

STA Review

Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association
VOLUME 268 PPK 174/05/2013 (032756)



JAN
2016

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on the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement

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Partnership Agreement Forum



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BRIEFING SESSION
on the Trans-Pacific
Partnership Agreement by
the Minister of International
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COVER IMAGE:



Vegetation at the peak of Bukit Sarang, Bintulu

Photo credit Mr Joanes Unggang, Grand Perfect Sdn Bhd

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STA Review is mailed free of charge to all STA Members. Paid subscription is also available to non-members. An annual subscription fee of RM212.00 (including 6% GST) 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.

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STA Press Statement on the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement

Sarawak Timber Association (STA) issued a press statement on 28 January 2016 calling for the Government to conduct consultations with all stakeholders, including lead Associations, in the process of implementing the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA). The Press Statement is as follows.

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah mengeluarkan kenyataan akhbar pada 28 Januari 2016 menggesa Kerajaan untuk mengadakan rundingan kepada semua pihak berkepentingan, termasuk Persatuan-persatuan utama dalam melaksanakan Perjanjian Perkongsian Trans-Pasifik (TPPA) .

本会于2016年1月28日发表一篇新闻稿，呼吁政府与所有利益相关者包括主要公会磋商以实行跨太平洋伙伴协议 (TPPA)。



Press Release (For immediate release)

EFFECTIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH BUSINESSES IN IMPLEMENTING TPPA

The Sarawak Timber Association noted the Dewan Rakyat approved a motion on 27 January 2016 allowing Malaysia's participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) to strengthen our country's competitiveness at the regional and global levels. The Government would now be required to amend the existing laws, policies and practices to be in line with the various Chapters detailed in TPPA within the timeframe stipulated, which is 2 years after signing TPPA.

According to Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI), some laws are expected to be amended, covering areas such as labour; environment; customs; patent, copyright and trademark; anti-corruption; etc. Other ministries such as the Ministry of Human Resources, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Ministry of Health were reported to be involved in the implementation of TPPA. Dato' Seri Mustapa was reported as telling a press conference that the first amendments to the laws affected by TPPA would be tabled in Dewan Rakyat in March 2017.

The study by PricewaterhouseCoopers has revealed that there would be adjustment costs to businesses from increased competition and cross-sectoral TPPA obligations. The Association is rather concerned with these adjustment costs, as we strongly believe that the adjustment costs must be minimal and affordable in order for Malaysia to remain competitive.

Therefore, the Association would like to urge the Government to be more transparent in policies formulation and amendments to the laws, as well as subsequent implementation of TPPA. MITI must uphold its promises to take into consideration of all concerns expressed by the people. The relevant ministries must therefore conduct nationwide consultations as well as dialogue sessions involving all stakeholders with invitations to be extended to all lead associations during its transitional period before making any amendments to the policies and laws affected by TPPA.

Issued by Sarawak Timber Association
28 January 2016

The Malaysian Economic Association (MEA) organised a Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) Forum for the stakeholders on 11 January 2016 at Securities Commission, Bukit Kiara, Kuala Lumpur. Approximately eighty (80) participants attended this Forum.

In the welcoming speech by Tan Sri Dato' Mohd Sheriff Bin Mohd Kassi, President of MEA, he informed the participants of the Forum that the main objective of the Forum is to provide an understanding and insight of TPPA as well as a platform to answer queries from the participants. He said that this is their first public forum for the year and another forum will be held after Bank Negara of Malaysia released their Annual Report, at the end of March 2016.

The keynote address was delivered by Datuk J Jayasiri from the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), and the chief negotiator for TPPA. He informed the participants of the Forum that TPPA is a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (FTA) comprising binding rules and disciplines as well as market access commitments, reflected in chapter texts, annexes, schedules and side letters. He added that there are many areas which are regarded as sensitive to Malaysia. This is also the first FTA that the Government has included Chapters such as Labour, Environment, Transparency, Government Procurement, Anti-Corruption, etc. He also highlighted that this is the first time in history, where an international treaty is to be brought to the Parliament for debate despite the treaty-making power is expressly vested in the Federal Executive or Federal Government under the Malaysia's constitution. Therefore, TPPA is open for scrutiny now.

He highlighted that while membership is open to all Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) members, non-APEC countries will also be considered. He added that there were all together 30 Chapters in the TPPA and TPPA would take effect only after meeting certain criteria. One interesting thing in TPPA highlighted by Datuk J Jayasiri was the withdrawal clause, which stated that parties are allowed to withdraw from TPPA by providing written notice of withdrawal to the Depository and the other Parties, and the withdrawal would take effect six (6) months after such notice had been served.

Many questions were raised in the forum, amongst others are the benefits for joining TPPA which Datuk J Jayasiri responded with having access to preferential markets and the effect of joining later may result in our investors who are currently taking advantage of our markets to move out of Malaysia to our neighbouring countries such as Singapore, Vietnam, etc who are potential TPPA members. In addition, he said that if Malaysia were to join later, Malaysia will have to accede to the rules and terms already decided/agreed by the earlier members. According to him, being one of the original members, Malaysia is able to negotiate on the preferential terms such as Bumiputra preference,

transitional period, etc. He felt that with the exit clause, Malaysia could always choose to opt out should TPPA found to be non beneficial to the country.

The Forum saw the following presentations together with discussion sessions moderated by Dato' Latifah Merican Cheong.

Tan Sri Dato' Dr Mohd Munir Majid, Chairman, Bank Mualmat Malaysia, felt that TPPA demonstrates clear and definitive areas and requirements together with commitments. In addition, he was of the view that in a competitive environment where excellence is required, it is doable and if conforming to International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention/Declaration is to promote good governance, one cannot claim that it is taking away the country's sovereignty rights to make laws. It is also his view that China is already Malaysia's bigger trade partner; therefore Malaysia requires a balanced relationship and have another big trading partner to unbalance the over powerful trade partner.

Datuk Seri Saw Choo Boon, President, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM) informed the participants of the Forum that majority of FMM members are Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and they have to ensure that they grow from small to big enterprises. Therefore, export is important to SMEs. He added that FMM's members are operating on 7 FTAs, 62% of their exports are governed by FTAs. He highlighted that traditional FTA deals mainly with tariffs and less on other issues, e.g. a Halal certified product by Malaysia is required to undergo another round of Halal certification in Indonesia if SMEs are exporting to Indonesia. He felt that Malaysia is aspired to become a high economy nation and to be able to look after the 40% lower income group. Hence, TPPA is important for the country to achieve that and businesses will not be worse off because of it.

