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This monthly news bulletin is produced by Sarawak Timber Association (STA) to disseminate information to our counterparts on training, research and other relevant areas.

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4th Series of Campaign on Occupational Safety and Health for the Timber Industry in Sarawak

The Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH), the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA) held the 4th series of the State wide campaign from 24 to 26 August 2016 at Hotel Seri Malaysia, Lawas to cater to the timber industry players in the northern region.

The objectives of the Campaign were to promote OSH at workplaces, enhance understanding on Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) 1994, as well as to instill a safe and healthy work culture among the workforce with emphasis on safety aspects in the forestry sector.

Datu Haji Sarudu Haji Hoklai, General Manager of STIDC in his opening speech read by Mr Hamzah Haji Morshidi, Acting Assistant General Manager of the Northern Region, pointed out that occupational accidents and disasters particularly those that caused death at workplace not only bring about losses to the companies in terms of skill and expertise but also posed adverse impacts on the companies' productivity, image and reputation.

Six (6) papers were presented in the Campaign as follows:

1) Introduction to Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) 1994 by Mr Shamsudin Bin Abdul Aziz, Factories and Machineries Assistant Inspector, DOSH The speaker gave an introduction on DOSH. DOSH is the department responsible for ensuring the safety, health and welfare of people at work and OSHA 1994 is one of the main legislative references involving OSH in Malaysia.

2) Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment and Risk Control

(HIRARC) by Mr Shamsudin Bin Abdul Aziz, Factories and Machineries Assistant Inspector, DOSH

The speaker gave a presentation on Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment and Risk Control (HIRARC) to participants of the Campaign, some of whom are camp managers and safety officers.

3) Occupational Safety and Health Committee at Workplaces by Mr Shamsudin Bin Abdul Aziz, Factories and Machineries Assistant Inspector, DOSH

The speaker gave a presentation on Occupational Safety and Health Committee at Workplaces which is a requirement under the Occupational Safety and Health (Safety and Health Committee) Regulations 1996.

4) Notification of Accident, Dangerous Occurrence, Occupational Disease Regulations 2004 (NADOPOD) by Mr Hong Boon Jing, Factories and Machineries Assistant Inspector, DOSH

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The speaker gave a presentation on the proper mechanism for employer to report any accidents involving death, serious damages to property or machinery as well as occupational poisoning and disease. He explained the different forms (Borang JKKP 6 and Borang JKKP 7) which are to be submitted to the nearest DOSH office depending on the degree of seriousness of injuries or accidents, which also includes near misses such as falling structures.

5) Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Programme by Mr Hong Boon Jing, Factories and Machineries Assistant Inspector, DOSH

The speaker encouraged participants of the Campaign to plan an OSH Programme in their workplaces to implement the goals of policy, ensure minimum compliance with national laws and regulations as well as continual improvement in OSH performance.

6) Occupational Safety and Health Management System (OSH-MS) by Mr Hong Boon Jing, Factories and Machineries Assistant Inspector, DOSH The speaker explained the purpose of Occupational Safety and Health Management System (OSH-MS). He also informed the participants of the Campaign the components of a typical OSH-MS which consists of policy, organising, planning and implementation, evaluation and management review.

Mr Chang Kuet Ming, Assistant General Manager (HSE) from Samling Timber Sdn Bhd was also present to share with participants of the Campaign their experience in the OSH field. Mr Chang talked about the challenges faced in developing OSH system and acknowledged that assistance from external parties such as DOSH have helped them to fully enhance the efficacy of occupational safety and health aspects in the timber sector.

The Campaign ended with a ground audit at Brunut Camp of Lee Ling Timber Sdn Bhd led by Mr Shamsudin and Mr Hong. The exercise, which began with documentation audit and followed by site audit, was to check for compliance of OSH requirements outlined in the OSHA 1994 (Act 514) and the Factories and Machineries Act 1967 (Act 139) and Regulations and Rules.

The 7th Forestry and Timber Technical Working Group

The Forestry and Timber Technical Working Group (FTTWG) of the Malaysia-Australia Agricultural Cooperation Working Group (MAACWG) met for the seventh (7th) time on 3 August 2016, followed by the tenth (10th) MAACWG Meeting which was held on 4 August 2016 in Canberra, Australia.

The main objective of the FTTWG is to provide the means to enhance consultation and cooperation between both parties on forestry and timber matters of mutual interest including bilateral issues, information sharing, implementing cooperation projects and working collaboratively to promote the trade in legal timber and timber products.

The 7th FTTWG Meeting was co-chaired by Ms Michelle Lauder, the Assistant Secretary, Sustainable

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Division of the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, Australia and Mr Mad Zaidi Mohd Karli, the Undersecretary, Timber, Tobacco and Kenaf Industries Division of the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities, Malaysia.

The Meeting received updates on the Australia's illegal logging legislation, the Malaysia's due diligence requirements for imported timber and the Malaysia Country Specific Guideline.

Both Co-Chairs affirmed their commitments to continue working together to promote the trade of legally harvested timber and timber products as well as to enhance their cooperation on forestry matters for mutual benefits.



