

STA Review

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February 2008

64th STA Council Meeting

Majlis Persatuan telah mengadakan mesyuarat ke-64nya pada 1 Februari 2008.

Mesyuarat ini bertujuan untuk meneruskan mesyuarat yang ke-63 yang telah ditangguhkan kerana kekurangan kuorum dan untuk mengesahkan keputusan yang telah dibuat dalam mesyuarat tidak rasmi tersebut.

Majlis telah memutuskan Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan Persatuan akan diadakan pada Isnin, 31 Mac 2008.

■ The Council of the Association held its 64th Meeting on 1 February 2008. Datuk Leo Chai, the Chairman presided over the Meeting attended by thirteen Council Members.

One of the agenda of the Meeting was to continue with the adjourned 63rd Council Meeting which could not proceed due to a lack of quorum and to consider whether to ratify the decision made at the informal Meeting, namely a decision to permit voting by Council members through postal ballots on the proposed amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Association tabled in the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association held on 15 January 2008. After some deliberation, the meeting resolved to ratify the said decision.

The Meeting further resolved to open and count the ballots received from the Council Members at the meeting. The Legal Advisor, Mr. John Ko of Battenberg & Talma Advocates, made the announcement, after the votes had been counted, that the Council

had failed to achieve the unanimous assenting vote required to pass the amendments to the M&A. The Meeting also resolved to delegate the counting of Members' ballots to the Legal Advisor and requested the Legal Advisor to report the results of the count to the Chairman of the Association for tabling at the next Council Meeting and the Annual General Meeting of the Association.

The Council also resolved to fix the date of the Annual General Meeting of the Association as Monday, 31 March 2008 and since this is an election year; the Council appointed five Election Committee Members including the Chairman and the Honorary Secretary of the Association to carry out the duties provided under Article 8(a) of the M&A. The effective date for the appointment of the Election Committee for carrying out its functions stipulated in Article 8(a)(i) of the Articles of Association of the Association is 3 March 2008. ❁



Picture: Meeting in progress

STA Chinese New Year Open House

■ An annual event of the Association, the STA Chinese New Year Open Office 2008 was held on 14 February at Wisma STA, Kuching. This gathering is a gesture of appreciation to the business associates who had worked closely with the Association throughout the

years.

Around 300 guests from the various government agencies and the private sector attended this gathering. They were entertained by a lion dance and music performance by a Chinese traditional orchestra. ❁



Above: The lions paying their respects to the Chairman of STA and his invited guests



Above: Datuk Leo Chai receiving a flowered cabbage from the lions as a sign of good fortune for the new year

Right: The sumptuous layout for the guests



Above (from left to right): HE Mr. Xie Fu Gen, Consulate General of the China People Republic, Yth Bapak Bambang Prionggo, Consul General of Indonesia, Dr. Lee Hua Seng, CEO of STA, Datuk Leo Chai, Chairman of STA, Mr. Lau Swee Nguong, Vice-Chairman of STA and Mr. Ngjeng Ping Wei

Below: Guests mingling with each other and enjoying the Chinese New Year atmosphere at the STA Open House



Acara tahunan Persatuan iaitu Pejabat Terbuka Tahun Baru Cina 2008 telah diadakan pada 14 Februari di Wisma STA, Kuching sebagai tanda penghargaan kepada rakan-rakan sekerja yang bekerja rapat dengan Persatuan sepanjang tahun lepas.

Majlis dihadiri oleh lebih kurang 300 tetamu dari agensi-agensi kerajaan dan swasta. Mereka telah dihiburkan dengan tarian singa dan kumpulan orkestra tradisional cina.

Letters of Achievement and Financial Contributions for STAT Trainer Development and Operator Training Programmes

Majlis Penyampaian Sijil Pencapaian dan Sumbangan Kewangan kepada peserta yang berjaya dalam Program Pembangunan Pelatih dan Latihan Operator telah diadakan di Miri pada 22 Februari 2008. Dalam majlis ini, Encik Lau Swee Nguong, Naib Pengerusi, menegaskan kepentingan program latihan STAT dalam menyahut Seksyen 54B Ordinan Hutan yang memerlukan semua majikan mengupah pekerja hutan terlatih yang akan dikuatkuasakan oleh kerajaan pada suatu hari nanti.

Peserta yang berjaya dalam Program Pembangunan Pelatih ini akan menjadi pelatih di syarikat masing-masing untuk melatih pekerja mereka.

