

STA Review

Volume 232

PPK 174/05/2013 (032756)

Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association

January 2013



3
STA CERTIFICATION
Committee Meeting

4
AUSTRALIA'S
Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012

6
CONSULTATION
on Minimum Wages and Workers' Levy

CONTENTS

PAGE

STA REVIEW

<i>STA Certification Committee Meeting</i>	3
<i>Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Projects by STA Member Companies</i>	3
<i>Australia's Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012</i>	4
<i>Consulation on Minimum Wages and Workers' Levy</i>	6
<i>Certification Workshop 2013</i>	7
<i>Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation Industry Update 2013</i>	8
<i>STA Furniture & Other Woodworking Committee Meeting</i>	9
<i>Workshop Consultation on Green Technology</i>	10
<i>The Malaysian Timber Association Executive Committee Meeting No 1/2013</i>	11
<i>Basic Log and Timber Identification Skills Course</i>	24

REGULAR FEATURES

<i>Statistics</i>	12
<i>Rainfall data</i>	24

COVER IMAGE:



Nepenthes rafflesiana

Habitat: Open peat swamp and sandy Kerangas forests

Photo courtesy of Anna Photo Studio

is a monthly magazine published by Sarawak Timber Association (STA) for its members. While every effort has been made to ensure that the information printed in this magazine is accurate and correct, neither STA nor its Council Members, Officers or Employees shall assume any responsibility or be made liable for any inaccuracies and errors printed; nor is such publication, unless otherwise, stated, necessarily the views of STA, its Council Members, Officers or Employees. The contents of the STA Review may be reprinted with prior written permission from STA.

STA Review is mailed free of charge to all STA Members. Paid subscription is also available to non-members. An annual subscription fee of RM200.00 is charged to organisations within Malaysia, and US\$300.00 to foreign organisations in other Asian countries, Australia and New Zealand, and US\$500.00 to foreign organisations in American and European countries respectively. The subscription fee is inclusive of courier charges. STA reserves the right to change the subscription fees from time to time to reflect currency fluctuations. Paid subscription is non-refundable.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Chief Editor

Dr Peter CS Kho

Editor

Law Hui Chau

Members

Annie Ting

Erin Tan

Jaime Chan

Miriam Hong

Mohamad Faraddy

Salfa Kamazura

Winnie Lee

Wong How Chu

Published by

Sarawak Timber Association

11 Floor, Wisma STA,

26, Jalan Datuk Abang Abdul Rahim,
93450 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia

Tel: ++ (60 82) 332 222

Fax: ++ (60 82) 487 888, 487 999

Email: sta@sta.org.my

Website: www.sta.org.my

Printed by

Wisma Printing Sdn Bhd

Lot 1949, Section 66, KTL D, Lorong Tekad 1,
Jalan Tekad, Pending Industrial Estate,

93450 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia

Tel : ++ (60 82) 338 131 (4 Lines)

Fax : ++ (60 82) 333 002

Email : wismaprinting@yahoo.com

STA CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING



Photo: Meeting in progress

The STA Certification Committee met for the first time this year on 14 January 2013 at Wisma STA in Kuching. The Meeting was chaired by the Chairman of the committee, Dato Henry Lau. Among the issues discussed were the Non-Governmental Organisations' (NGOs) allegations on Sarawak's timber industry, Sarawak Timber Industry Lab and other matters on legality and certification.

Ahli Jawatankuasa Pensijilan STA telah bermesyuarat pada 14 Januari 2013 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Mesyuarat ini telah dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusinya, Dato Henry Lau. Antara isu yang dibincangkan adalah dakwaan Pertubuhan Bukan Kerajaan (NGO) mengenai industri perkayuan Sarawak, Makmal Industri Perkayuan Sarawak dan perkara-perkara lain mengenai kesahan dan pensijilan.

STA认证委员会于今年1月14日假STA大厦召开会议。此会议由委员会主席拿督劉利康主持。会议讨论课题覆盖非政府组织（NGO）对砂拉越木材工业的指控，砂拉越木材工业工作营(STIL)和其他合法和认证事项。

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) PROJECTS BY STA MEMBER COMPANIES

STA member companies have Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes that benefit communities living in their concession areas. However, not a lot of publicity has been given to these programmes. Recognising the importance of CSR, STA represented by its Certification Committee strongly believes that it is time for members to publicise their CSR initiatives through the monthly STA Review.

However, this is based on voluntary basis. For further information, please contact Ms Jaime Chan or Mr Shaffeqe Affendy at 082-332222.

Syarikat ahli STA mempunyai program-program Tanggungjawab Sosial Korporat (CSR) yang memberi manfaat kepada masyarakat yang tinggal di kawasan konsesi mereka. Walau bagaimanapun, tidak banyak publisiti telah diberikan kepada program-program ini. Menyedari kepentingan CSR, STA diwakili oleh Jawatankuasa Pensijilan percaya bahawa sudah tiba masanya untuk ahli-ahli untuk menghebahkan inisiatif CSR mereka melalui terbitan bulanan STA Review.

