitable organisations were also approved in the Board of Directors' Meeting. For the past few years, STAM had also provided financial assistance to other educational institutions and Community Development Projects such as the Community Reforestation Project, Arabica Coffee Plantation and construction of gravity-feed water dam in the Sela'an-Linau FMU.

Lembaga Mesyuarat Pengarah STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) ke-25 telah diadakan pada 16 Ogos 2011 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Lembaga memperakui pindaan yang diluluskan kepada Memorandum Syarikat dan Artikel-artikel Persatuan (M & A) yang berkuatkuasa pada 3 Jun 2011, dan dengan sebulat suara memutuskan untuk menubuhkan Lembaga Penasihat Kehormat (BHA) mengikut Perkara 93A M & A.

Lembaga Pengarah juga meluluskan penganugerahan dua (2) Biasiswa STA baru kepada pelajar-pelajar dari Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Serdang, Selangor. Sehingga kini, Syarikat telah menganugerahkan 14 biasiswa sejak 2005 kepada lima orang pelajar dari UPM, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), dan Swinburne University of Technology, Sarawak.

Sumbangan kewangan kepada beberapa pertubuhan bukan berasaskan keuntungan juga telah diluluskan.

STA Mutual有限公司(STAM)于2011年8月16日假古晋STA大厦召开第25届董事会会议。董事会接收和核准该公司于2011年6月3日起所生效的修正章程。同时,董事会也无异议通过根据章程第93A条文设立STAM名誉顾问董事会(BHA)。

董事会批准两位马来西亚太子大学(UPM)新生的奖学金申请。STAM自2005年起至今已颁发14份奖学金予就读UPM, 马来西亚砂拉越大学(UNIMAS)及砂拉越斯威本科技大学的大专生。

董事会也批准捐款予几间非营利组织。

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENTS	VENUE	ORGANISER
21 to 26 October 2011	The 8 th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nanning International Convention & Exhibition Center, Nanning, China 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The people's Government of GuangXi Zhuang Autonomous Region
31 October to 4 November 2011	The 110 th China Import and Export Fair (CANTON) 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> China Import and Export Complex (Pazhou Complex), Guangzhou, China 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China People's Government of Guangdong Province
6 to 10 March 2012	The 18 th Malaysian International Furniture Fair (MIFF) 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia MATRADE Exhibition & Convention Centre (MECC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MIFF Sdn Bhd

FOCUS GROUP MEETING ON MINIMUM RETIREMENT AGE LABOUR LAW

The Department of Labour Sarawak organised a Focus Group meeting to consult and discuss (i) the proposed implementation of Minimum Retirement Age for workers in the private sector and (ii) the amendments to the Labour Ordinance (Sarawak Cap. 76) at Wisma Bapa Malaysia Kuching on 15 August 2011. About sixty (60) representatives from various organisations including Government agencies, employers' associations, trade unions, professional bodies and others attended the meeting. The Meeting was chaired by the Secretary General, Ministry of Human Resources (MoHR), Dato' Seri Zainal Rahim Bin Seman.

Minimum Retirement Age for Workers in the Private Sector

Dato' Seri Zainal Rahim Bin Seman informed the participants at the meeting that the Government is proposing the retirement age for private sector to be codified at either 58 or 60. Currently, there is no law prescribing the retirement age in the private sector but most employers set their retirement age at the age of 55 years to coincide with the age for withdrawal of EPF. The main reason for the proposal is that the average life expectancy of Malaysians has now increased to 75 years and if people stopped working at the age 55 years, based on their studies and using a salary of RM720 as a base, the EPF savings would not be adequate to sustain the people till the age of 75 years. By increasing the retirement age, it will also reduce the cost the Government has to provide for health and welfare assistance to the elderly.

The proposed Retirement Age Bill does not apply to, among others, probationers, apprentices, seafarers, work which involves dangerous weapons, maids, person employed in any specific project for a specified period (short period) and foreign workers.