Proffesor Gurdial S Nijar, Faculty of Law, University Malaya informed the participants of the Forum that many Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) requested the Government to withdraw from signing TPPA, for example fisheries organisation saw the withdrawal of certain subsidies and has asked the Government to withdraw from signing TPPA. He felt that the country is entering into the 21st century and needs to move forward. However, in his analysis from the angle of an investor state dispute settlement (ISDS), he pointed out that there were still abundant instances of companies suing governments over policies that they claimed interfered with their ability to earn money despite TPPA proponents claimed that the mechanism can protect the government from being easily sued by companies. He gave an example in year 2014 alone, there were 608 cases against governments, mainly by American corporations, with 60% in developing countries. He added that the country is signing away our rights as

Trade Agreement Forum

if there is a reasonable expectation that one is not been treated fairly or equitably, then he can sue and persons who decide whether it is reasonable or not, is an offshore panel of judges and they do not need to take into local notions in deciding so. There were very selective consultation and therefore public could not put forward the concerns on ISDS.

Dr Jomo K S, former Senior Officer, United Nations (UN) informed the participants of the Forum that TPPA is not merely a trade agreement, it actually manages how countries are carrying out their trades and it introduces new rules for how a country manages, among others, intellectual property rights, labour affairs and the operations of government-linked companies. He felt that the methodology used for TPPA study is very problematic and controversial. His view is that despite a big possibility to increase export, it does not mean that Malaysia can export successfully, for example if Vietnamese products are cheaper than Malaysian products, it does not mean that Malaysian products can be exported successfully. He also announced in the Forum that the UN has conducted a study on the potential impacts of the TPPA using UN Global Policy Model (GPM) which is yet to be released and the findings are as follows:-

- a. TPPA will generate net Gross National Product (GDP) losses in some countries, though not Malaysia;
- b. Economic gains will be negligible for other participating countries, less than 1% over 10 years for developed countries, and less than 3% for developing countries;
- c. TPPA will lead to employment losses in all countries, totalling 771,000 lost jobs;
- d. TPPA will lead to greater inequality, with lower labour share of national income; and
- e. TPPA will lead to losses in GDP and employment in non-TPPA countries.

Dr Jomo concluded that according to the UN report, the economic benefits are negligible. He was of the view that the discussions among TPPA proponents were mainly, "one-sided" which emphasised on the benefits without taking the costs into account and Malaysia will be pressured to carry out policy and legislature reviews during transition periods to ensure eventual consistency to fulfil its obligations under TPPA. He urged lawmakers to think wisely before voting in the TPPA.

马来西亚经济协会(MEA) 于2016年1月11日假吉隆坡武吉伽罗证券监督委员会为利益相关者举办一项跨太平洋伙伴协议(TPPA)论坛会。

MEA主席丹斯里拿督莫哈末谢里夫 (译音) 在致欢迎词时告知参与者论坛会的主要目的是让各界能深入了解TPPA, 并提供一个平台供参与者提问。

论坛会主题演讲由国际贸易与工业部(MITI)代表拿督吉加亚斯利 (译音) 发表。也是TPPA首席谈判代表的他表示, 尽管马来西亚联邦宪法明确的把公约制定权赋予联邦行政或联邦政府, 但是TPPA国际公约还是历史上的第一次被带到国会进行辩论。

许多问题在论坛会中提出, 其中包括参与TPPA的利益, 拿督吉加亚斯利 (译音) 解释参与TPPA能取得进入优惠市场的机会, 随后才加入, 这将可能会导致我国市场现有的投资者迁出马来西亚并转移到已成为TPPA成员的邻国。他也表示, 作为最初成员之一, 马来西亚能够在优惠条件上进行谈判, 例如土著优先权、过渡时期等等。

Persatuan Ekonomi Malaysia (MEA) menganjurkan Forum Perjanjian Perkongsian Trans-Pasifik (TPPA) bagi pihak berkepentingan pada 11 Januari 2016 pada Suruhanjaya Sekuriti, Bukit Kiara, Kuala Lumpur.

Dalam ucapan alu-aluan oleh Tan Sri Dato' Mohd Sheriff bin Mohd Kassi, Presiden MEA, beliau memaklumkan kepada peserta Forum bahawa objektif utama Forum adalah untuk memberi pemahaman dan gambaran TPPA serta menyediakan platform untuk menjawab persoalan daripada peserta.

Ucapan disampaikan oleh Datuk J Jayasiri daripada Kementerian Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri (MITI). Beliau merupakan ketua perunding untuk TPPA dan memaklumkan kepada peserta Forum bahawa ini adalah kali pertama dalam sejarah, di mana perjanjian antarabangsa dibawa ke Parlimen untuk dibahaskan walaupun kuasa membuat perjanjian terletak pada Eksekutif Persekutuan atau Kerajaan Persekutuan di bawah perlembagaan Malaysia.

Banyak persoalan telah dibangkitkan dalam forum, antara lain adalah manfaat menyertai TPPA yang dibalas oleh Datuk J Jayasiri bahawa Malaysia mempunyai akses kepada pasaran utama dan kesan menyertai TPPA kemudian hari boleh menyebabkan pelabur yang sedang melabur di Malaysia beralih ke negara-negara jiran yang merupakan anggota TPPA. Menurut beliau, sebagai salah satu daripada ahli-ahli asal, Malaysia mampu untuk berunding mengenai keutamaan seperti keutamaan Bumiputra, tempoh peralihan dan lain-lain.

Follow-up Action by Sarawak Timber Association

Sarawak Timber Association (STA) is rather concerned with the negative claims and sentiments against TPPA gathered from the Forum and various quarters of the public. STA's concern is intensified with the outcome of PricewaterhouseCoopers' cost-benefit analysis study which confirmed that there would be adjustment cost to firms from increased competition and cross-sectoral TPPA obligations whether the "net economic benefits" preached by the proponents of TPPA would outweigh the "adjustment costs". The Government will also incur increased costs in trying to comply with the requirements of the TPPA. Hence, STA extended a letter on 14 January 2016 to Chief Minister of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Haji Adenan Bin Haji Satem to express its concerns and urged the Government to closely examine the impact of TPPA and to ensure that Malaysia can truly enjoy the "real benefits" that TPPA will bring to our country.

