



STA dan Rakan2



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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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SEMINAR ON GREEN PROCUREMENT AND ECO-LABELLING – WHAT, WHY AND HOW



Picture: Panel discussion in progress

The above Seminar was held in Holiday Villa Hotel & Suites, Subang, Selangor on 15 December 2009 and well attended by an estimated 160 participants. Mr. Hussalmizzar Hussain, Principal Assistant Director of the Department of Standards Malaysia spoke on behalf of the Director General and invited participants to help SIRIM Malaysia develop and implement more effective eco-labelling schemes. He then briefly outlined the activities of SIRIM Berhad Malaysia.

The 8 papers presented in the Seminar covered the definition of and guiding principles for ecolabelling with reference to ISO 14020 and ISO 14024, types of ecolabelling, progress of ecolabelling in Malaysia

and the Asean region, examples of efforts in green purchasing / ecolabelling by Companies in Malaysia as well as the Government's initiative in promoting the use of green technology in Malaysia. The papers presented were:

1. ISO 14020 series of Standards on environmental labelling – The role of Standards in promoting eco-labeling by Mr. Abdul Aziz Long, Chairman of the Technical Committee on Environmental Labeling (TC3)/ Senior General Manager SIRIM QAS International Sdn Bhd
2. Government initiative to encourage green technology by Mr. Hishamudin Ibrahim, Programme Manager,

Pusat Technology Hijau Malaysia, Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water, Malaysia (KeTTHA)

3. Toshiba's approach towards green procurement by Mr. R. Subramaniam, Senior Section Manager, Toshiba Electronics Malaysia Sdn Bhd / Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers
4. Ethics on green procurement by Dr. Loi Kheng Min, Deputy Convenor of MICCI Environmental Committee / Chairperson of MICCI Climate Change Subcommittee, Resources Malaysian International Chamber of

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IUFRO KUALA LUMPUR 2010

IUFRO Kuala Lumpur 2010 is the joint conference of IUFRO Working Parties i.e Population, Ecological and Conservation Genetics, and Genomics which will be held on March 7-12, 2010 at Legend Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) are the hosts for the conference. IUFRO Kuala Lumpur 2010 conference will showcase advances in genomics and genetics research for forest species for sustainable management and utilisation.

Did you know that...

The UNECE Timber Committee's Forest Products Annual Market Review has predicted that the US hardwood production will decrease by 5% to 22 million m³ and Europe's by 7% to 13 million m³. According to other reports, US hardwood exports in January-August 2009 have fallen by 31% to US\$ 566 million and sales to the EU have decreased by 36% to US\$ 144 million.

In 2010, the UNECE predicts the US hardwood exports to rise by 4.5% and EU imports to increase by 6%.

Source:
TTJ Timber Trades
Journal,
23 Nov 2009

Objectives:

- To provide a platform for exchange of ideas and information amongst researchers and practitioners in forest genetics, breeding and conservation
- To discuss and evaluate the latest approaches and techniques in forest genetics research and management of forest genetic resources
- To promote international co-operation and networking amongst practitioners and researchers involved in forest genetics, breeding and conservation

Sub-themes/Topics

Conservation of forest genetic resources

Phylogeny and phylogeography; population structure and conservation; mating systems, gene flow and population variation; genetic pollution and invasive species; propagation technologies

Sustainable utilization of genetic resources

Gene expression, markers and QTL mapping; linkage disequilibrium and association mapping; quantitative genetics and breeding; adaptive genetics and climate change; policies and regulations

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- C o m m e r c e &
I n d u s t r y (M I C C I)
5. Resources and capacities to support an eco-labelling scheme by Dr. Chen Sau Soon, Senior General Manager, SIRIM Berhad
 6. Eco-labeling by Mr. Ian Tan, Marketing Director, ICI Paints (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd

7. Green Building Index by Ir. Looi Hip Peu, Engineer, Malaysian Institute of Architects
8. Infrastructure and Implementation of green procurement in Asia by Mr. Augustine Koh, Secretary General, Green Purchasing Network Malaysia.

which covered mainly the details of the labeling scheme.