Dalam majlis yang sama, satu Memorandum Persefahaman (MoU) juga ditandatangani antara STAT dan Zedtee Sdn Bhd.

Melalui MoU ini, satu sumbangan kewangan telah diberikan kepada Zedtee Sdn Bhd untuk membantu syarikat dalam program penyelidikan mereka iaitu, taksiran saintifik, penyelidikan dan aktiviti lain yang berkaitan dengan senarai spesies IUCN di Unit Pengurusan Hutan Anap Muput.

■ The presentation of Letters of Achievement and Financial Contributions to successful candidates of STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) Trainer Development and Operator Training Programmes was successfully held in Miri on 22 February 2008.

Approximately 44 persons attended this presentation ceremony. Those present included the Vice Chairman of STA, Mr. Lau Swee Nguong, the Honorary Secretary, Ms. Loretta Lau, STA Council Members, Mr. Ling Chiong Sing, Mr. Law Kiu Kiong and Mr. Wong Ing Yung, the Group Chief Executive Officer of STA, Dr. Lee Hua Seng, the Company representatives, STAT's

trainers, trainers from Member's companies and members of the media.

At the presentation ceremony, Mr. Lau Swee Nguong emphasised that the training programme carried out by STAT are in response to the Section 54B of the Forest Ordinance which requires all logging companies to employ only skilled forest workers.

As at 31 January 2008, the number of Trainers and Assessors trained are as follows:

- Trained Trainers - 128 (including 5 from STAT)
- Trainee Trainers - 23 (including 2 from STAT)

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Left: Mr. Lau Swee Nguong presenting a certificate to one of the successful trainer

Below: Group photo of the successful candidates with the STA Vice-Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Council Members



(Continued from Page 3)

- Assessors - 6 (all from STAT)
- Trainee Assessors - 17 (including 2 from STAT)
- Operators - 170 achieved competency status

The candidates who had successfully completed the *Trainer Development Programme* will return to their company to start organising training for their own workers. It is hoped that these candidates will transfer their skills to improve the efficiency and safety at their work place as well as complement efforts to achieve sustainable forest management in the State.

During the presentation ceremony, the trainers were presented with a Letter of Achievement and a Financial Contribution of RM3,000.00 each. The companies who nominated these candidates received a Financial Contribution of RM6,000.00 per successful candidate trained. This is to defray part of the high costs of training incurred (such as loss of income due to training, costs incurred to host our training team, etc).

As a token of recognition to the successful trainers and to instil the pride of being skilled workers, STAT presented each trainer with a hi-viz T-Shirt, two wedges, a pair of ear

muffs and a safety helmet. This is to promote and improve the safety in the work place amongst the forest workmen.

A parallel programme, "*Operator Training Programme*", is also being implemented to provide assistance to these trainers from STA Member Companies to train their forest workers or operators. In this programme, the Financial Contribution for Training will be based on per operator trained as follows:

- RM 1,000.00 (Ringgit Malaysia One Thousand) to the Operator;
- RM 100.00 (Ringgit Malaysia One Hundred) to the Trainer, and
- RM 300.00 (Ringgit Malaysia Three Hundred) to the Company

STAT in order to support of the research and development activities of its Member Companies, has devised a Research & Development Financial Contributions scheme to be used to support these activities and other relevant activities which will bring benefits to the forest and timber industry in Sarawak. STAT recently approved a financial condition to Zedtee Sdn Bhd, upon its application, for it to carry out a research project related to IUCN Red-listed timber species. Thus, a Memorandum on

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Picture:
Exchanging of MoU between STAT, represented by Mr. Lau Swee Mguong and Zedtee Sdn Bhd, represented by Mr. Law Kiu Kiong and witnessed by Ms. Loretta Lau and Mr. Ling Chiong Sing

(Continued from Page 2)

Understanding (MoU) was signed between STAT and Zedtee Sdn Bhd on the same morning. Through this MoU, a financial contribution is made to Zedtee Sdn Bhd, to assist the company in its research programme on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) listed species at Anap Muput Forest Management Unit. The findings from this research will contribute to a better understanding of the IUCN listed species within the selected high conservation value forests (HCVFs) with emphasis on the establishment

of baseline data on timber species, especially on the *Dipterocarp* or Meranti family which are being included in the IUCN Red List, formulation of a strategy and training manual for the management and conservation of these IUCN listed species.