本会相当关注从论坛会和各方面所收集到有关TPPA的负面主张和反对情绪，并于2016年1月14日致函砂州首长拿督巴丁宜丹斯里哈兹阿德南沙登（译音）以表达本会的关切，同时促请政府仔细研究TPPA的影响，以确保马来西亚能够真正取得TPPA带给我国的实在利益。

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) agak bimbang dengan dakwaan negatif dan sentimen terhadap TPPA yang terkumpul dari Forum dan pelbagai pihak. Oleh itu, STA menulis surat kepada Ketua Menteri Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Haji Adenan Bin Haji Satem pada 14 Januari 2016 untuk menyatakan kebimbangan dan menggesa kerajaan untuk mengkaji dengan teliti kesan TPPA serta untuk memastikan Malaysia boleh benar-benar menikmati "manfaat sebenar" TPPA kepada negara kita.

State to Support Tabling of TPPA in Parliament

The Chief Minister of Sarawak announced on 15 January 2016 that the State Government supports the tabling of the TPPA in Parliament on 26 to 28 January 2016 and its implementation in 2018. He is in support of having an open market system in view of globalisation and mass communications as he felt that all countries that are part of the global trading system should not isolate themselves and close doors from international trade.

砂州首长于2016年1月15日发表声明表示砂州政府支持将TPPA于2016年1月26日至28日带入国会进行辩论以及其在2018年的实施。他认为所有在国际贸易体系中的国家不应在国际贸易中自我孤立并关闭大门。

Ketua Menteri Sarawak mengumumkan pada 15 Januari 2016 yang Kerajaan Negeri menyokong pembentangan TPPA di Parlimen pada 26 hingga 28 Januari 2016 dan pelaksanaannya pada 2018. Beliau merasakan bahawa semua negara-negara yang merupakan sebahagian daripada sistem perdagangan global tidak sepatutnya mengasingkan diri dan tutup pintu dari perdagangan antarabangsa.

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) organised a briefing session on the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) for the industry representatives, associations, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and civil servants on 15 January 2016 at the Imperial Hotel, Kuching. The Briefing was conducted by Dato' Sri Mustapa Bin Mohamed, the Minister of International Trade and Industry, who had earlier gave the same briefing to the Chief Minister of Sarawak and the State Cabinet ministers. Also present at the Briefing were Datuk Haji Ahmad Haji Maslan, Deputy Minister of MITI and Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, Second Minister of Resource Planning and Environment, Minister of Public Utilities and Minister of Industrial Development.

In his opening remarks, Datuk Amar Awang Tengah underlined that Malaysia should join the TPPA if it is in the interest of Malaysia and its economy. By not joining the TPPA, Malaysia may be left behind in the global economy. In particular, he highlighted that in order for Sarawak to grow, Sarawak must be export-oriented as Sarawak has a small market with only a population of 2.5 million people and the TPPA gives Sarawak such opportunity.

He also hoped that the TPPA would not have any major impact on the oil and gas, timber and timber-based as well as palm oil sectors, which are the three (3) important sectors to the State economy. He mentioned that both the timber and palm oil sectors are sensitive to issues raised under the guise of environment, which when analysed carefully, are often business motivated schemes to remove competition, for example soy oil producers trying to eliminate competition from palm oil.

Datuk Amar Awang Tengah also called upon the Government to provide sufficient setup to assist the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) as the SMEs are major part of the business establishments that provides many job opportunities for the people.

on the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement by the Minister of International Trade and Industry



Photo: Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan giving his opening remarks

Dato' Sri Mustapa then gave a brief presentation on the TPPA to dispel some of the concerns that have been raised. He also answered some of the queries and concerns posed by the participants of the briefing session.

The TPPA is an important treaty which will create a bigger market and better market access for Malaysia; attract more foreign investments into Malaysia; and implement and enforce higher standards in Malaysia.

The TPPA will allow Malaysia to penetrate new markets in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Peru; the countries which Malaysia currently does not have any free trade agreements with. Dato' Sri Mustapa pointed out that two (2) of Malaysia's neighbours, Singapore and Vietnam, are joining the TPPA; with other ASEAN countries such as Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines having expressed their interests to join also. Hence, Malaysia will be left behind by their neighbours if Malaysia does not join the TPPA. Besides that, the TPPA will also allow Malaysia to

diversify its trade instead of being too dependent on China.

The TPPA is also a more controversial free trade agreement as it encompasses a wider scope covering issues such as labour, environment, government procurement, intellectual

property rights and state-owned enterprises. He mentioned that the changes are inevitable as the TPPA aims to create more transparent governance within the country, such as a labour reform that is consistent with their human rights. Although there will be increased costs to the Government from the implementation and enforcement, Dato' Sri Mustapa emphasised that the benefits of the TPPA outweigh the costs.

A special Parliamentary session shall be held from 26 to 28 January 2016 to discuss the signing of the TPPA by Malaysia. If passed, the TPPA is expected to be signed in February 2016 in New Zealand. Signatories of the TPPA shall be given two (2) years to ratify the TPPA before it comes into force in mid-2018. The first review of the TPPA shall be carried out three (3) years after it has come into force, with subsequent reviews to be carried out every five (5) years after the first review.

Kementerian Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri (MITI) telah menganjurkan satu sesi taklimat mengenai Perjanjian Perkongsian Trans-Pasifik (TPPA) bagi wakil-wakil industri, persatuan-persatuan, badan bukan kerajaan (NGO) dan kakitangan awam pada 15 Januari 2016 di Hotel Imperial, Kuching. Taklimat disampaikan oleh Dato' Sri Mustapa Bin Mohamed, Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri.

Dalam ucapan pembukaan, Datuk Amar Hj Awang Tengah bin Ali Hassan menegaskan bahawa Malaysia perlu menyertai TPPA dan menekankan bahawa Sarawak mestilah berorientasikan eksport untuk terus berkembang maju berikutan pasarannya yang kecil dengan jumlah penduduk hanya seramai 2.5 juta orang.

TPPA merupakan satu perjanjian penting untuk mewujudkan pasaran dan akses pasaran yang lebih besar bagi Malaysia; menarik lebih banyak pelaburan asing ke Malaysia; dan melaksanakan dan menguatkuasakan piawai yang lebih tinggi di Malaysia.

TPPA akan membolehkan Malaysia menembusi pasaran baru serta mempelbagaikan perdagangan.

