



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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Workshop on Developing Standard and Compliance Checklist for Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System

A two-day Workshop on Developing Standard and Compliance Checklist for Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS) covering forest management and operations as well as Chain of Custody was held on 1 and 2 February 2016 at Riverside Majestic Hotel, Kuching. This Workshop was led by the Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment and was conducted by the State forestry agencies i.e. Forest Department Sarawak, Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd.

The Workshop aimed to develop a Standard and Compliance Checklist for STLVS based on the existing State's laws, regulations, procedures governing forest and timber trade as well as other relevant laws / regulations and procedures. The said document will be used by a third party to verify the compliance of the timber and timber

products produced in the State.

Puan Dayang Nena Abang Bruce, Senior Assistant General Manager (Trade and Industry), STIDC welcomed all participants and their contributions in developing the Standard and Compliance Checklist for STLVS based on their Standard Operating Procedures for STLVS. She mentioned that this will give assurance to the buyer that the timber and timber products from Sarawak are legally produced and have complied with the State laws and regulations.

In the Workshop, officers from the Government agencies, together with Secretariat from Sarawak Timber Association gave inputs to the development of the Standard and Compliance Checklist. There will also be consultation workshop(s) held in near future with the timber industry to seek their inputs.

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Ninth Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade Meeting

The forty (40) Technical Working Groups from the twenty one (21) Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) member economies met in Lima, Peru over the two weeks starting from 20 February 2016 to 4 March 2016 to develop new, cross-cutting policies for ensuring "Quality Growth and Human Development". The proceedings will

then be tabled in the First APEC Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM1) on 3 and 4 March 2016 for consideration and decision for the next steps.

The Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade

(Continue on page 2)

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(Continued from page 1)

(EGILAT) is a body within APEC under the SOM Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation, which was established in 2011. EGILAT's mission is to foster sustainable economic growth in the Asia-Pacific region by enhancing the efforts of member economies to take concrete steps to combat illegal logging and associated trade and promote trade in legally harvested forest products.

The Ninth (9th) APEC EGILAT Meeting was held from 20 to 21 February 2016 at Swissotel, Lima, Peru. The Malaysian delegation which comprised four (4) representatives, was led by Mr Mad Zaidi Mohd Karli, the Undersecretary of Timber, Tobacco and Kenaf Industries Development Division under the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC). The other three (3) representatives were from the Malaysian Timber Industry Board, Forest Department Sarawak and the Association.

Ms Lilian Ballon, Director for Regional and Bilateral Issues, Environment Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru kicked off the Meeting by welcoming all delegates from fourteen (14) member economies to the city of Lima, Peru. She enlightened the Meeting with the background of this year's APEC theme "Quality Growth and Human Development" and its priorities. She commented that Peru is committed to combat illegal logging and associated trade as well as to promote trade in legally harvested forest products. She also informed the Meeting that Peru has submitted a draft Concept Paper on the inclusion of a preventive approach to illegal logging and associated trade as a way of fostering trade in legal timber and timber products, and building capacity for the consideration of the Meeting.

The Meeting was presided by Dr Ruth Turia of Papua New Guinea, Chair of the EGILAT. After some deliberation, the Meeting resolved to accept the EGILAT's 2016 Work Plan and to submit it to the SOM Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation - Committee of the Whole Meeting (SCE-COW) for endorsement. The Meeting also agreed to continue discussion on the definition of "a preventive approach" to the concept of illegal logging with regard to the ELIGAT's

Terms and Reference.

The Meeting agreed to further discuss with the Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures (SCCP) and Anti-Corruption and Transparency Working Group (ACTWG) on future cooperation among forestry, customs and law enforcement authorities in combating illegal logging and associated trade at the Tenth (10th) APEC EGILAT Meeting to be held in August 2016 in Lima, Peru. The Meeting resolved to participate in the Pathfinder Dialogue III with ACTWG on the best practices and lessons in fighting corruption and crimes that have an impact on the environment in terms of forestry. The Meeting also agreed to develop a joint concept note on the Customs Workshop with regard to illegal logging issues to be held in 2017, if funding is available.

The Meeting endorsed the concept notes on "Strengthening Forest Control Systems and Market Chains in APEC Economies" proposed by Peru and "Dialogue on the Involvement of Civil Society and Private Sector/SMEs on Combating Illegal Logging and Associated Trade towards Sustainable Growth" proposed by Vietnam.

In 2015, EGILAT reached an agreement on a Common Understanding of the Scope of Illegal Logging and Associated Trade, and a Timber Legality Guidance Template. Over the next year, in accordance with the Common Understanding, each APEC economy will, to the extent possible, compile the information described in the Timber Legality Guidance Template and will, to the extent possible, share this information among APEC member economies. The compiled information will be posted online, to serve as an information resource for governments, the private sector and civil society. At this Meeting, the EGILAT agreed to invite member economies to present their compiled information described in the Timber Legality Guidance Template based on the Common Understanding of the Scope of Illegal Logging and Associated Trade at the 10th APEC EGILAT Meeting.