Sarawak Labour Ordinance (Sarawak Cap 76)

The reasons given for the labour law review are (i) to strengthen employment governance, to be in line with the current and future business environment for the economic growth of Malaysia, (ii) to move towards self regulation and (iii) to introduce new provisions and rules in tandem with current policies, directions and aspirations of the Government. The Meeting highlighted the proposed amendments to the Labour Ordinance (Sarawak Cap 76) which are summarised as follows:-

1. The twenty-eight weeks of pregnancy.... in the interpretation section of the Sarawak Labour Ordinance - "confinement" means parturition resulting after at least twenty-eight weeks of" is to be reduced to ".... at least twenty-two weeks of pregnancy"
2. Overtime payment can be paid not later than the last day of the next wage period.
3. Wages earned by an employee shall be paid into an account in the name of the employee.
4. Wages of a domestic servant shall be paid into the account in the name of the domestic servant at a Malaysian Bank.
5. Any contractor for labour who fails to register with the Director of Labour is liable to a fine.
6. The mandatory holiday is now increased by one day.
7. Additional provisions for dealing with sexual harassment.
8. To allow for advances to be given by the employer based on the current situation and the needs of the employee.

砂拉越劳工局于2011年8月15日假古晋国父大厦召开专题小组会议进行磋商和讨论私营界最低退休年龄及劳工法令(砂拉越76章)修订建议。人力资源部秘书长,拿督斯里再纳拉欣(译音)主持该会议。

拿督斯里再纳拉欣(译音)在会议上告知参与者,政府建议私营界把最低退休年龄设定在58岁或60岁。这提案的主要原因是马来西亚人的平均寿命已经增加到75岁。此外,这也是降低政府为老人的健康和福利援助费用。

审查劳工法令的原因是 (i) 为马来西亚当前和未来的经济经营环境增长加强就业治理, (ii) 走向自行规管及 (iii) 为政府现行的政策, 方向和愿望同时引入新的规定和规则。

MEF MEETING OF MEMBERS IN SARAWAK

Jabatan Tenaga Kerja Sarawak telah menganjurkan suatu mesyuarat Kumpulan Fokus untuk berunding dan membincangkan (i) pelaksanaan Umur Persaraan Minimum yang dicadangkan bagi pekerja dalam sektor swasta dan (ii) pindaan kepada Ordinan Buruh (Bab 76 Sarawak) di Wisma Bapa Malaysia Kuching pada 15 Ogos 2011.

Ketua Setiausaha, Kementerian Sumber Manusia (MoHR), Dato' Seri Zainal Rahim bin Seman memaklumkan peserta pada mesyuarat itu bahawa Kerajaan mencadangkan agar umur persaraan bagi sektor swasta dikanunkan samaada pada 58 atau 60.

Sebab utama bagi cadangan tersebut adalah purata jangka hayat rakyat Malaysia kini telah meningkat kepada 75 tahun dan cadangan itu juga akan mengurangkan kos Kerajaan yang perlu diperuntukkan bagi bantuan kesihatan dan kebajikan untuk warga tua.

Sebab-sebab bagi kajian semula undang-undang buruh tersebut adalah (i) untuk mengukuhkan tadbir urus pekerjaan, supaya selaras dengan persekitaran perniagaan semasa dan masa depan bagi pertumbuhan ekonomi Malaysia, (ii) untuk bergerak ke arah pengaturan sendiri dan (iii) untuk memperkenalkan peruntukan-peruntukan dan peraturan baru, selaras dengan dasar-dasar semasa, hala tuju dan aspirasi-aspirasi Kerajaan.

The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) meeting of Members in Sarawak was held at Pejabat Pusat Khidmat Dewan Usahawan Bumiputra Sarawak, Kuching on 10 August 2011. Approximately 17 participants, mostly human resource practitioners from government agencies, private corporations and trade associations, attended this meeting.

The meeting was chaired by Mr George Young Jr, Associate Consultant Industrial Relations of MEF.