It is hoped that such contribution will further contribute to the perpetuation of the forest resources and rehabilitation of forest areas affected by logging. ❁

Fourth Forest Management Certification Steering Committee Meeting

Jawatankuasa Pemandu Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan telah bermesyuarat untuk kali ke-empat pada 20 Februari 2008 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Mesyuarat menerima laporan dari enam syarikat kayu yang sedang dalam proses penyediaan pensijilan Unit Pengurusan Hutan masing-masing.

■ The Forest Management Certification Steering Committee met for the fourth time on 20 February 2008 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Liew Tchin Fah of Sarawak Forestry Corporation.

The meeting was updated on the progress of preparation for certification by the six Forest Management Units (FMUs). Other issues that were discussed include the log fisher system and the Environmental Impact Assessment

(EIA) requirements for the Forest Management Plan and the Natural Resources and Environmental Board.

The log fisher system is being adopted by one of the FMUs for timber harvesting. This system is said to be more environmentally friendly for timber harvesting. To learn more about this system, a presentation will be organised in Sibul, tentatively in April 2008. This will then be followed by a field trip to the site where the machine is being used. ❁



Picture: Meeting in progress

Regional Workshop: Joint Project between the Malaysian Timber Certification Council and the Free & Hanseatic City of Hamburg

■ The Regional Workshop on the Joint Project between the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) and the Free & Hanseatic City of Hamburg (FHH) was held on 25 February 2008 in Kuching. It was attended by approximately 25 participants from various backgrounds e.g. trade associations and government agencies.

Mr. Chew Lye Teng, Chief Executive Officer of MTCC in his speech, informed that this was the first Workshop of a series of three Regional Workshops to be held. This MTCC-Hamburg Project was mooted as a result of the Malaysian Timber Certification Mission to Europe in 2002, where the then Minister of Primary Industries, YB Dato' Seri Dr. Lim Keng Yaik held a discussion with and urged the Senator of Economy and Employment in the Hamburg State Legislative Assembly, Mr. Gunnar Uldall, to review the Hamburg municipal authority's policy on public procurement of tropical timber to include certified timber

products under the MTCC scheme. This Project aimed to provide scientific support to refine the forest management standard i.e. the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest management Certification [MC&I (2002)], to ensure its practical application, and to fulfil the requirements of the FHH for the use of tropical timber.

To facilitate the implementation of the project, a Joint Project Team comprising German and Malaysian forest management and certification specialists has been formed. The team works independently in cooperation with MTCC and other relevant organizations in Malaysia, provides the necessary expertise and advice in implementing activities such as:

- (i) gap analysis of the MC&I (2002) against the requirements of the FHH;
- (ii) the identification of appropriate future research activities to generate data and information needed to enable the Indicators in the MC & I (2002) to be further

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Picture: Mr. Chew Lye Teng giving an explanation to participants about the Project

Bengkel wilayah bagi projek gabuagan di antara MTCC dan Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg (FHH) telah diadakan pada 25 Februari 2008 di Kuching. Projek ini bertujuan untuk menyediakan sokongan dari segi saintifik bagi melicinkan piawaian Pengurusan Hutan iaitu Kriteria dan Indikator Pensijilan Pengurusan Hutan 2002 [MC&I (2002)]. Ia bertujuan untuk memastikan aplikasi yang praktikal dan memenuhi keperluan FHH dalam penggunaan kayu tropika.

Kumpulan Projek Gabungan yang terdiri daripada gabungan pakar pengurusan hutan dan pensijilan dari Jerman dan Malaysia telah ditubuhkan bagi melicinkan pelaksanaan projek tersebut.

Kumpulan ini bekerja secara bebas dengan kerjasama dari MTCC dan organisasi lain yang berkaitan di Malaysia. Empat kertas kerja telah dibentangkan iaitu Projek MTCC-Hamburg - Pelaksanaan Projek di Malaysia, Keputusan Analisis Gap, Hasil Pemeriksaan Pengesahan dan Pelicinan MC&I (2002) dan Cadangan untuk

Pembangunan/Pelicinan Garis Panduan/Prosedur dan Pengenalpastian untuk Penyelidikan pada masa akan datang.

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refined during future review of the MC & I; and

- (iii) the revision of existing management guidelines and procedures for best management practice for forestry in Malaysia. The revised guidelines shall enable FMU managers in the respective regions to fully meet and implement the requirements of the refined MC & I (2002)

An Inception Workshop to brief and inform all relevant stakeholders with regard to the scope and implementation of this Joint project was held in early 2007 in Kuala Lumpur. Four consultants on the aspects of forest management, social, concession and legality and forest conservation were engaged for this Project. The outcome of the gap analyses by the four

consultants were presented for further discussion with stakeholders in the two-day Mid-term Workshop that was held in Kuala Lumpur from 25 to 26 June 2007.