国际贸易及工业部 (MITI) 于2016年1月15日假古晋帝国大酒店为工业代表, 公会, 非政府组织(NGOs)及公务员讲解有关跨太平洋伙伴协议(TPPA)课题。 这讲解会由MITI部长拿督斯里慕斯达法 (译音) 主持。

拿督阿玛阿旺登雅 (译音) 在致开幕词中强调马来西亚应当加入TPPA。 拿督称只有250万人口的砂拉越市场太小, 为了增加经济发展, 砂拉越必须以出口为主。

TPPA是一项重要的协议。 这能帮助马来西亚扩充更大的市场和提升市场准入; 吸引外来投资和实施及执行高标准。 TPPA也有助于国家打入新市场和多元化其贸易。

STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 1/2016

The STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 1/2016 was convened on 8 January 2016 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Meeting was attended by ten (10) Committee Members and three (3) staff members from STA Secretariat.

The Secretariat updated the Committee on some of the on-going matters/issues for further deliberation i.e. Malaysian Criteria & Indicators (MC&I) Forest Plantation. v2; enrichment planting; manpower requirement for forest plantation; tree harvesting plan (THP); qualifying Eucalyptus species for soft loan financing; aerial photos or satellite imageries etc.

The Meeting was informed on the progress of the two (2) research projects funded by Sarawak Timber Association (STA), i.e. *Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP) Discovery Project* by Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) and *Biofertiliser Formulation Research* by Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus (SUTS).

The Meeting also discussed and proposed few activities and research projects for the Committee in year 2016.



Photo: Meeting in Progress

人工造林小组于2016年1月8日假STA大厦召开本年度首次小组会议。

本会秘书处报告目前正在进行中的事项及课题，以及由本会所资助的两项研究项目进展情况。会议也详细讨论小组2016年将进行的几项活动和研究项目提议。

Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Ladang Hutan STA No. 1/2016 telah diadakan pada 8 Januari 2016 di Wisma STA, Kuching.

Sekretariat memaklumkan kepada Jawatankuasa mengenai beberapa perkara/isu-isu yang sedang berlaku termasuk kemajuan 2 projek penyelidikan yang dibiayai oleh Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA). Selepas itu, mesyuarat berbincang dan mencadangkan beberapa aktiviti dan projek penyelidikan dalam tahun 2016 bagi Jawatankuasa.

Final Reminder for STA Membership Renewal

Members of Sarawak Timber Association (STA) are reminded that STA Membership Renewal for 2016 has fallen due on 1 January 2016.

However, in accordance to Article 4(d) of STA Memorandum and Articles of Association [*page 28 of Thirteenth Printing, September 2014*], members are given a grace period of 30 days that is, by **31 January 2016** to effect payment.

Ahli-ahli Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) adalah diingatkan bahawa Pembaharuan Keahlian bagi 2016 telah tamat pada 1 Januari 2016.

Walau bagaimanapun, selaras dengan Perkara 4(d) Memorandum dan Artikel Persatuan STA [*halaman 28 Cetakan Ke-13, September 2014*], ahli-ahli diberi tempoh selama 30 hari sehingga **31 Januari 2016** untuk membuat bayaran.

温馨提醒所有本会会员，2016年STA会员更新已于2016年1月1日截止。然而，根据本会章程条例，第4条例（2014年9月，第13版，第28页），会员将给予30天的宽限期，即至2016年1月31日前付款会员资格更新费。

Quarterly Meeting with Licensees for Planted Forest No 1/2016



Photo: Meeting in Progress

A quarterly meeting with Licensees for Planted Forest was called by Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) on 4 January 2016 at Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. The Meeting was attended by the representatives from Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) holders and staff members of STA Secretariat.

In his opening remarks, the Director of Forests, Tuan Haji Sapuan Ahmad, stressed that the logs harvested from planted forests are meant for the Licensees' own processing mills, and not for the pulp and paper mills. He added that the logs production from natural forests will likely be reduced in the future and the logs reservation quota will also be revised to follow the suite. He informed the Meeting that the area planted in year 2015 based on the information submitted by the LPF holders is approximately 19,669.5 ha, which is 89% of the planting Key Performance Indicator (KPI) set by the State Government. He warned the LPF holders to submit their quarterly report on time, and for those Licensees who do not fulfil the terms and conditions of licence, warning letters will be issued and the License may be cancelled.

The Meeting also discussed on the other related issues, such as enrichment planting, parameter survey of Native Customary Right (NCR) land, revision of tree planting plan (TPP), tree harvesting plan (THP), research and development (R&D) for planted forests, and forest plantation certification under the Malaysian Criteria & Indicators (MC&I) Forest Plantation.v2.

Mesyuarat suku tahunan dengan Pemegang Lesen Ladang Hutan telah diadakan oleh Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) pada 4 Januari 2016 di Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching.

Dalam ucapan pembukaan, Pengarah Hutan, Tuan Haji Sapuan Ahmad menegaskan bahawa balak yang dituai dari ladang hutan adalah untuk kilang pemprosesan milik Pemegang Lesen tersebut dan bukan untuk kilang pulpa dan kertas. Tambahnya lagi, pengeluaran kayu balak dari hutan asli mungkin akan dikurangkan pada masa hadapan dan kuota tempahan balak juga akan dikaji semula untuk mengikuti kesesuaian semasa. Beliau memaklumkan kepada mesyuarat bahawa kawasan yang ditanam pada tahun 2015 berdasarkan maklumat yang dikemukakan oleh pemegang lesen adalah lebih kurang 19,669.5 ha.

砂拉越森林局 (FDS) 于2016年1月4日假古晋资源大厦召开与森林种植执照持有者季度会议。

砂森林局局长沙布安阿末生先生 (译音) 在致开幕词时强调从人工林所采伐的原木应供本身加工厂使用, 而不是供应给纸浆和造纸厂。局长补充说, 未来天然林原木产量有可能将减少及原木预留配额也将随着修改。局长也告知, 根据森林种植执照持有者所递交的信息, 2015年种植林覆盖约19,669.5公顷地区。

Annual General Meeting of Sarawak Timber Association

The Annual General Meeting of Sarawak Timber Association for 2016 will be held on Monday, 28 March 2016 at 10.30am at Wisma STA, Kuching.

Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan 2016 Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak akan diadakan pada Isnin, 28 Mac 2016 pada pukul 10.30 pagi di Wisma STA, Kuching.