Encik Mohamad Saifulhizam and Encik Andrew Mia, officers from the Income Tax Department gave a brief presentation on the Guide on Employer's Responsibility with emphasis on the following topics namely Definition of Employer and Employee, Income Tax Act 1967, Income Tax (Deduction from Remuneration) Rules 1994, Offences for failure to comply with Monthly Tax Deduction (MTD), Methods and Steps in making MTD Payment either by using Electronic Medium, or using forms CP39 or CP39A. They also informed the participants that the Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia (IRBM) is currently organising hands-on Simulation Workshop training for free for employers on e-Daftar, e-PCB, e-DATA PCB, e-SPC and e-Bayaran which will be held at all IRBM branches throughout Malaysia. Employers are able to register by filling in the registration form at <http://www.hasil.gov.my/pdf/pdfam/SimulationWorkshop2.pdf> and return it to the nearest IRBM branch. For further information on this matter, please call 1-300-88-3010 (IRBM Call Centre).

Mr George Young Jr informed members that the current biometric registration of legal foreign general workers done by the Immigration Department applies only to unskilled foreign workers. He reminded members to legalise their foreign workers if they have not done so.

Mesyuarat Ahli-ahli Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) di Sarawak telah diadakan di Pejabat Pusat Khidmat Dewan Usahawan Bumiputera Sarawak, Kuching pada 10 Ogos 2011.

Mesyuarat itu telah dimulakan oleh Encik George Young Jr, Perunding Bersekutu Perhubungan Perusahaan dari MEF.

Encik Mohamad Saifulhizam dan Encik Andrew Mia, pegawai-pegawai dari Jabatan Cukai Pendapatan memberikan pembentangan ringkas mengenai Panduan tentang Tanggungjawab Majikan. Mereka juga memaklumkan mesyuarat tersebut bahawa Lembaga Hasil Dalam Negeri Malaysia (LHDNM) sedang menganjurkan latihan praktikal Bengkel Simulasi secara percuma kepada majikan-majikan yang akan diadakan di semua cawangan-cawangan LHDNM di seluruh Malaysia.

Encik George Young Jr memberitahu ahli-ahli bahawa pendaftaran semasa biometrik bagi pekerja-pekerja asing sah yang dilakukan oleh Jabatan Imigresen hanya terpakai pada pekerja asing tidak mahir.

马来西亚雇主联盟(MEF)砂州会员于2011年8月10日假古晋DUBS服务中心办事处召开会议。会议由MEF劳资关系副顾问乔治先生(译音)主持。

税收局官员, 莫哈末先生(译音)及安德鲁先生(译音)讲解有关雇主责任指南。同时, 也告知内陆税收局(IRBM)将在全国IRBM分行为雇主提供免费实际操作模拟工作坊 培训。

乔治先生告知会员当前移民局所进行的合法外劳生物指纹登记只限于非技能外劳。

NEW LEVY RATES FOR FOREIGN WORKER

The Cabinet Committee on Foreign Workers and Illegal Immigrants had conducted a Lab on the Management of Foreign Workers (Lab) under the Ministry of Home Affairs from 23 March to 23 April 2010. The Lab concluded that gradual increases in levy are among the initiatives to reduce dependencies on foreign workers.

Based on the Lab's findings, the Government has decided to implement new levy rates for the recruitment of foreign workers or renewal of Visit Pass (Temporary Employment) (PLKS) across all sectors with effect from **1 September 2011**.