The Regional Workshop that was held in Kuching recently was a crucial milestone in the implementation of this Project as it disseminates important information to the stakeholders. Four papers were presented namely MTCC-Hamburg Project - Project Implementation in Malaysia, Results of Gap Analysis, Outcome of Verifier Check and Refinements for MC & I (2002) and Recommendations for Development/Refinement of Guidelines/Procedures and Identification of Future Research Activities. ❁

Seminar on Understanding of Environmental Requirements for Industrial Effluent Treatment Systems and Air Pollution Control Systems

Jabatan Alam Sekitar dan Institut Alam Sekitar Malaysia bergabung untuk menganjurkan Seminar tentang Pemahaman terhadap Keperluan Alam Sekitar untuk Sistem Rawatan Efluen Industri (IETS) dan Sistem Pengawalan Pencemaran Udara (APCS) pada 20 dan 21 Februari 2008 di Kuching, Sarawak. Seminar ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan prosedur dan keperluan baru kepada industri dan perunding pengawalan pencemaran. Rekabentuk

■ Environmental management is an integral part of conducting business in today's world. In the industrial operation, the importance of management of pollution cannot be overemphasized. Typically, industries which discharge effluents and air emissions will build and operate industrial effluent treatment systems (IETS) and air pollution control systems (APCS). Prerequisites for a successful story of pollution control systems include proper design, adequate construction according to approved plans and proper operation and maintenance. After the IETS or

APCS has been constructed, to ensure continuous compliance with the relevant discharge and emission standards, the IETS and APCS need to be operated and maintained in a fashion which can be described as "according to accepted engineering practice". In line with the above understanding, DoE is introducing new procedures and requirements on the application and operation of IETS and APCS.

A Seminar on Understanding of Environmental Requirements for Industrial Effluent Treatment Systems and Air Pollution Control

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Systems, jointly organised by the Department of Environment (DoE) and the Environment Institute of Malaysia (EiMAS), was held on 20 and 21 February 2008 in Kuching, Sarawak. The seminar was attended by 150 participants from both the private sector and government agencies aimed at explaining the new procedure and requirements to the industries and pollution control consultants. Proper design and operation of IETS and APCS will ensure that industries are always in compliance with the Sewage and Industrial Effluent Regulations 1979 and the Clean Air Regulations 1978 respectively.

The primary objective of the seminar was to inform consultants and industries on the latest requirements of DoE with relation to the application and operation of IETS and (APCS). The seminar also intended to;

- Explain the latest procedural requirements for the application of Written Permission for IETS and APCS;
- Introduce and discuss new application forms for IETS and APCS (scrubber, bag filter, cyclone and spray booth);
- Impart knowledge on the recommended procedure for conducting industrial effluent characterisation studies;
- Explain the importance of performance monitoring for IETS and APCS; and
- Promote self regulation for pollution management among the industries.

The seminar also discussed:

- New procedure for the application of written permission/ approval (for IETS and air pollution control

equipment);

- New application forms for IETS and air pollution control;
- Recommended procedure for conducting an industrial effluent characterisation study;
- Requirements on performance monitoring of the IETS and air pollution control equipment; and
- Requirements on record keeping.

The presenters were Dr. Ir. Shamsudin Ab Latif, Deputy Director General of Environment and Mr. Mohd Hidzir Bakar, Principal Assistant Director of DoE.

The following papers were presented:

- Ensuring Compliance with Effluent Discharge Standard;
- Procedure for Application of Written Permission for Industrial Effluent Treatment Systems;
- Performance Monitoring of Industrial Effluent Treatment Systems;
- Industrial Effluent Characterisation Study;
- Ensuring Compliance and Emission Standards;
- Procedure for Application of Written Approvals for Air Pollution Control Systems; and
- Performance Monitoring of Air Pollution Control Systems.

Note: Papers presented at the Seminar is available from the STA Secretariat at nominal printing cost.

dan operasi yang sesuai untuk IETS and APCS dapat memastikan industri mematuhi Peraturan Kumbahan dan Efluen Industri 1979 dan Peraturan Udara Bersih 1978.