本会2016年度会员大会将于2016年3月28日 (星期一), 上午10点30分假古晋STA大厦举行。

Discussion cum Training Session on the Requirements of the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2



Photo: Group photo

Sarawak Timber Association (STA) in collaboration with the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) organised a Discussion cum Training Session on the Requirements of the Malaysian Criteria & Indicators (MC&I) Forest Plantation.v2 on 7 January 2016 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Session was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment (MRPE), Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFC), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and member companies of STA.

The purpose of this Session is to ensure that the members involved in the forest plantation activities and those who wish to obtain certification for their Planted Forests are aware and fully understand of the standard and requirements of the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2. The Session also served as a platform where the government agencies and industry come together to discuss the issue and problem faced in applying for the forest plantation certification under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS).

Mr Yong Teng Koon, Chief Executive Officer of MTCC briefed the participants of the Session on the roles of MTCC, the development and operation of the MTCS, the process flow for forest management certification as well as the recognition of MTCS by other countries. Mr Yong, with the assistance from Ms Siti Syaliza Mustapha, Manager (Forest Management), MTCC, presented the principles and requirements of the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2.

Currently, MC&I Forest Plantation.v2 is undergoing endorsement process by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) International. However, due to the delay in the endorsement process, the PEFC has granted six (6) months extension until 30 June 2016 so that the existing Forest Plantation Management Unit (FPMU) certificate holders can continue to hold the PEFC-endorsed certificates. The endorsement extension also covers the new FPMU who had been assessed against the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2.

The Session also discussed at length on the cut-off date for conversion of the natural forest to forest plantation

under the Criterion 6.10 in the MC&I Forest Plantation.v2. According to the PEFC meta standards, the cut-off date for conversion is 31 December 2010 and the Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) area converted after this date for first rotation of planting is not eligible for certification. However, LPF areas that have entered into second rotation of planting are acceptable for certification. This means that under this criterion, LPF holders will have restriction in obtaining the certification and marketing their planted logs from the first rotation of planting to countries that require certified timber product.

MTCC also informed the participants that the PEFC meta standard will undergo revision from 2016 to 2017 and members are welcomed to submit their feedback on the requirement to PEFC International during this review which has yet to commence.

本会与马来西亚木材认证理事会 (MTCC) 于2016年1月7日假古晋STA大厦联合举办马来西亚认证标准草案 (MC&I) 森林种植v2指标讨论暨培训会。讨论暨培训会的目的是确保参与人工林植树和希望申请人工林认证的会员充分理解MC&I森林种植v2的标准和条件。同时也提供平台供政府相关部门和行业共同讨论这项课题及在申请马来西亚木材认证体系 (MTCS) 人工林认证下所面临的问题。MC&I森林种植v2目前正在进行森林验证认可计画 (PEFC) 国际认可。然而, 基于认可程序过程中的延误, PEFC已延长其期限6个月至2016年6月30日, 这让现有人工林管理单元 (FPMU) 证书持有者可以继续持有PEFC的认可。认可展期还涵盖针对MC&I森林种植v2新的FPMU评估。

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) dengan kerjasama Majlis Pensijilan Kayu Malaysia (MTCC) telah menganjurkan *Perbincangan merangkap Sesi Latihan mengenai Keperluan Kriteria & Petunjuk Malaysia (MC&I) Hutan Ladang. v2* pada 7 Januari 2016 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Tujuan Sesi ini adalah untuk memastikan ahli-ahli yang terlibat dalam aktiviti perladangan hutan dan ingin mendapatkan pensijilan bagi ladang hutan memahami sepenuhnya piawaian dan keperluan MC&I Hutan Ladang. v2. Sesi ini turut menjadi platform bagi agensi-agensi kerajaan dan industri bersama-sama membincangkan isu dan masalah yang dihadapi dalam memohon pensijilan ladang hutan di bawah Skim Pensijilan Kayu Malaysia (MTCS). Pada masa ini, MC&I Hutan Ladang. v2 sedang menjalani proses pengesahan oleh Program untuk Pengendorsan Pensijilan Hutan Antarabangsa (PEFC). Walau bagaimanapun, disebabkan oleh kelewatan dalam proses pengesahan, PEFC telah melanjutkan 6 bulan sehingga 30 Jun 2016 agar pemegang sijil Unit Pengurusan Ladang Hutan (FPMU) yang sedia ada boleh terus memegang sijil PEFC-disahkan. Lanjutan juga meliputi FPMU baru yang telah dinilai MC&I Hutan Ladang. v2.

The Sarawak Customs/Private Consultative Panel Meeting No 1/2016



Photo: Meeting in progress

The Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD) called for the Sarawak Customs/Private Consultative Panel Meeting No 1/2016 on 22 January 2016 at Wisma Chinese Chambers, Kuching hosted by the Kuching Chinese General Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCGCCI). The Meeting was co-chaired by Dato' Dayang Fatimah binti Johari, the Director of RMCD Sarawak and Mr Jonathan Chai Voon Tok, the Secretary General of KCGCCI. A total of forty (40) representatives from private sectors and senior officers from RMCD Sarawak, Ministry of International Trade and Industry and Road Transport Department attended this Meeting.

The Meeting was informed that a working committee to organise an Awareness Programme on uCustoms system, which will replace Customs Information System or Sistem Maklumat Kastam (SMK) has yet to be formed as there is a delay in the implementation of uCustoms system. The full implementation of uCustoms shall be carried out in year 2017.

In the Meeting, the staff members from the Secretariat of Sarawak Timber Association (STA) raised their concerns on the procedure and documentation requirements for the export of timber products from Lawas, Sarawak through the port in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. The Deputy Director, Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Jii responded that no documentation is required for goods transported by land from Lawas to Sabah except for goods under the Custom Act (Restriction Movement) 2014. The document required is Custom Form 2 with the endorsement by the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC).

The Meeting later discussed and deliberated on the following issues, raised by participants from the private sectors:-

1. Approved certified Goods and Services Tax (GST) software vendors.
2. Usage of container with goods declared under Custom Form 3 and Custom Form 8.
3. Issues related to GST such as green coffee beans, Properties Development Guidelines, sales tax on musical instruments, shipping freight as well as the claim, refund, operation and submission.
4. Time frame for goods to be released from Customs.
5. Report of suspicious container.

RMCD responded to all the above issues and advised the participants from private sectors to refer to RMCD website for the decision by the Director-General for directives and to attend RMCD handholding programme for assistance. RMCD further informed the Meeting that effective 2016, there is an addition to the GST Act i.e. Section 41 Sub 8 on Penalty. Any other new additions to the Act shall be announced in RMCD website accordingly.

Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia (RMCD) mengadakan Mesyuarat Perundingan Panel Kastam/ Swasta Sarawak No 1/2016 pada 22 Januari 2016 di Wisma Chinese Chambers, Kuching yang dianjurkan oleh Ketua Dewan Perniagaan Cina dan Industri Kuching (KCGCCI).

Mesyuarat dimaklumkan bahawa jawatankuasa kerja untuk menganjurkan Program Kesedaran mengenai sistem uCustoms masih belum dibentuk berikutan kelewatan dalam pelaksanaan sistem uCustoms. Pelaksanaan penuh uCustoms akan dijalankan pada tahun 2017.

Dalam mesyuarat itu, Sekretariat Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) menyuarakan kebimbangan mereka mengenai keperluan prosedur dan dokumentasi bagi eksport produk kayu dari Lawas, Sarawak melalui pelabuhan di Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Timbalan Pengarah, Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Jii menjawab bahawa tiada dokumen yang diperlukan untuk pengangkutan barangan melalui darat dari Lawas ke Sabah kecuali barang di bawah Akta Kastam (Pergerakan Sekatan) 2014.

RMCD menasihatkan para peserta yang memerlukan sebarang bantuan untuk merujuk laman web RMCD untuk mendapatkan keputusan dan arahan Ketua Pengarah dan menghadiri program panduan RMCD.

皇家关税局(RMCD)在古晋中华总商会的承办下于2016年1月22日假中华商会大厦召开砂拉越关税/商界咨询小组本年度首届会议。

会议告知基于uCustoms系统将被迫展延至2017年执行。有鉴于此，uCustoms系统醒觉活动工作委员小组还未成立。

本会秘书处在会议中提问有关从砂拉越老越通过沙巴亚庇港口出口木材产品的程序和文件要求。RMCD副局长哈兹阿末(译音)回复从老越至沙巴陆路货物运输无需提交任何文件除了2014年关税法案(辖制运行)下列出的货物。

RMCD鼓励商界浏览RMCD官方网站以查看总局长的决策指示和出席RMCD所提供的指导援助活动。

Signing of Memoranda of Understanding for Planted Forests Research and Development Collaboration

SARAWAK FORESTRY signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for planted forests research and development (R & D) collaboration with each of the ten Licensees for Planted Forests



Photo: Group photo

in a ceremony held at the RH Hotel, Sibul on 29 January 2016. The ceremony was officiated by Datu Len Talif Salleh, the Assistant Minister of Environment in the Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment and Assistant Minister in Chief Minister's Office (Promotion of Technical Education).

Mr Wong Ting Chung, the Chief Executive Officer of SARAWAK FORESTRY in his speech disclosed to the participants of the ceremony that there had been at least two (2) earlier government-backed R&D initiatives aimed at facilitating the establishment of planted forests in the State. However, due to lack of commitment, direction and perhaps funding, these initiatives fizzled out with no tangible results. According to Mr Wong, SARAWAK FORESTRY's findings from a statewide survey carried out 2 years ago on high-quality planting materials have culminated in planting trials carried out under the current R&D project. He said the signing of MoUs with the 'Big 6' in the timber industry as well as four other LPF holders would mark a significant milestone for the development of the planted forests industry.

Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Adenan Satem, the Chief Minister of Sarawak whose speech was read by Datu Len Talif Salleh called upon all holders of Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) to be committed to the development of planted forests. He noted that while there were talks on the need to increase the overall planting rate towards achieving one million hectares of planted forests by 2020, industry players must not neglect the quality of their plantation. He said most R&D programmes by LPF holders were mere start-ups, or were allocated with very limited resources, as is in the area of seed testing which was carried out by a few LPF holders, but is critical for the development of quality planted forests. The Chief Minister advised all LPF holders to invest in R&D so that the State can have both sustainability and profitability in the industry. He hoped that the government could put to rest the issue of 'lack of R&D' in the development of planted forests in Sarawak, through the signing of the MOUs. The main objective of the MOU is to pool resources in planted forests R&D as research is very costly and requires trained scientific personnel.

He commended SARAWAK FORESTRY for taking this initiative and told the stakeholders that the Government

will support the collaborative project until the desired outcome has been achieved. He further added that the State Government had provided funding of RM4.5 million and will contribute

another RM2 million per year for the next five (5) years for the project.

The ceremony was also attended by Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, Chairman of the Board WTK Holdings Berhad and Chairman of Sarawak Timber Association, Tan Sri Datuk Sir Tiong Hiew King, Executive Chairman of the Rimbunan Hijau Group and STA Vice-chairman and Datuk Amar Abdul Hamid bin Haji Sepawi, Executive Chairman of the Board of Ta Ann Holdings Berhad.

SARAWAK FORESTRY menandatangani Memorandum Persefahaman (MOU) kerjasama untuk kajian dan pembangunan (R&D) hutan ladang dengan kesemua 10 Pemegang Lesen untuk Hutan Ladang dalam satu majlis yang diadakan di Hotel RH, Sibul pada 29 Januari 2016.

Mr Wong Ting Chung, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif SARAWAK berkata pemeteraian MoU dengan 'Big 6' dalam industri perindustrian serta empat pemegang Lesen Hutan Ladang (LPF) yang lain menandakan satu pencapaian penting bagi pembangunan industri hutan ladang.

Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Adenan Satem, Ketua Menteri Sarawak yang ucapannya dibacakan oleh Datu Len Talif Salleh menyeru semua pemegang LPF untuk komited dalam pembangunan hutan ladang. Beliau berkata walaupun terdapat cadangan mengenai keperluan untuk meningkatkan kadar penanaman keseluruhan ke arah mencapai satu juta hektar hutan ladang pada tahun 2020, pihak industri tidak boleh mengabaikan kualiti ladang mereka.

Beliau memuji SARAWAK FORESTRY kerana mengambil inisiatif ini dan memberitahu pihak-pihak berkepentingan bahawa Kerajaan akan menyokong projek kerjasama ini sehingga hasil yang dikehendaki tercapai. Menurut beliau lagi, Kerajaan Negeri telah menyediakan dana sebanyak RM4.5 juta dan akan menyumbang RM2 juta setahun untuk tempoh 5 tahun akan datang bagi projek itu.