Walaupun bagaimanapun, ini adalah atas dasar sukarela. Untuk maklumat lanjut, sila hubungi Cik Jaime Chan atau Encik Shaffeqe Affendy di talian 082-332222.

本会会员公司对特许经营社区进行有利于该社区的企业社会责任（CSR）计划。然而，这并未大力宣传。基于认可CSR的重要性，本会STA认证委员会强烈认为现在是时候通过STA Review为会员公司宣传他们的企业社会责任计划。

这是以会员公司自愿提交为前提。欲知详情，请拨打082-332222联系Jaime Chan女士或Shaffeqe Affendy先生。

AUSTRALIA'S ILLEGAL LOGGING

The Australia Illegal Logging Prohibition Bill 2012 had been passed by the Australian Parliament on 19 November 2012 and has subsequently received the Royal Assent on 28 November 2012. From 29 November 2012 onwards, the importation of illegally logged timber into Australia and the domestic processing of illegally logged Australian raw logs are prohibited.

The AILPA 2012 allows for due diligence and compliance requirements and regulated timber products to be prescribed in regulations. The Australian Government, represented by the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), is currently drafting regulations that will detail the operational aspects of AILPA 2012 which will come into effect on 30 November 2014. This means effective 30 November 2014, the following are mandatory requirements in Australia:

- Importers of regulated timber products and domestic processors of domestically grown raw logs will be required to conduct due diligence in order to reduce the risk that illegally logged timber and timber products is imported and/or processed
- Importers of regulated timber products must provide declarations, at the time of import, to the Ministry for Home Affairs about the due diligence that they have undertaken

The Australian Government has made its commitment to consult with stakeholders throughout the development of the legislation and regulations through the formation of Working Group comprising representatives from the industry, civil society and interested economies. Regulations setting out the list of regulated timber products and due diligence requirements are scheduled to be tabled in the Australian Parliament before the end of May 2013. The due diligence requirements will only apply to the list of regulated timber products. The following are the scheduled workshops and Working Group meetings for the period of December 2012 to April 2013:

Workshop	Date	Venue
Workshop on Regulated Products	19 December 2012	Sydney
Workshop on Due Diligence	30 January 2013	Melbourne
Working Group Meeting (teleconference)	13 February 2013	Canberra
Workshop on Monitoring, Compliance and Reporting	27 February 2013	Sydney
Workshop on Regulations Package	27 March 2013	Canberra
Working Group Meeting (teleconference)	10 April 2013	Canberra

Malaysia, under the lead Ministry of the Ministry Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC), has formed its working group to participate in coordinating Malaysia's input in the drafting of the regulations. The Malaysian Working Group comprises representatives from the government agencies/departments and timber trade associations from the three regions, including Sarawak Timber Association (STA). The Malaysian Working Group will meet to discuss the draft workshop discussion paper on the regulation, which will be circulated before each respective workshop, and to come out with Malaysia's input prior to attending the workshop.

The Malaysian Working Group, represented by representatives from the Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) and STA, attended the Second Workshop on Due Diligence held on 30 January 2013 in Melbourne, Australia. About fifty (50) participants attended the workshop, where an Officer from the DAFF informed participants on the parameters for developing due diligence requirements under the AILPA 2012. This workshop deliberated on the elements of the due diligence requirements with the objective of minimising the risks of illegally logged timber and timber products entering the Australian market, including:

- Risk analysis and evaluation requirements under the AILPA 2012;
- Risk mitigation requirements under the AILPA 2012; and
- The guidance needs of industry to facilitate compliance

The workshop also identified action items required to finalise the due diligence requirements. This workshop deliberated on the revised model presented in the discussion paper which involves four steps and adopts a risk-based approach. The four steps are (1) information gathering and retention; (2) information analysis and initial assessment; (3) risk assessment; and (4) risk mitigation. Participants from industry at this Workshop applauded the Australian Government for their practical-approach by coming out with Step 2. This step will enable "low risk" products to be identified and

ING PROHIBITION ACT 2012

imported without carrying out further steps of the due diligence process. The objective criteria for the assessment of Legality Assurance System is being developed and will be ready for discussion in the Fourth Workshop which is scheduled to be held on 27 March 2013 in Canberra.

DAFF will consider the requests by participants at the workshop which included the information required under Step 1 not to use common name for tree species and to allow grouping of timbers under a trade name as well as to simplify the due diligence requirements to avoid unnecessary increase in costs and yet in compliance with the AILPA 2012.

Pada 19 November 2012, Rang Undang Larangan Pembalakan Haram Australia 2012 (AILPA 2012) telah diluluskan oleh Parliament Australia dan kemudiannya menerima Perkenan Diraja pada 28 November 2012. Mulai 29 November 2012, larangan pengimportan kayu yang dituai secara haram ke Australia dan pemprosesan domestik bagi balak yang dituai secara haram di Australia akan berkuatkuasa.