EKSPO KOMODITI 2008

EKSPO KOMODITI 2008 anjuran Kementerian Perusahaan Perladangan & Komoditi bersama telah diadakan di Miri dari 22-29 Februari 2008. EKSPO ini meliputi komoditi seperti getah, koko, kelapa sawit, kayu kayan dan lada hitam. Sektor Kayu diwakili oleh Majlis Pensijilan Kayu Malaysia, Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia, STA dan tiga buah ahli syarikat STA.

■ The Commodity Expo 2008 organised by the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities, was held in Miri from 22-29 February 2008. The EXPO firstly was held from 22-24 February 2008 at Imperial Hotel and subsequently at the Dewan Suarah, Miri from 25-29 February 2008. Officiated by the Minister of Plantation and Commodities, Y.B. Datuk Peter Chin, this event was opened to the public. The EXPO covered the different commodities such as Rubber, Cocoa, Palm Oil, Timber and Pepper. The Timber Sector was represented by Malaysian Timber Certification Council, the

Malaysian Timber Industry Board, STA and three STA Member Companies.

Each commodity was given a day to focus on the specialty of the commodity. 28 February 2008 was allocated as the Timber Sector Day. The programmes lined up for this day included a Briefing on Timber by Mr. Othman Mohammad from MTIB, Wood Puzzle Competition, Timber Quiz, Dowel Guessing and Open Interview with MTIB on the job opportunities in the timber industry. The briefing on the Timber touched on the types of timber found in Malaysia and their uses. ❁

Right: The Timber Sector booth



Below: Some of the exhibits at the booth



Right: Briefing session on Timber by Mr. Othman Mohammad of MTIB



STA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Date: Monday, 31 March 2008

Time: 10.30 am (*Registration will start at 9.00 am*)

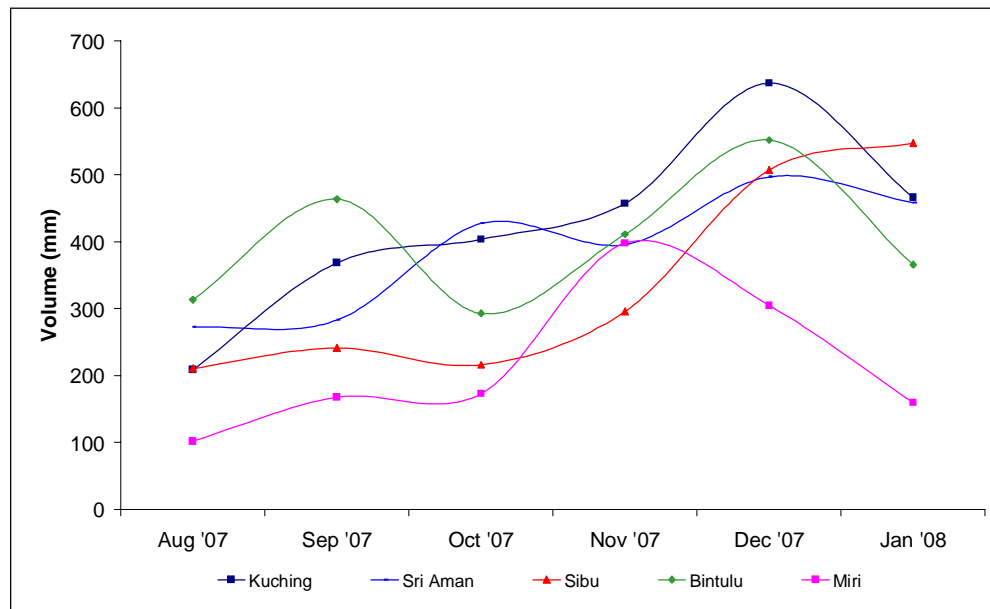
Venue: Level 4, Wisma STA, Kuching

As this is an election year, nomination papers for the election of Council Members and Notice & Agenda of the AGM will be posted to eligible members on the first week of March 2008.

All duly completed nomination papers (in accordance with Article 8(b) (iii) of the Articles of Association of Sarawak Timber Association) must be submitted to the Election Committee not less than one (1) week before the election date which is fixed on 31 March 2008 (in accordance with Article 8(b)(ii) of the Articles of Association of Sarawak Timber Association).

Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan STA akan diadakan pada hari Isnin, 31 March 2008, jam 10.30 pagi di Wisma STA, Kuching. Pendaftaran akan bermula pada jam 9.00 pagi.

Rainfall : August '07 - January '08 Kadar Hujan Bulanan



Source : Malaysian Meteorological Services.

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