The new levy rates are as follow:

NEW LEVY RATES FOR FOREIGN WORKER VISIT PASS (TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT)

SECTOR	PENINSULAR MALAYSIA		SABAH/SARAWAK/LABUAN	
	OLD RM	NEW RM	OLD RM	NEW RM
MANUFACTURING	1,200	1,250	960	1,010
CONSTRUCTION	1,200	1,250	960	1,010
PLANTATION	540	590	540	590
AGRICULTURE	360	410	360	410
SERVICE				
- Restaurant	1,800	1,850	1,440	1,490
- Cleaning	1,800	1,850	1,440	1,490
- Cargo handling	1,800	1,850	1,440	1,490
- Laundry	1,800	1,850	1,440	1,490
- Caddy (Golf)	1,800	1,850	1,440	1,490
- Hair saloon	1,800	1,850	1,440	1,490
- Wholesale and				
Retail Trades	1,800	1,850	1,440	1,490
- Textile business	1,800	1,850	1,440	1,490
- Used scrap metal	1,800	1,850	1,440	1,490
- Welfare home	600	650	600	650
- Resort island	1,200	1,250	960	1,010
MAID				
- First	360	410	360	410
- Second and next	540	590	540	590
Others	1,800	1,850	1,440	1,490

SITUATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW LEVY RATES

APPLICATION SITUATION	PLKS	LEVY RATES
New PLKS Application	Application approved before 1 September 2011	Old
	Application approved after 1 September 2011	New
Application for PLKS extension <i>before</i> 1 September 2011	PLKS end before 1 September 2011	Old
	PLKS end after 1 September 2011	New
Application for PLKS extension <i>after</i> 1 September 2011	PLKS end before 1 September 2011	Old
	PLKS end after 1 September 2011	New

Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) telah memaklumkan bahawa Jawatankuasa Kabinet mengenai Pekerja Asing dan Pendetang Tanpa Izin telah menubuhkan Makmal Pengurusan Pekerja Asing (Lab) di bawah Kementerian Hal Ehwal Dalam Negeri dari 23 Mac hingga 23 April 2010. Lab membuat kesimpulan bahawa peningkatan secara beransur-ansur dalam levi adalah antara inisiatif-inisiatif untuk mengurangkan kebergantungan kepada pekerja asing.

Berdasarkan penemuan Lab tersebut, Kerajaan telah memutuskan untuk melaksanakan kadar levi yang baru pengambilan dalam semua sektor yang akan berkuatkuasa mulai **1 September 2011**.

Kadar baru levi adalah seperti pada jadual yang berikut:

马来西亚雇主联盟(MEF)告知在国内事务部旗下外劳和非法移民内阁委员会已于2010年3月23日至4月23日举办外劳管理实验研讨会(Lab)。该Lab总结倡议之一就是逐渐的提高征税将有助于减少对外劳的依赖。

根据Lab的结论，政府决定于2011年9月1日起向所有行业征收新税率，如列表：

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN SARAWAK TIMBER SELLING MISSIONS AND EXHIBITIONS

The Sarawak Timber Association (STA) had been informed by the Sarawak Timber Industry Development (STIDC) that STIDC will be organising the following activities: -

Date	Event
14 – 17 September 2011	Furniture Manufacturing and Supply, Shanghai China
29 September – 2 October 2011	Index Furniture Tradefairs, Mumbai India
30 September – 8 October 2011	Sarawak Timber Selling Mission to Mumbai and Kandla of India
21 – 29 October 2011	Sarawak Timber Selling Mission to Guangzhou and Shanghai of China and Seoul of Korea

The objectives of the above Missions/Exhibitions are to provide participants with the opportunity to strengthen and establish bilateral trade with existing and potential buyers and end-users as well as to promote and increase sales of other species and products in the Indian, Chinese and Korean markets. The Missions will include seminars, individual business meetings and factory visits.

The delegation will be led by Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan, the Second Minister of Planning and Resource Management Sarawak cum Chairman of STIDC Board.

A registration fee of RM500/pax/Mission is required by STIDC and another RM500/pax/Mission is required by the appointed travel agency.

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah dimaklumkan oleh Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (STIDC) bahawa STIDC akan menganjurkan empat aktiviti seperti yang disenaraikan dalam artikel.