Sarawak Bioeconomy Day

砂拉越林业机构于2016年1月29日假诗巫常青酒店与10间人工林执照拥有公司进行签署人工林研发(R&D)合作计划备忘录。

砂拉越林业机构首席执行官黄祯俊表示6间木材业大公司及其他4间人工林执照拥有公司签署这备忘录是人工林业一项重要的里程碑。

砂首长阿德南因无法出席，其讲辞由助理部长拿督连达立(译音)代读。首长呼吁所有人工林执照拥有者在人工林发展方面必须做出承诺。首长在2020年之际，提升总人工林种植率达100万公顷面积有所闻，但业者决不可忽略自己植林的质量。

首长赞扬砂拉越林业机构提出这一倡议，同时也告知所有利益相关者政府将支持这合作计划以达到预期成果。首长也表示州政府已注入马币4百50万零吉在这项计划，接下来的5年，将继续每年投入马币2百万零吉。

The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) and the Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation (BiotechCorp) co-organised a one-day Bioeconomy Day on 8 January 2016 at the Pullman Hotel, Kuching. This as an effort to kick-start the growth of bioeconomy in Sarawak after the same programme was held in Sabah and Peninsular Malaysia last year. The objectives of this programme were to further boost bioeconomy development in Sarawak and continue to provide awareness on Bioeconomy Transformation Programme (BTP) and Bioeconomy Community Development Programme (BCDP) as well as its opportunities for the private sectors in the bio-based industries. Approximately 150 participants from various relevant agencies attended this event.

The Chief Minister of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Adenan Satem represented by Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Alfred Jabu Anak Numpang launched the Sarawak Bioeconomy Day and mentioned that Sarawak has an abundance supply of natural resources that could create a huge potential for the State's bioeconomy growth driven by strong collaborative partnerships as well as excellent facilities and infrastructure in Sarawak's bio-based clusters. He encouraged both the public and private sectors to continue exploring the areas rich in bio-resources, which has a huge potential for growth in the State.

Currently, Sarawak has eight (8) BioNexus-status companies focusing on aquaculture and marine biotechnology, crop biotechnology, livestock biotechnology, bioremediation, specialty chemicals and biomedical.

The following three (3) papers were presented during the Bioeconomy Day:-

1. **"Bioeconomy in Malaysia. (a) Bioeconomy Transformation Programme, & (b) Bioeconomy Community Development Programme"** by Dato' Dr Mohd Nazlee Kamal, Chief Executive Officer of Malaysian BiotechCorp
2. **"Current State of Malaysian Economy in Sarawak and Opportunities to Improve Economic Contribution of Each Key Areas"** by Tan Sri Datuk Amar Wilson Baya Dandot, Chief Executive Officer, Regional Corridor Development Authority
3. **"BioNexus Status and R&D Incentives"** by Wan Hasnul Nadzrin Wan Sulong, Vice President, BioNexus Evaluation Department of BiotechCorp

This Event was also attended by the Minister from MOSTI, Datuk Seri Panglima Wilfred Madius Tangau and his Deputy, Datuk Dr Abu Bakar Mohamad Diah; Assistant Minister of Industrial Estate Development, Datuk Peter Nansian; MOSTI Secretary-General, Dato' Sri Dr Noorul Ainur Mohd Nor and its Deputy Secretary-General, Dr Zulkifli Mohamed Hashim.

马来西亚科学工艺与革新部(MOSTI)连同马来西亚生物科技公司(BiotechCorp)于2016年1月8日假古晋铂尔曼酒店举办为期一天的生物经济日。

该活动的目的是进一步推动砂州生物经济发展，并继续提升群众对生物经济转型计划(BTP)和生物经济社区发展计划(BCDP)的意识。这些计划将让商界在生物基业中受惠。

砂州首长拿督巴丁宜丹斯里阿德南沙登(译音)在拿督巴丁宜丹斯里阿弗烈查布(译音)的代表下为砂州生物经济日进行开幕仪式。他表示砂州拥有丰富的天然资源供应，在强大的合作伙伴关系配合下，对推动砂州生物经济增长有着巨大的潜能。

Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI) dan Perbadanan Bioteknologi Malaysia (BiotechCorp) bekerjasama menganjurkan Hari Bioekonomi pada 8 Januari 2016 di Hotel Pullman, Kuching.

Objektif program adalah untuk meningkatkan lagi pembangunan bioekonomi di Sarawak dan terus memberi kesedaran mengenai Program Transformasi Bioekonomi (BTP) dan Program Bioekonomi Masyarakat (CDP) serta peluangnya bagi sektor swasta dalam industri berasaskan bio.

Ketua Menteri Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Adenan Satem diwakili oleh Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Alfred Jabu Anak Numpang melancarkan Hari Bioekonomi Sarawak dan menyebut bahawa Sarawak kaya dengan bekalan sumber semula jadi yang boleh mewujudkan potensi besar bagi pertumbuhan bioekonomi negeri ini didorong oleh perkongsian kerjasama yang kukuh.

First Regional Conference on Developments in Employment Law in Malaysia and the ASEAN Countries



Photo: Conference in progress

The Malaysian Society for Labour and Social Security Law (MSLSSL) and the Malaysian Current Law Journal (CLJ) had jointly organised the First Regional Conference on Developments in Employment Law in Malaysia and the ASEAN Countries from 13 to 15 January 2016 at the Pullman Hotel, Kuching. MSLSSL is the Malaysian Chapter of the International Society for Labour and Social Security Law based in Geneva. The role of MSLSSL is to create awareness in the development of labour law and social security.

The three-day Conference was attended by approximately 120 participants who were mainly industrial relations and employment law practitioners, human resources practitioners and in-house legal counsels.

Dato Dr Cyrus Das, the president of MSLSSL declared open the Conference and delivered the keynote address. He raised a few pertinent issues for consideration; among others is the introduction of direct filing of employment disputes with the industrial courts instead of the present referral system by the Minister of Human Resources and to replace the current judicial review on industrial court with direct appeal to the High Courts.

At the Conference, both international and local speakers shared their experiences and expertise on the

emerging trends in regional labour and employment law as well as practice. The topics shared by speakers included 'Social Security and Protection Of Labour Welfare During Employment And Post-employment:

A Regional Look', 'Termination Of Employment: Current Developments And A Look At Regional Approaches', 'The Role Of Trade Unions: How Important Are They Today?', 'Then Minimum-Wage Debate: A Regional Comparison', 'The Impact Of Takeover, Mergers & Acquisitions On The Workforce: Is There A Choice Or Protection For Employees?', 'The Oil & Gas Industry: Special Features Of Employment & The Challenges In On-Shore & Off-Shore Employment', 'Cross-Border Labour Mobility In The Region And Its Impact' and 'Mass-Employment And Occupational Health & Safety: Enforcement Of Standards And Can Disasters Be Avoided?'