AILPA 2012 dilaksanakan berdasarkan due diligence dan keperluan pematuhan serta produk kayu terkawal seperti yang ditetapkan dalam Akta. Kerajaan Australia sangat komited dalam rundingan dengan pelbagai pihak berkepentingan sepanjang proses pembangunan perundangan dan peraturan melalui pembentukan Kumpulan Kerja.

Malaysia, di bawah teraju Menteri di Kementerian Perusahaan Perladangan dan Komoditi (KPPK), telah menubuhkan kumpulan kerja untuk terlibat sama dan menyelaraskan input Malaysia bagi pengubalan perundangan ini. Kumpulan Kerja Malaysia terdiri daripada wakil-wakil dari agensi kerajaan / jabatan dan persatuan perdagangan kayu dari tiga wilayah termasuk Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA).

Jabatan Pertanian Perikanan dan Perhutanan (DAFF), Australia akan mempertimbangkan cadangan peserta bengkel untuk tidak menggunakan nama biasa bagi spesies pokok dan untuk membolehkan penggunaan kumpulan kayu di bawah nama perdagangan serta meringkaskan pelaksanaan 'due diligence' untuk mengelakkan peningkatan kos yang tidak diperlukan dan pada masa yang sama dapat mematuhi AILPA 2012.

有效于2012年11月29日起，澳洲禁止进口非法采伐木材以及国内加工澳洲本土生长的非法采伐原木。

澳洲非法采伐禁令(AILPA 2012)承认尽职审查,符合需求以及法令规管的木材产品。

澳洲政府已承诺将在整个法例和法规进展期间，成立一个工作小组于咨询利益相关者的意见。

马来西亚在种植与原产业部(MPIC)的领导下已成立一个由3区域的政府机构/部门以及木材贸易公会包括本会代表的工作小组。这小组将参与协助提供意见予法规草拟工作。

澳洲农业，渔业和林业 (DAFF) 将考虑工作坊参与者的请求即在遵守AILP 2012同时，不使用普遍的树种名称，允许木材以商品名称分组以及简化尽职审查需求以避免增加成本。

CONSULTATION ON MINIMUM WAGES AND WORKERS' LEVY

The consultation with the timber industry on the implementation of Minimum Wages and Workers' Levy was organised by the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) on 10 January 2013 at the Seri Pacific Hotel in Kuala Lumpur. About one hundred fifty (150) participants from the government departments/agencies and timber industry attended the session.

This consultation session was chaired by Dato' Hamzah Zainudin, the Assistant Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities. The session started off with the presentation by Mr T Shanmugam, the Secretary of the National Wages Consultative Council, on the implementation of Minimum Wages Order which came into force on 1 January 2013.

Participants from the timber industry, in particular the furniture industry, were very frustrated and disappointed with the Government on the way the Minimum Wages Order was implemented, which was done without a clear understanding on how the industry operates in terms of the existing wage structure. Participants felt strongly the component of Minimum Wages should not just consist of basic wage alone but to include benefits provided to the foreign workers, e.g. accommodation, meals, passage home, transportation and others which local employees are not entitled to.

Participants also pointed out that before and after the announcement of the Minimum Wages Order, the industry had raised many issues including the disparity between local and foreign employees in terms of benefits provided if the Minimum Wages Order fails to take into consideration the entire remuneration package which the foreign employees are benefiting, the ripple effect on employees earning in a salary range of RM900 in Peninsula Malaysia, RM800 in Sabah and Sarawak will increase the operation costs significantly, especially the labour costs, and this will result in the winding up of businesses. This is mainly because the industry is unable to increase product prices to commensurate with the increase of labour cost as timber industry is an export orientated industry whereby price (price-taker) are dictated by the buyers in the international market.

Participants in the consultation urged the Government to seriously consider the following proposals in order to balance out the disparity in take home pay between the local and foreign employees and to enable the industry to stay in business:

- Foreign employees to pay the levy, and
- Minimum Wage should include the accommodation, transportation and meals amounting to RM300

Dato' Hamzah commented that he took note of all the issues raised but felt that there will not be likely for any changes to be made in the minimum wage rates until the next review which will be two years after the

implementation of Minimum Wages. He mentioned that the Government might consider the proposal for the foreign employees to pay the levy to cushion the impact of the Minimum Wages Order implementation.

At the end of the session, the Malaysian Furniture Industry Council and Malaysia Furniture Entrepreneur Association jointly presented the Memorandum on "Proposal to soften the negative impact of the Minimum Wages Order on the furniture industry" to the Assistant Minister.

Rundingan dengan industri per kayu tentang pelaksanaan Gaji Minimum dan Levi Pekerja telah dianjurkan oleh Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia (MTIB) pada 10 Januari 2013 di Hotel Seri Pacific, Kuala Lumpur. Sesi rundingan ini telah dipengerusikan oleh Dato' Hamzah Zainudin, Timbalan Menteri Perusahaan Perladangan dan Komoditi.