Did you know that

Germany has become the second country to successfully achieve PEFC re-endorsement of its national forest certification system for a third time. The Malaysian Criteria and Indicators (MC&I) for Forest Plantations standard has also received PEFC re-endorsement. This endorsement not only confirms that they continue to meet PEFC's globally recognized Sustainability Benchmarks, but also ensures that certified forest owners and companies in these countries continue to benefit from the global acceptance of PEFC.

Source: http://www.pefc.org/news-a-media/general-sfm-news/2143-german-system-and-malaysian-forestplantation-standard-achieve-pefc-re-endorsement

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Did you also know that

From the perspective of the tropical wood sector, Brexit will have significant implications. The UK is now by far the largest importer of tropical timber in the EU. If all timber-based products are included (primary raw materials, secondary processed products and tertiary products like furniture), in 2015 the UK accounted for around 25% of the total value imported into the EU from tropical countries. A large part of the recent growth in UK imports of timber products from these countries has been in the form of furniture from Vietnam, Indonesia and Malaysia – a trade now likely to slow in the short to medium term.



Source: MTIB News Extracts (Vol.29/07/16)

State Task Force on Illegal Logging

The State Task Force on Illegal Logging chaired by Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, Second Resource Planning and Environment Minister, was held on 8 August 2016 at Wisma Sumber Alam in Kuching. In that meeting, Datuk Amar mentioned that on 1 August 2016 Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Adenan Satem, the Chief Minister has instructed that all consignments of logs without original Removal Pass (Transit) to be seized, even if they have been royalty assessed. These consignments of logs are to be confiscated and treated as seized logs, and the licensee/accused is to be compounded accordingly under Section 86 of the Forests Ordinance, 2015.

The Meeting also went through the minutes of the previous meeting. The Meeting was informed that the forestry agencies and STA had organised briefings on *Update on Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS)* in Sibu and Miri on 30 November and 2 December 2015 respectively. The briefings were attended by representatives from the timber industry and government agencies. On the concern raised during the last meeting with regard to the destruction of height metal barriers installed at Bakun and Murum road by 'phantom lorries', STA informed members of the State Task Force that a meeting with Datuk Amar and forestry agencies was held on 18 December 2015 where STA presented the Commitment Statements undertaken by the licensees and contractors in Bakun and Murum areas and two (2) proposals for them to consider.

The Meeting also decided that operations to combat illegal logging on the ground be led by the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) to ensure that all required documents and procedures are complied with before the movement of the timber is allowed to enter the 'chain of custody'. Another decision from the Meeting was that the declaration of value of the confiscated timber shall be based on estimates made by the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC).

Also present during the meeting were Datu Len Talif Salleh, Assistant Minister of Environment, Datu Sudarsono Osman, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment, Tuan Haji Sapuan Ahmad, Director of FDS and Datu Sarudu Hoklai, General Manager of STIDC.

Field Visit to Ta Ann Kelampayan Inter-Planting Project in LPF Peatland Oil Palm Plantation



Ta Ann Plywood Sdn Bhd, with assistance from STA Forest Plantation Committee, organised a field visit to Ta Ann Kelampayan Inter-Planting Project in LPF0010 Peatland Oil Palm Plantation on 4 August 2016 at Naman, Sibu. The event was attended by four (4) representatives from Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) and twenty (20) representatives from various Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) holders.

All participants of the event were gathered at the Ta Ann Corporate Headquarters office for a briefing

Photo: On site discussion

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Printed Matter



Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak Sarawak Timber Association

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before the field visit. Dato Wong Kuo Hea, the Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Ta Ann Group in his welcoming remarks, mentioned that the purpose of the visit is to share their knowledge and experiences on Kelampayan inter-planting in peatland oil palm plantation with the industry and government sectors. He informed the participants of the event that the Kelampayan inter-planting gave a promising result especially those planted along the side of the road, opposite the drains and the peeling trial of 39-month old Kelampayan produced clear and good quality veneers. He hoped that the State Government can support the idea of intercropping Kelampayan trees with oil palms in the LPFs. He also sought joint R&D collaboration between private and government sector so that the Kelampayan planting in the oil palm plantations can be successful.

Mr Fabian Suchas, Senior Researcher from Ta Ann briefed the participants of the event on the history of the Kelampayan inter-planting in LPF0010 and shared with the group some of the outcomes of the R&D works that have been done in growing the Kelampayan trees in the peatland oil palm plantation. He also shared with the participants of the event on the potential risks of Kelampayan inter-planting, such as toppling, windthrow, termites, pests and airborne disease. He then highlighted the potential of Kelampayan roadside planting in the oil palm plantation with an estimated revenue of RM37 million for a 10,000 ha oil palm plantation over ten (10) years.

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After the briefing session, Mr Nicholas Ting Kang Hwa, Senior General Manager of Ta Ann led the group visit to the Kelampayan inter-planting sites at Naman. The visit was coupled with on-site discussion and explanation.

A discussion cum dinner was held at Tanahmas Hotel after the visit. During the discussion, participants shared their observations and raised their queries on the Kelampayan inter-planting in oil palm plantation. The royalty and cess for the Kelampayan planted in the oil palm plantation is of concern as the amount charged is based on the rate for logs from natural forest.



Photo: Visit to the Kelampayan interplanting site