Objektif Misi / Pameran di atas adalah untuk menyediakan peserta peluang untuk memperkukuh dan mewujudkan hubungan perdagangan dua hala dengan pembeli dan pengguna sedia ada dan yang berpotensi serta untuk menggalakkan dan meningkatkan jualan spesies lain dan produk dalam pasaran India, China dan Korea.

Delegasi itu akan diketuai oleh Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan, Menteri Kedua Perancangan dan Pengurusan Sumber Sarawak merangkap Pengerusi Lembaga STIDC.

砂拉越木材工业发展机构 (STIDC) 通知本会，STIDC将举办和参与以下四项活动。

销售代表团/展览的目的是为参与者提供机会以加强和建立现有及潜在的买家和用户双边贸易融洽。此外，这也为促进和增加在印度、中国和韩国的其他树种和产品市场销售。

策划与资源管理第二部长兼STIDC董事会主席，拿督斯里阿旺登雅(译音)将率领该代表团。

MALAYSIA'S FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

What is Free Trade Agreement (FTA)?

- A legally binding agreement between two or more countries where commerce in goods and services can be conducted across borders with preferential market access and favorable treatment such as:
 - Lower or zero tariffs of export of goods;
 - Relaxed or removal of quantitative import restriction;
 - Hassle free customs procedures;
 - Improved market access for various services;
 - Easier entry for business community; and
 - Better terms of investment
- Malaysia's involvement in FTA is aimed at providing the means to achieve quicker and higher levels of liberalisation that would create effective market access between the participants of the FTA.
- FTA also promotes more business activities between countries or economic areas and encourages economic growth

Regional FTAs	Bilateral FTAs
Concluded	
ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA)	Malaysia – Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (MJEPA)
ASEAN – China Free Trade Area (ACFTA)	Malaysia – New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (MNZFTA)
ASEAN – India Free Trade Area (AIFTA)	Malaysia – Pakistan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (MPCEPA)
ASEAN – Korea Free Trade Area (AKFTA)	Malaysia – Chile Free Trade Agreement (MCFTA)
ASEAN – Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA)	Malaysia – India Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (MICECA)
ASEAN – Japan Comprehensive Economics Partnership (AJCEP)	
Under Negotiation	
Trade Preferential System-Organisation Of Islamic Conference (TPS-OIC)	Malaysia – Australia Free Trade Agreement
Developing Eight Preferential Tariff Agreement (D-8 PTA)	Malaysia – Turkey Free Trade Agreement
Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP)	Malaysia – European Union Free Trade Agreement

What are Preferential Tariffs?

- Preferential tariffs are customs import duties imposed on goods from a FTA partner which is set either at zero or at a lower tariff than that imposed on products from other non FTA countries. The elimination exercise does not cover internal taxes such as sales tax or excise duties.

What does a Company need to do to enjoy Preferential Tariff when exporting to a FTA partner country?

- Check whether the product is included in the Inclusion List of the FTA partner or the importing ASEAN country with Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) or Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI).
- Check product Harmonised Commodity Description and Ceiling System (HS) Code with the Customs Department.
- Obtain application form for Certificate of Origin (CoO) from authorised bodies i.e. MITI, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM). Prior to CoO approval by MITI, cost-analysis is undertaken to determine the origin of a product as required. The cost analysis is valid for 2 years. The form on cost-analysis is available from MITI.

What is Certificate of Origin (CO)?

- Certifies the country of origin of a particular product.

Functions of CO:

- To enable the importer of other countries to take advantage of the preferential tariff rate of duty from the country of origin.
- To satisfy trade requirements such as supporting letters of credit.

EMENT AND LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

- To be used as supporting documents for the issue of certificates by another authorised Chamber.

Types of Certificate of Origin for Malaysia's Regional FTAs

Regional FTAs	Certificate of Origin
AFTA	Form D
ACFTA	Form E
AIFTA	Form AI
AKFTA	Form AK
AANZFTA	Form AANZ
AJCEP	Form AJ

Types of Certificate of Origin for Malaysia's Bilateral FTAs

Bilateral FTAs	Certificate of Origin
MJEPA	Form MJEPA
MNZFTA	Form MNZ
MPCEPA	Form MPCEPA

What is ASEAN Self-certification?