Peserta dari industri per kayu, khususnya industri perabot, berasa kecewa dengan Kerajaan berkaitan cara pelaksanaan Perintah Gaji Minimum, yang telah dilaksanakan tanpa pemahaman terperinci bagaimana industri beroperasi dalam struktur gaji sedia ada. Peserta merasakan komponen Gaji Minimum bukan hanya terdiri daripada gaji asas sahaja tetapi perlu merangkumi faedah-faedah yang telah disediakan kepada pekerja asing yang terlibat.

Jika Perintah Gaji Minimum gagal dalam mengambil kira keseluruhan pakej imbuhan ia akan meningkatkan kos operasi secara ketara dan mengakibatkan penggulangan perniagaan. Hal ini kerana industri tidak mampu untuk meningkatkan harga produk selari dengan peningkatan kos buruh kerana industri per kayu merupakan industri berorientasikan eksport di mana harga pasaran ditentukan oleh pembeli di pasaran antarabangsa.

Para peserta pada Rundingan tersebut menggesa Kerajaan untuk mempertimbangkan secara serius

- Pembayaran levi oleh pekerja asing
- Gaji Minimum harus merangkumi kemudahan penginapan, pengangkutan dan makanan berjumlah RM300

Dato' Hamzah memaklumkan bahawa beliau telah mengambil perhatian terhadap semua isu-isu yang dibangkitkan dan memberitahu bahawa Kerajaan mungkin akan mempertimbangkan cadangan pembayaran levi oleh pekerja asing untuk mengurangkan kesan pelaksanaan Perintah Gaji Minimum.

CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP 2013

马来西亚木材工业局 (MTIB) 于2013年1月10日假吉隆坡斯里太平洋酒店举办最低薪金制及工人征税咨询。

拿督韩沙再努丁 (译音), 种植与原产业部副部长任此咨询会议主席。

木材工业尤其是家具行业的参与者对政府的最低薪金政策的实施方案感到沮丧和失望。因此政策是在对该行业现有的薪酬结构操作方法没有清晰的认识下而实行。参与者强烈的认为最低薪金的组成部分在包含基本工资之外, 也应列入受影响的外籍员工现有的薪酬待遇。

如此政策不考虑包含其他薪酬待遇, 这将增加运营成本从而导致业务清盘。

这是因为该工业无法提高产品价格于相称劳动力成本的上升, 因木材工业 (价格接受者) 是以出口为主的工业, 价格是由国际市场的买家决定。

参与者促请政府认真考虑

- 外籍雇员自付征税
- 最低薪金制应包括住宿, 交通及膳食福利, 为数RM300

拿督韩沙再努丁表示, 他关注所有提出的问题, 政府也将考虑外籍员工自付征税的建议, 以便减轻对执行最低薪金制的影响。

The Certification Workshop 2013 on responsible procurement and purchasing of paper and other forestry products in Asia was co-organised by the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC), the Malaysian Network of the UN Global Compact, Spicers and North Head on 25 January 2013 in Kuala Lumpur. About forty (40) participants attended the workshop.

The key objectives of this workshop were to better position participants to adapt and comply with the changing policies, choose the appropriate certification options for China, Indonesia and international markets, as well as consequently bringing legally-verified and/or certified sustainable paper and timber products into the market.

There were six (6) presentations at the workshop:

- **Implementation of Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme**
- by Mr Harnarinder Singh of the MTCC
- **Chinese Certification and Sustainability Developments**
- by Professor Lu Wenming of the China Academy of Forestry
- **Indonesian Certification and Sustainability Developments**
- by Ms Liana Bratasida of the Indonesian Pulp and Paper Association
- **Certification Schemes and Sustainability in the Asia Pacific Region**
- by Ms Kayt Watts of the Ingenue Consultancy (the former Chief Executive Officer of PEFC Australia)
- **Sustainability Activities by the Malaysian Network of the UNGlobal Compact & Sustainability Activities by Fuji Xerox**
- by Mr Koh Lian Peng of the Fuji Xerox Asia Pacific Pte Ltd (Malaysia Operations)
- **Positive about Paper: A Sustainable Form of Communication**
- by Ms Genevieve Chua of the Spicers

Bengkel Pensijilan 2013 tentang perolehan bertanggungjawab dan pembelian kertas dan produk perhutanan lain di Asia yang dianjurkan secara bersama oleh Majlis Pensijilan Kayu Malaysia (MTCC), Rangkaian Malaysia daripada UN Global Compact, Spicers and North Head telah diadakan pada 25 Januari 2013 di Kuala Lumpur.

Objektif utama bengkel adalah untuk memberi kedudukan yang lebih baik kepada peserta untuk menyesuaikan diri dan mematuhi perubahan dasar, memilih pensijilan yang bersesuaian untuk China, Indonesia, serta pasaran antarabangsa, dan seterusnya mengeksport kertas dan produk kayu yang mematuhi undang-undang dan / atau yang disahkan mampan ke pasaran.