Members who are keen to obtain an electronic copy or hardcopy of the papers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8 presented can email their request to the STA Secretariat at sta@sta.org.my

This was followed by a panel discussion,

NEW GENERAL MANAGER FOR STIDC

The Former Director of the Human Resource Management Unit in the Chief Minister's Department Datu Haji Sarudu bin Haji Hoklai has been appointed the General Manager of Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC). His appointment took effect on 1 January 2010. He replaces Datu Len Talif Salleh, who retired last February but continued in the post on a contract basis until 31 December 2009. Sarudu graduated from Ohio University, in the United States with a Corporate Master of Business Administration, and also holds a Bachelor of Arts from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM).

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THE MALAYSIAN GRADING RULES FOR SAWN HARDWOOD TIMBER (MGR) 2009 EDITION

STA received the Timber Grading Circular No 1/2009 from the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) on 5 January 2010 informing that the rules for grading Malaysian sawn hardwood timber have been revised and are now referred to as 'The Malaysian Grading Rules for Sawn Hardwood Timber (MGR) 2009 Edition'.

The Circular also stated that the MGR 2009 Edition are to be used as the reference to grade all sawn hardwood timber in Sarawak with effect from 2 January 2010. The MGR 2009 Edition is available for sale at any STIDC offices throughout the State, at RM25.00 per copy.

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FIRST PEFC-NOTIFIED CB FOR CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY CERTIFICATION

MTCC-notified certification body, SIRIM QAS International Sdn. Bhd. (SIRIM QAS) has become the first PEFC-notified CB (PEFC Logo usage Licence no. P E F C / 3 4 - 4 4 - 0 1) operating chain of custody (CoC) certification under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (M T C S). This development will enable SIRIM QAS to use the PEFC logo on CoC certificates which it awards under the MTCS.

As an accredited CB under the Department of Standards Malaysia (S T A N D A R D S MALAYSIA) against MS ISO/IEC Guide 65 for product certification, SIRIM QAS applied to STANDARDS MALAYSIA for an extension of scope of its accreditation to include CoC certification of timber based products using the standard PEFC Technical Document Annex 4 under the MTCS. The application by SIRIM QAS for the extension of scope was

approved by STANDARDS MALAYSIA on 27 July 2009.

Subsequently, SIRIM QAS applied to MTCC for PEFC Notification as a CB operating CoC certification. The application was considered and approved by the Eleventh Meeting of the MTCS Notification Committee on 2 September 2009.

Did you also know that...

India's timber imports in 2008 were around US\$1.4 billion, out of which, US\$362.8 million (RM1.3 billion) originated from Malaysia. This made India Malaysia's third largest timber trading partner after the US and Japan. Products exported to India include logs worth US\$263 million (RM920 million), mainly from Sarawak and wooden furniture worth US\$44.8 million (RM156.8 million).

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DOCUMENTATION FOR IMPORTATION OF TIMBER FROM WEST KALIMANTAN INDONESIA

The Association received a letter from the General Manager of Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) on 1 December 2009 via Registration Circular No 1/2009 informing that any importation of timber from West Kalimantan Indonesia must be supported by the following documentations issued by relevant authorities in West Kalimantan:

- (i) Pemberitahuan Ekspor Barang (PEB);
- (ii) Pengakuan Sebagai Eksportir Terdaftar Produksi Industri Kehutanan (ETPIK) [issued by "Direktorat Jenderal Department Perindustrian dan Perdagangan"]
- (iii) Surat Keterangan Sahnya Hasil Hutan (SKSHH) or Nota Perusahaan, Endorsement [issued by Badan Revitalisasi Industri Kehutan (BRIK)]
- (iv) Laporan Surveyor (LS)

Importers are required to adhere to the above requirements stated therein.

A copy of the "Conditions or Restrictions" dated 1 October 2009 issued by STIDC which supersedes the previous copy dated 1 August 2008 is available from STA Secretariat. A copy of the "Conditions or Registration" can be obtained from the Secretariat or downloaded from STA website www.sta.org.my