Did you know that....

With the release of satellite imagery for free of areas under threat, Japan will participate in global efforts to solve illegal logging in forests near the equator. Japanese officials hoped that the information will be beneficial to dozens of nations in Africa, Southeast Asia and South America. The said regions accommodate nearly 50% of the world's forested locations, and the sites of various illegal logging operations. The said data is projected to be posted online from August 2016 by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Source: Asahi Shimbun/Asahi Japan Watch, 14 Feb 2016

Did you also know that...

This year Form Ghana reached a milestone in plantation forestry with the first harvest of 3,000 cubic metres of teak from FSC certified plantations near Akumadan, the capital of Offinso North. The teak plantations are managed by Form Ghana and have been certified since 2010. The plantations have been established and are managed with the help of Form International in the Netherlands.

Source: <http://www.fordaq.com/fordaq/news/>



Seminar on Awareness on Occupational Safety and Health Management System and Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems



Photo: Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye delivering his opening speech

NIOSH Certification Sdn Bhd in collaboration with TM TEC Academy (M) Sdn Bhd organised a Seminar on Awareness on Occupational Safety and Health Management System MS1722:2011 and Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems OHSAS 18001:2007 on 24 February 2016 at Riverside Majestic Hotel, Kuching. The Seminar was attended by approximately 120 participants from Government agencies and private sectors.

Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye, Chairman of National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in his opening speech mentioned that since the introduction of Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), 1994, the number of accidents at the workplaces showed a significant reduction. The industrial accident rate in the country has fallen from 5.84 cases for every 1,000 workers in 2004 to 3.10 cases last year, based on the latest statistics from the Ministry of Human Resources. However, though Malaysia's industrial accident rate has been reduced to 37% over the past 11 years (2003 to 2014), the remaining challenge would be to build and foster an occupational safety and health (OSH) culture in Malaysia and strive towards an accident-free workplace environment. He mentioned that management who are responsible for the safety and health at the workplace can change the attitude of their employees by ensuring an annual

budget for safety training and education to help prevent work-related accidents and diseases among the workforce. He added that training and education also served as an integral part of OSH management as they contributed towards the enhancement of occupational safety and health at the worksite.

Encik Muhammad Fadhil Abu Bakar, Training Manager at NIOSH Certification Sdn Bhd briefed the participants of the Seminar on the overview of OSH Management System and the difference between OHSAS 18001:2007 and MS 1772:2011 requirements. He stressed that under the OSHA 1994 Requirement, it shall be the duty of every employer and every self-employed person to formulate safety and health policy if the organisation has more than five employees. It is also the duty of the employer to bring the statement and any revision of the policy to the notice of all of his employees. He also briefed the participants of the Seminar on the OSH Management System elements and requirements. The OSH Management System elements include OSH Policy, planning, implementation and operation, checking, management review and continual improvement.

Mr Mut anak Sagai, Deputy Director (operation) Department of Safety and Health (DOSH) Sarawak briefed the participants of the Seminar on DOSH in Sarawak and the Principles of OSHA 1994 (Act 514).



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STA Prizes 2015



Photo: Ms Dayang Nur Ainnayana (Right) receiving the award for STA Best Final Year Project from Ms Annie Ting (Left), Senior Manager of STA

STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM), a subsidiary company of Sarawak Timber Association (STA) has been providing STA Best Graduating Student and STA Best Final Year Project awards in recognition of excellent performance in academic achievement since 2005.

The selection of students for these two awards is based on the recommendations by lecturers from the Faculty of Resource Science and Technology in Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) and the Faculty of Forestry and/or

Faculty Wood Science and Technology in Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM).

Every year, two (2) best students from each Faculty will be awarded the STA Prizes. The student for the Best Graduating Student award will receive a cheque amounting to RM1,000, an acrylic plaque and a certificate, whereas the student for the Best Final Year Project Paper award will receive a cheque amounting to RM500, an acrylic plaque and a certificate.

For the year 2015, Mr Tan Hong Wee received the award for STA Best Graduating Student and Ms Dayang Nur Ainnayana Binti Abang Bohari received the award for STA Best Final Year Project for her project entitled "Structural Characteristics of a Regrowth Forest Stand". Both students were from UNIMAS.

For UPM, Mr Mohd Redhzuan Bin Hassan received the award for STA Best Graduating Student and Ms Mariatul Amira Binti Ismail received the award for STA Best Final Year Project for her project entitled "Compreg Laminated Bamboo Hybrid Treated with Phenolic Resin plus Urea Admixture".