Terdapat enam (6) kertas kerja dibentangkan semasa bengkel ini berlangsung.

马来西亚木材认证理事会 (MTCC) 连同马来西亚联合国全球契约网络, Spicers 及 North Head 于2013年1月25日假吉隆坡举办2013年亚洲纸张和其他林业产品负责任采购和购买认证工作坊。

这工作坊主要目的是让参与者能够遵守和适应不断更变的政策, 选择适合中国, 印尼和国际市场的认证选项, 从而进口合法核查和/或持有持续认证的纸张和木材产品。

这工作坊共呈现6张课题报导。

SARAWAK TIMBER INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

INDUSTRY UPDATE 2013

The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) organised an Industry Update briefing at Wisma Sumber Alam in Kuching on 14 January 2013. Similar briefings were also held in Sibul, Bintulu and Miri. Approximately fifty (50) participants from the timber industry, forwarding agents and forestry agencies attended the Briefing. The objective of the Briefing is to update the timber industry on the current issues affecting the timber industry.

There were three (3) papers presented during the briefing:-

Paper 1: ePermit System: Operation and Efficiency of Implementation

- by Encik Ahmad Zaki, DagangNet Technologies Sdn Bhd

Encik Ahmad Zaki briefed on the e-Permit Process Flow and its three modules, i.e. Trade Module, Forwarding Agent Module and Permit Issuance Agency Module. Encik Ahmad also informed the participants that a new e-Permit system will be introduced in the third quarter of 2013. The new ePermit system has been enhanced to make the system more accurate, efficient, faster, reduce cost and meeting customer satisfaction. Currently, the ePermit system is used by twenty five (25) Permit Issuing Agencies (PIA) across nine (9) Ministries nationwide.

Paper 2: Customs Duties Order 2012 – Implementation and Application Process

- by Encik Abdul Aziz Hj Sahari, Royal Malaysian Customs Department

Encik Abdul Aziz gave an update on the recent amended Customs Duties Order 2012, which amended every five (5) years. The changes were necessary due to environmental and social issue (food), chemical and insect pesticide, new products simplification as well as editorial clarification. The affected Harmonised Code for timber and timber related products amended under Customs Duties Order 2012 are 4403.99101 – Pulpwood - Acacia mangium, 4403.99199 – Pulpwood - Other Pulpwood and 4412.99 subheading have been simplified from 30 tariff lines to 8 tariff lines. Furthermore, under 48.04, 48.10 and 48.11 the term “cut to size” have been amended to specific measurement and the description “not further worked or processed than as specified in note 3 to this chapter” has been deleted.

Paper 3: Transformation in Issuance of Export and Import Licence

- by Encik Hamzah Morshidi, STIDC

Encik Hamzah informed that STIDC has made enhancement to the following five (5) major modules of the ePermit system since 2010:-

1. Online Customer Survey Form;
2. Online Attachment Module;
3. Online Dynamic Report Module;
4. Online Physical Inspection Module; and
5. Online Distributor Module.

Encik Hamzah also urged e-Permit system users, i.e. traders or forwarding agents to adhere to the following roles in order to enhance the efficiency of the system:-

1. To submit the application in advance (at least 4 days prior to the submission)
2. To register with STIDC, Royal Malaysian Customs Department and DagangNet Technologies Sdn Bhd
3. To utilise the correct tariff code according to the type of products
4. To submit relevant and accurate supporting documents as stated in the Trade Module



Photo: Briefing in progress

Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA) telah menganjurkan taklimat Kemaskini Industri pada 14 Januari 2013 di Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching.

Objektif Taklimat adalah untuk mengemaskini industri perkayuan mengenai isu-isu semasa yang mempengaruhi industri perkayuan.

Terdapat tiga (3) kertas kerja yang dibentangkan semasa taklimat: -

Encik Ahmad Zaki daripada DagangNet Technologies Sdn Bhd memaklumkan bahawa sistem e-Permit baru akan diperkenalkan pada suku ketiga 2013 bagi mempertingkatkan system agar lebih tepat, cekap, lebih cepat, mengurangkan kos dan menepati kepuasan pelanggan.

Encik Abdul Aziz Hj Sahari daripada Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia menyampaikan maklumat terkini mengenai Perintah Duti Kastam 2012 yang dipinda baru-baru ini. Pindaan ini adalah perlu bagi mengatasi isu alam sekitar dan sosial (makanan), bahan kimia dan racun serangga perosak, peringkasan produk baru serta penjelasan pengarang.

Encik Hamzah Morshidi daripada PUSAKA turut menggesa penggunaan sistem e-Permit, seperti peniaga atau agen penghantaran untuk mematuhi peranan seperti yang dinyatakan dalam artikel ini dalam usaha bagi meningkatkan kecekapan sistem.