- Self-certification is a system which enables the Certified Exporter to make out an Invoice Declaration for the export of goods.
- The Memorandum of Understanding for Self-certification was signed on 26 August 2010 during the ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting and entered into force on 1 November 2010.
- Involving three participating ASEAN Member States, namely Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei.
- The exporter will have to apply to the Issuing Authority of the participating Members States (i.e. MITI) before they can become a Certified Exporter.
- Among the criteria to be consider as Certified Exporters:
 - Manufacturers who are also exporters;
 - Good past track record;
 - Not blacklisted by any agency; and
 - Be able to comply to the Rules of Origin.
- It will gradually replace the conventional ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) Form A which is currently issued by the Issuing Authority.

For more information, please visit the following websites.

MITI (<http://www.miti.gov.my>)
MATRADE (<http://www.matrade.gov.my/>)
ASEAN (<http://www.asean.org/>)

Note:

Information source: MITI's , MATRADE's, and ASEAN's official website and booklets.

Perjanjian Perdagangan Bebas (FTA)?

- Satu perjanjian yang terikat di sisi undang-undang antara dua atau lebih negara-negara di mana perdagangan dalam barangan dan perkhidmatan boleh dijalankan merentasi sempadan dengan keutamaan akses pasaran dan layanan istimewa
- Penglibatan Malaysia dalam FTA adalah bertujuan untuk menyediakan cara-cara untuk mencapai liberalisasi dengan segera dan tahap yang lebih tinggi yang akan mewujudkan akses pasaran yang berkesan di antara peserta FTA.
- FTA juga menggalakkan lebih banyak aktiviti perniagaan di antara negara-negara atau kawasan ekonomi dan menggalakkan pertumbuhan ekonomi.

Apakah yang perlu dilakukan oleh Syarikat untuk menikmati Tarif Keutamaan apabila mengeksport ke negara rakan kongsi FTA?

- Semak samaada produk dimasukkan ke dalam Senarai Kemasukan rakan kongsi FTA atau negara pengimport ASEAN dengan Perbadanan Pembangunan Perdagangan Luar Malaysia (MATRADE) atau Kementerian Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri (MITI).
- Periksa produk komoditi dikelaskan di bawah Nombor Kod Sistem yang Diharmonikan (Kod H.S.) dan Sistem Kod Siling dengan Jabatan Kastam.
- Dapatkan borang permohonan untuk Sijil Asal (COO) daripada badan yang diberi kuasa

什么是自由贸易协定 (FTA) ?

- 两国或多国所签订具有法律约束力的契约,允许货品与服务跨越国界自由流动和获取优厚的待遇。
- 马来西亚FTA旨于更快的实现更高水平的自由化,这将有效的建立自由贸易协定参与者的市场准入。
- FTA也促进国家或经济区之间更多的经营活动,并鼓励经济增长。

出口至FTA伙伴国时, 公司如何享受优惠关税 ?

- 向大马外贸发展局 (MATRADE) 或国际贸易及工业部 (MITI) 查验产品是否列入在自贸合作伙伴或东盟国家的列表内。
- 向海关局查验商品分类和编码协调制度 (HS)。
- 并向授权机构索取起源认证书 (COO)。

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 3RD COHORT

The Sarawak Timber Association is inviting applications from Sarawakians for a full scholarship to study in the third cohort of the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management). The degree covers a broad range of areas important to managing forests sustainably. The degree is offered on a part time basis over 3 years, with students required to attend 6 one-week teaching blocks each year. The degree is fully conducted by Lincoln University of New Zealand in Kuching, Sarawak.

