

STA dan Rakan2



January 2010

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Issue 139

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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BRIEFING ON THE REQUIREMENTS OF MC&I (FOREST PLANTATIONS)



Picture: (Top and bottom left) Mr Yong Teng Khoon and En. Mohd Faisal Jaafar of MTCC briefing participants and (Top right) Participants in the briefing

The Eleventh National Steering Committee (NSC) meeting held on 25 November 2008 adopted the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Forest Plantations) or in short the MC&I(Forest Plantations) as a standard for certification of forest plantations in Malaysia. The development of the MC&I(Forest Plantations) has been subjected to rigorous scrutiny in the form of deliberations through five Technical Working group (TWG) meetings, three regional consultations, one public consultations as well as

three field tests, over the period from February 2006 to November 2008. The Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) Board then adopted the MC&I (Forest Plantations) as the standard for forest plantations certification under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme in February 2009.

A two-day briefing on the requirements of the MC&I (Forest Plantations) by the MTCC was organised by STA on 25 and 26 January 2010 at Wisma STA, Kuching. Mr. Yong Teng Khoon, the Senior Manager (Forest

Management) and Mr. Mohd Faisal Jaafar, Executive (Forest Management) from the MTCC were present to brief approximately 30 participants from STA Member Companies and the Sarawak Forestry Corporation.

During the briefing, participants were taken through the 10 Principles, 55 Criteria and 106 Indicators in the MC&I (Forest Plantations). In the question and answer session, participants were able to seek clarifications on this subject.

**Did you know
that...**

Trade between China and Malaysia in 2008 made up 11% of Malaysia's international trade or MYR 180bn. China was the fourth biggest trading partner of Malaysia after Singapore, Japan and the US. Exports from Malaysia to China in 2008 were MYR 63bn. Malaysia is prepared for the full implementation of the FTA between China and the six founding members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), namely Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia and Brunei.

Source:
Business Times
Malaysia
01 Jan 2010

SEMINAR AND WORKSHOP ON IMPROVED UTILISATION OF TROPICAL PLANTATION TIMBERS

The project entitled 'Improving utilisation and value adding of plantation timbers from sustainable sources in Malaysia' approved by International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO) in 2006 was implemented for a period of slightly more than three year. The overall development objective of the project was to improve end uses and value adding of Malaysia forest plantation resources through systematic evaluation of basic physical, mechanical and other properties in order to contribute to the development of a sustainable wood-based industry. A three-day seminar and workshop will be held as follows:

Date: 23 – 25 March 2010
Venue: The Legend Hotel, Kuala Lumpur
Registration free: RM50 or USD50 for foreign participants

The executive agencies for the project were the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), Forest Research Centre Sabah (FRC) and Timber Research & Technical Training Centre (TRTTC) of the Sarawak Forestry Corporation and sponsored by International tropical Timber Organisation.

For more information, please contact:

Secretariat,
Seminar / Workshop on Improved Utilisation of Tropical Plantation Timbers,
Forest Research Institute Malaysia
52107 Kepong,
Selangor
(Attn: Dr Tan Yu Eng / Ms Thilagawathy)
Tel: 03-62797452 / 03 – 62797396
Fax: 0362804623
Email: tanye@frim.gov.my / thilagawathy@frim.gov.my

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IMPORTATION OF LOGS AND LUMBER / SAWN TIMBER

The Association received a letter from Department of Agriculture Ref No: PQS13/v10/(62) dated 11 January 2010 informing that the Government through the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) Malaysia has decided that all importation of logs and lumber/sawn timber from ALL countries must be accompanied with (i) Import Permit from Department of Agriculture Malaysia and (ii) Phytosanitary Certificate from the exporting country with effect from 3 November 2009 .

In view of the appeal from relevant parties, a 'grace period' of 6 months is given, ie enforcement of this requirement will be from **1 May 2010**.

Members are advised to comply with this new requirement so as to protect the timber industry from dangerous pests and diseases.

For further information, please contact:

Department of Agriculture
Tel: 082-255845 / 082-414712

ROYALTY SINGLE (FLAT) RATE

The State Government has approved the extension of single (flat) royalty rate of RM50.00 per m³ in round or RM100.00 per m³ converted to 30 June 2010 and at the same time extend the time for payment of royalty bills by giving a grace period of 3 months. This will take effect from 1 January 2010.

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HEAT TREATMENT ISPM#15 COMPLIANCE COURSE

The Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFC) is organising a Heat Treatment ISPM#15 Compliance Course. The training course details are as below:-

Date: 9 - 11 March 2010
 Venue: SFC, Kota Sentosa, Mile 7, Kuching-Penrissen Road, Kuching
 Fee: RM450/participant
 Closing Date: 5 March 2010

The training course will cover the following topics:-

- Purpose of ISPM#15, procedure & requirement
- ISPM#15 implementation & certification scheme
- Technical requirement for ISPM#15 compliance
- Operational procedure & process assessment
- Date collection & interpretation
- Trouble shooting & safety precaution

A copy of the registration form is available at STA Secretariat. For further information, please contact:

Puan Norhayati Rapa'ee
 Department of Agriculture
 Plant Protection & Quarantine Division
 Kuching
 Tel: 082-414712

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AIFTA SCHEME AND AANZFTA

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) Sarawak Regional Office informed that the ASEAN-India Free Trade Area (AIFTA) Scheme and ASEAN Australia New Zealand FTA (AANZFTA) was implemented with effect from 1 January 2010, subject to the legal enactment passed by the Customs.

Members who are exporting to India, Australia and New Zealand are to submit / forward the Cost Analysis Application Form to MITI or its branch offices as soon as possible.

A copy of the Cost Analysis Application form can be downloaded from STA website www.sta.org.my

More information can be found in MITI's website www.miti.gov.my

Did you also know that...

The annual Ethical Consumerism Report conducted by Co-operative Bank has revealed that in 2008 UK household expenditure on environmentally friendly products exceeded GBP 6.40bn (EUR 7.07bn / USD 10.42bn). Most UK households are now spending more than GBP 250 per year on green goods, including energy-efficient appliances and low-energy light bulbs. This marks a 5% increase on the previous year.

Source:
 MTIB News Extracts
 (Vol.51/12/09)

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**WISHING ALL OUR
CHINESE READERS A
HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR 2010**



**FROM CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL MEMBERS, MEMBERS &
MANAGEMENT OF STA**