STA FURNITURE & OTHER WOODWORKING COMMITTEE MEETING

砂拉越木材工业发展机构(STIDC)于2013年1月14日假古晋资源大厦举办常年木材工业进展讲座会。讲座会旨在告知参与者关于目前影响木材业的相关课题。

讲座会总共呈现3份专题报导。

Dagang Net Technologies有限公司代表阿莫。扎基先生(译音)告知参与者新的电子许可证系统(ePermit)将于2013年第三季推出。该系统将更准确,更高效,更快速,更降低成本和更符合客户的需求。

皇家关税局代表阿都。阿兹先生(译音)告知参与者有关2012关税令(CDO 2012)的修订讯息。这基于环境和社会问题(粮食),化学和昆虫农药,新产品的简化以及编辑澄清的需要而修改。

STIDC代表哈扎。莫希迪先生(译音)要求ePermit系统用户,即商家或运输代理公司履行如原文所列职责,以提高系统的效率。



Photo: Meeting in progress

The STA Furniture & Other Woodworking committee members met for the first time this year on 9 January 2013 at Wisma STA in Kuching. The Meeting was called and chaired by Mr Yek Siew Liong, the Committee Chairman.

The Meeting deliberated on various issues related to furniture and other woodworking industry and exchanged market

information. The Meeting analysed member companies' feedback on training needs and resolved to conduct necessary trainings based on those requirements.

The Meeting also discussed the mechanisms or proposals to sustain the supply of raw materials to the furniture and other woodworking industry as well as the arrangements for study trip to Vietnam.

Ahli Jawatankuasa Perabot & Pertukangan Kayu Lain STA mengadakan mesyuarat buat kali pertama tahun ini pada 9 Januari 2013 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Mesyuarat tersebut telah dipengerusikan oleh Encik Yek Siew Liong, Pengerusi Jawatankuasa.

Mesyuarat menganalisis maklum balas ahli syarikat terhadap keperluan latihan dan memutuskan untuk melaksanakan latihan berdasarkan keperluan ahli.

Mesyuarat turut membincangkan mekanisme atau cadangan untuk mengekalkan bekalan bahan mentah secara berterusan bagi industri perabot dan pertukangan kayu yang lain.

STA 傢俬与其它木工小组主席葉紹良先生于2013年1月9日假STA大厦主持该小组会议。

会议分析会员公司的培训需求,并根据这些需求举办必要的培训课程。

会议随后讨论持续原料供应予傢俬与其它木工业的建议。

WORKSHOP CONSULTATION ON GREEN TE

Sarawak Timber Association (STA) together with the Malaysian Green Technology Corporation (Green Tech Malaysia) co-organised the Stakeholder Consultation Workshop with the support from the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water on 25 January 2013 at RH Hotel in Sibiu. Approximately thirty five (35) representatives from the member companies, State forestry agencies and GreenTech Malaysia attended the Workshop. A similar workshop had been held in Peninsular Malaysia in December 2012 and another workshop is expected to be held in Sabah next.

Encik Mohamed Azrin Mohamed Ali, the Vice President, Strategic Planning, Alliance, Research & Business Development Division of GreenTech Malaysia, in his welcoming remarks, briefed participants of the Workshop on the objectives of the Workshop:

- i. to share and highlight the initiatives and programmes which are currently offered by the Government in relation to Green Technology such as Green Technology Financing Scheme; Eco-Labeling and opportunities for SME development in green businesses as well as other incentives;
- ii. to gain a better understanding on the timber industry uptake of green technology; and
- iii. to get the involvement of State Forestry Agencies and timber players in reviewing the National Green Technology Policy

Encik Mohamed Azrin later shared with the participants of the Workshop on the background of Malaysian Green Technology Policy. The Policy was launched in July 2009 and encompasses five (5) strategic thrusts, namely Institutional Framework, Conducive Environment, Human Capital Development, Research and Development as well as Promotion and Awareness as the critical agenda to realise the development of Green Technology. According to Encik Mohamed Azrin, the reshuffling of the cabinet and the Ministry Of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHA) in April 2009 has strengthened the Institutional Framework focusing on Green Technology. This was followed by the establishment of Malaysian Green Technology Corporation (GreenTech Malaysia) in April 2010. In Malaysia, Green Technology is defined as the development and application of products, equipment, and systems used to conserve the natural environment and resources, which minimises and reduces the negative impact of human activities.

In view of the significant contribution of Forestry to the economic sectors, Green Tech Malaysia has been assigned to conduct a baseline study on the forestry sector to determine the Key Strategies and Key Focus Areas for Green Growth as guidelines for the preparation of Green Technology Master Plan. Associate Professor Dr H'ng Paik San from the Universiti Putra Malaysia Serdang highlighted the following six (6) green growth strategies for the forestry sector:-

1. To acknowledge sustainable forest management as a green practice;
2. To drive Wood Based Industry Into Green Economy;
3. To promote SME Competitiveness in Green Technology;
4. To encourage Green Paper Products for industrial and consumers' use;
5. To increase new Green Investment in Forestry; and
6. To green brand Forestry and Forest Industries

The participants deliberated at length the above strategies and the possible entry point projects in relation to green technology for the forestry sector.