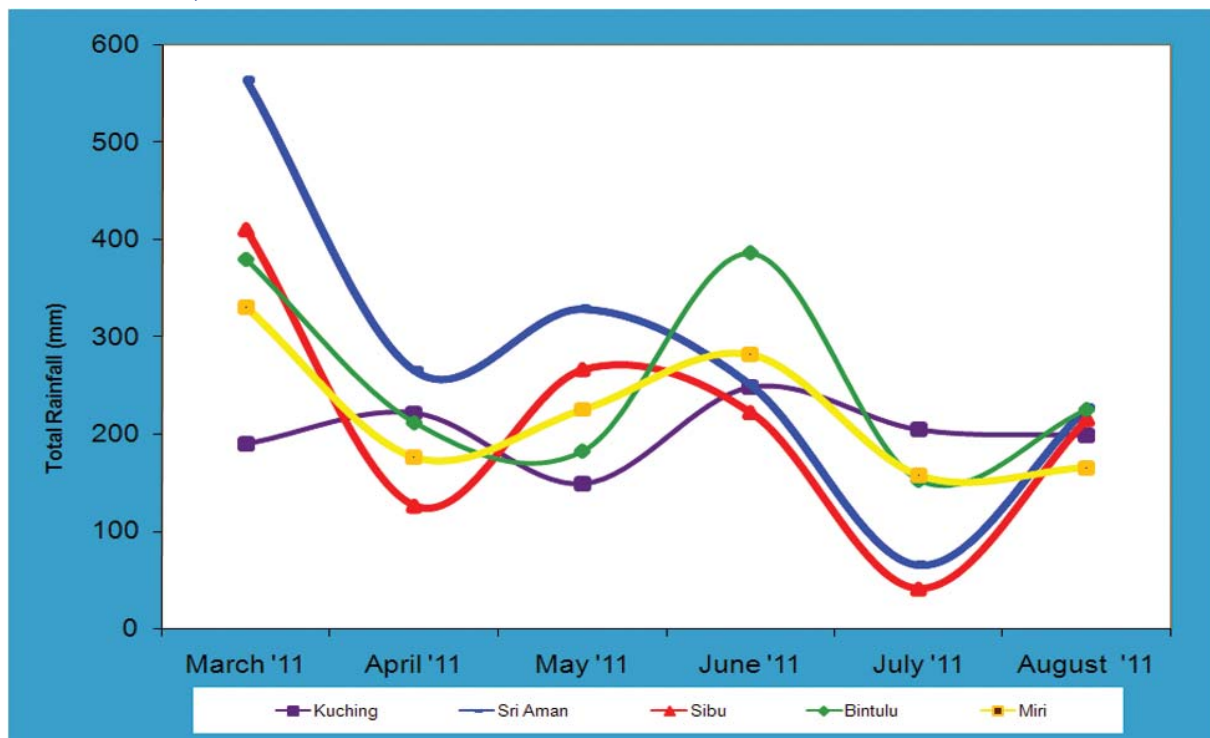
Applicants should have a degree from a recognised university. Persons with significant experience in the forestry or timber industries who do not have a degree are also eligible to apply. A good command of both spoken and written English is required. Email or fax an application letter, a curriculum vitae, and certified copies of academic transcripts (where applicable) and either a birth certificate or a passport to sta@sta.org.my or 082 444 888 before 24 September 2011. For more information, please contact STA at 082-332 222 or visit www.sta.org.my.

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak mempelawa permohonan dari warga Sarawak untuk biasiswa penuh untuk belajar di kohort ketiga Diploma Lulusan Ijazah dalam Sains Gunaan (Pengurusan Hutan Tropika Mampan). Ijazah meliputi pelbagai bidang yang penting untuk hutan pengurusan mampan.

本会邀请砂州子民申请本会第三届研究生文凭(持续性热带森林管理) 全额奖学金。此研究生文凭涵盖广泛可持续森林管理的重要性。

申请人必须已获国家承认的学士学位。如具备丰富的林业和木业工作经验而无学士学位者也可申请。

RAINFALL : MARCH '11 - AUGUST '11 KADAR HUJAN BULANAN



Source : Malaysian Meteorological Services