Photo: Workshop participants

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) dan Perbadanan Teknologi Hijau Malaysia (Green Tech Malaysia) telah bekerjasama dalam menganjurkan Bengkel Perundingan pihak berkepentingan yang turut disokong oleh Kementerian Tenaga, Teknologi Hijau dan Air pada 25 Januari 2013 di Hotel RH, Sibiu.

Objektif Bengkel adalah:

1. Untuk berkongsi dan menyetengahkan inisiatif serta program-program berkaitan dengan Teknologi Hijau yang sedang dilaksanakan oleh Kerajaan.
2. Untuk mendapatkan pemahaman yang lebih baik tentang penggunaan teknologi hijau oleh industri perikanan; dan
3. Untuk melibatkan agensi perhutanan Negeri dan pihak industri perikanan dalam mengkaji Dasar Teknologi Hijau Negara

Green Tech Malaysia telah ditugaskan untuk menjalankan kajian dasar sektor perhutanan dalam menentukan Strategi Utama dan Bidang Fokus utama bagi Pertumbuhan Hijau yang bertindak sebagai garis panduan dalam penyediaan Pelan Induk Teknologi Hijau.

THE MALAYSIAN TIMBER ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NO 1/2013

The Malaysian Timber Association (MTA) held its Executive Committee Meeting No 1/2013 on 29 January 2013 at Menara PGRM in Kuala Lumpur. Mr George Tan, the President presided over the Meeting in the presence of the representatives from six (6) members.

The Meeting discussed at length the stance of Sabah Timber Industries Association (STIA), supported by Timber Association of Sabah (TAS) for Sabah, to sign the European Union's Forest Law Environment, Governance and Trade -Voluntary Partnership Agreement (EU FLEGT - VPA) with the understanding that EU has accepted the status of Malaysia's Forestry power and right of one country three (3) regions/systems policy. As such, Malaysia should uphold individual State's right on forestry related matters in all FLEGT VPA negotiations with the EU.

The Meeting recognised the importance of forest plantation towards the sustainable supply of raw materials to the timber industry in Malaysia and will continue to lobby for representation in the Board of Forest Plantation Development Sdn Bhd.

The Meeting also endorsed the withdrawal of membership from the Association by the Malaysian Wood Moulding and Joinery Council (MWMJC) effective year 2013.

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Malaysia (MTA) telah mengadakan Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Eksekutif No 1/2013 pada 29 Januari 2013 di Menara PGRM, Kuala Lumpur.

Mesyuarat telah membincangkan pendirian Persatuan Industri Kayu Kayan Sabah (STIA), disokong oleh Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sabah (TAS) untuk Sabah menandatangani perjanjian Penguatkuasaan Undang-undang, Pentadbiran dan Perdagangan Hutan, dan Perjanjian Usahasama Sukarela dengan Kesatuan Eropah (EU FLEGT - VPA) dengan pemahaman bahawa EU telah menerima status kuasa Perhutanan Malaysia dan hak satu negara tiga (3) Negeri / dasar sistem. Oleh itu, Malaysia perlu menegakkan hak individu Negeri mengenai perkara-perkara berkaitan perhutanan dalam semua rundingan VPA FLEGT dengan EU.

本会与马来西亚绿色工艺公司 (Green Tech Malaysia) 在能源, 绿色工艺及水务部 (KeTTHA) 的资助下于2013年1月25日假诗巫长青酒店举办利益相关者咨询工作坊。

这工作坊旨予：

1. 分享和讲解政府日前在绿色工艺所推动的倡议和计划；
2. 深入明白木材业对绿色工艺的理解；及
3. 让州林业机构和木材业者参与国家绿色工艺政策的审查。

Green Tech Malaysia被委托进行绿色工艺大蓝图指导方针其下木材领域基准研究以确认绿色开发的主要关键重点和领域。

马来西亚木材公会 (MTA) 于2013年1月29日假吉隆坡民政大厦召开No 1/2013执行委员会。

此会议商讨关于沙巴木材工业公会 (STIA) 在签署欧盟森林法规执法, 监管与贸易自愿合作伙伴协议 (EU - FLEGT VPA) 的立场, 即欧盟已经接受马来西亚的林业权力地位和一国三制政策。沙巴木材公会 (TAS) 也对此表示支持。因此, 在与欧盟进行FLEGT VPA谈判时, 应关注和坚持此立场。

BASIC LOG AND TIMBER IDENTIFICATION SKILLS COURSE

The Sarawak Timber Association (STA) through its subsidiary company, STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) organised a course on Basic Log and Timber Identification on 4 January 2013 at Wisma STA in Kuching. The Course was conducted by Mr Johnny Kon, STAT trainer and was attended by fourteen (14) participants from the Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), University Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), staff members of STA and the STA Secretariat.

The objective of the training is to provide knowledge and skills of identifying logs and timber species based on wood anatomy, including tree species that are protected. This will help prevent the felling of protected tree species listed under the CITES (Conventional on International Trade in Endangered Species) and Forest Ordinance (Cap 126) 1958. However, all species whether protected or not protected species, as long as it is within the buffer zones; water catchments area and historical sides shall be protected under Forest Ordinance 1958 within the logging operation area.

Participants were trained to use tools such as knife/NT cutter and hand lens to identify logs and timber species based on the wood anatomical features.

The knowledge and skills gained from this training will also be useful in helping in species declaration requirements in compliance to the United States' Lacey Act where the exporter of timber products is required to provide information such as the names of the timber species used in the manufacturing of those timber products.

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) melalui anak syarikatnya, STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) telah mengadakan kursus Latihan Asas Kayu dan Pengenalan Kayu pada 4 Januari 2013 di Wisma STA, Kuching.

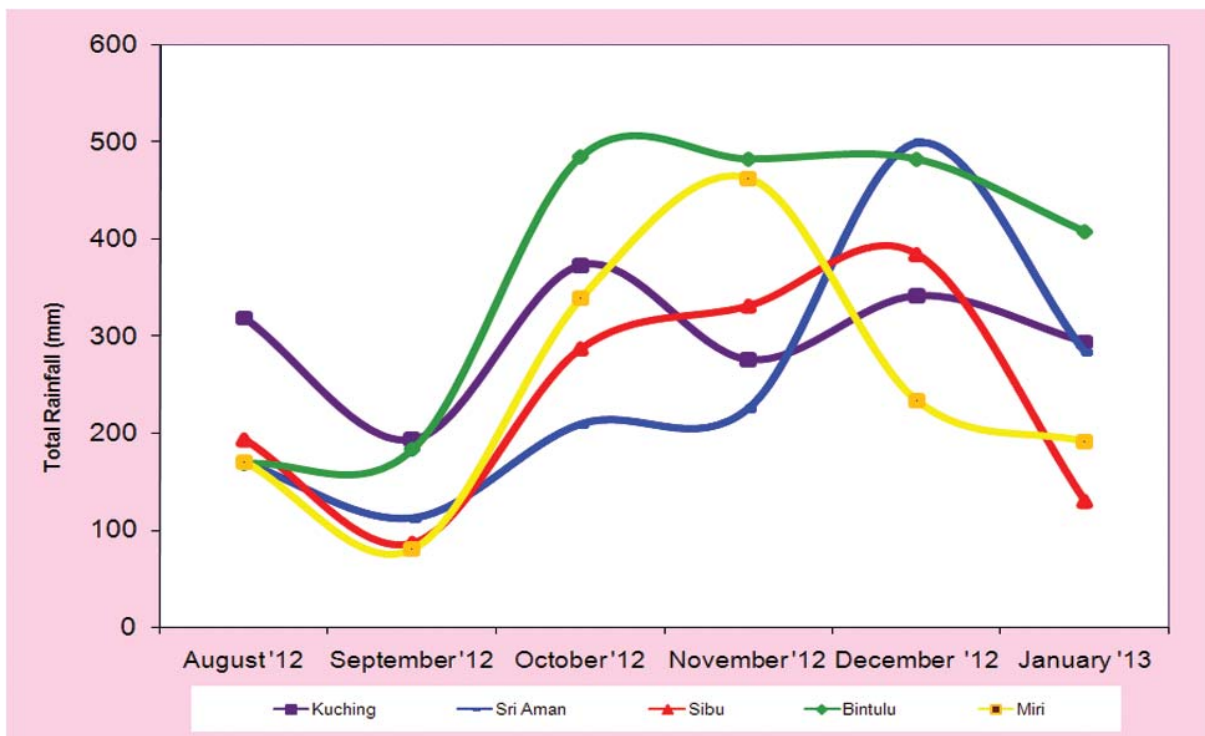
Objektif latihan adalah untuk memberi pengetahuan dan kemahiran dalam mengenal pasti spesies balak dan kayu berdasarkan anatomi kayu, termasuklah spesies pokok yang dilindungi. Hal ini akan membantu mencegah penebangan spesies pokok yang dilindungi dalam senarai CITES (Persidangan Antarabangsa Perdagangan Spesies Terancam) dan Ordinan Hutan (Bab 126) 1958.

本会通过STA Training有限公司 (STAT) 于2013年1月4日假STA大厦举办基本原木和木材识别培训课程。

培训旨在提供通过木材解剖以确定原木和木材品种的知识及技能及确定受保护树种。

培训的目的是防止列在濒危野生动植物物种国际贸易公约 (CITES) 和1958年森林法令 (第126章) 的受保护树种砍伐。

RAINFALL : AUGUST '12 - JANUARY '13 DATA HUJAN BULANAN 雨量数据



Source : Malaysian Meteorological Services