Some of issues highlighted in the Conference, which called for more thoughts to be given included the difficulties faced by Malaysian job applicants to be hired because they lacked proficiency in English. Malaysian Employers Federation's statistics confirmed that about 200,000 graduates in the country were unemployed due to poor command of the English language as one of the main reasons.

Another issue raised was that Malaysia is expected to reach the aging population status by 2035, where 15% of its total population will be 60 years and older, posing a huge socio-economic and health problem for Malaysia because this group is economically unproductive and lacks the financial means to lead

a simple and decent lifestyle. Hence, the Conference called for possible reforming pension systems so that social welfare of retirees would be better looked after.

Mr Andrew Lo, Chief Executive Director, Sarawak Bank Employees Union spoke on Malaysia's intended action to sign Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA). He felt that this would have a positive impact for Malaysian workers should it materialised and that would entail amendments of existing labour laws and practice to be line with labour rights as stated in International Labour Organization (ILO) Declaration 1998 which includes i) removing discretion of the Director General of Trade Unions to refuse to register a trade union and replace it with a process for determining representation of workers for the purposes of collective bargaining; ii) removing the limitation on forming a union in only a "similar" trade, occupation or industry; iii) ensuring that subcontracting or outsourcing is not used to circumvent the rights of association or collective bargaining; iv) undertaking the necessary institutional changes and capacity building to implement and enforce the new laws, and etc.

马来西亚劳动与社会保障法协会 (MSLSSL) 连同马来西亚当前法律杂志 (CLJ) 于2016年1月13日至15日假古晋普尔曼酒店举办第一届马来西亚和东盟国家就业法律发展区域大会。

MSLSSL主席拿督赛勒斯·达斯博士 (译音) 主持开幕礼。随后, 拿督在主题演讲时提出几项相关课题供审议。其中课题包括直接向工业法庭备案劳动争议和替换工业法庭当前的司法审查。

大会也强调马来西亚工作申请者因为英语掌握程度低而难觅职。

马来西亚人口将在2035年达到人口老龄化状况。60岁及以上占总人口的15%, 这将构成巨大的社会, 经济和健康问题。

Briefing on the Current Status of Occupational Ticket Licence and Letter of Authority

Persatuan Undang-Undang Buruh dan Keselamatan Sosial Malaysia (MSLSSL) dan Malaysian Current Law Journal (CLJ) telah bersama-sama menganjurkan Persidangan Serantau Pertama mengenai Perkembangan Undang-undang Pekerjaan di Malaysia dan Negara-negara ASEAN pada 13 hingga 15 Januari 2016 di Hotel Pullman, Kuching.

Dato Dr Cyrus Das, presiden MSLSSL merasmikan Persidangan dan menyampaikan uaputama. Dia menyuarakan beberapa isu penting untuk dipertimbangkan; antara lain mengenai pengenalan pemfailan langsung pertikaian pekerjaan dengan mahkamah industri dan untuk menggantikan semakan kehakiman semasa di mahkamah perindustrian.

Antara isu-isu yang diketengahkan dalam persidangan, termasuk kesukaran yang dihadapi oleh penduduk Malaysia dalam mendapatkan pekerjaan berikutan kelemahan dalam penguasaan Bahasa Inggeris. Malaysia dijangka mencapai status penuaan penduduk pada tahun 2035, di mana 15% daripada jumlah penduduk akan berusia 60 tahun dan ke atas, menimbulkan masalah sosio-ekonomi dan kesihatan yang besar.

Forest Department Sarawak organised a briefing on the current status of Occupational Ticket (OT) Licence and Letter of Authority (LA) on 27 January 2016 at Dewan Seminar, Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. The Briefing was attended by officers from the Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment (MRPE), relevant government agencies such as the Natural Resources and Environment Board (NREB), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFCSB), OT and LA holders as well as Sarawak Timber Association (STA).

Tuan Haji Sapuan Ahmad, the Director of Forests informed the participants of the Briefing that the objective of the briefing were to inform all OT and LA licencees and contractors on the latest directive issued by the State Government and at the same time to gather all information and feedback from the affected parties. He shared with the participants of the Briefing that in mid 2015, half of the OT has been cancelled and that all renewal of OT licence will be based on merit. He also said that as of 12 January 2016, there are 102 OT licences and LA. Tuan Haji Sapuan enlightened the participants of the Briefing on the criteria for renewing OT licence and LA. He also reminded the participants that all logs produced from OT licences and LA issued for the clearing of agriculture plantation areas and clearing in Licence for Planted Forests (LPF) areas are for local processing only and shall not be exported. He further reminded the holder of the licences to return the licence to the Director within 30 days upon expiration as stipulated under Section 43 (1) of the Forest Ordinance 2015 (Cap 71).

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak telah menganjurkan taklimat mengenai status semasa Lesen Occupational Ticket (OT) and Letter of Authority (LA) pada 27 Januari 2016 di Dewan Seminar, Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching.

Tuan Haji Sapuan Ahmad, Pengarah Hutan memaklumkan kepada peserta Taklimat bahawa Objektif taklimat adalah untuk memaklumkan kepada semua pemegang lesen dan kontraktor OT dan LA mengenai arahan terkini Kerajaan Negeri serta untuk mengumpul maklumat dan maklum balas daripada pihak-pihak yang terlibat.

Beliau juga mengingatkan para peserta bahawa semua kayu balak dari pembersihan kawasan ladang pertanian dan Lesen untuk Ladang Hutan (LPF) di bawah lesen OT dan LA adalah untuk pemprosesan tempatan sahaja dan tidak boleh dieksport.

砂拉越森林局 (FDS) 于 2016年1月27日假古晋资源大厦举办一项关于占据地契约 (OT) 执照和授权书 (LA) 最新进展简报会。

砂森林局局长哈志沙布安 (译音) 先生告知参与者简报会的目的是为了通知所有 OT和LA的执照持有者和承包商关于州政府的最新指令, 同时收集所有受影响者的信息和反馈。

他也提醒, 所有原木如果是从OT和LA执照签发于农业种植地和人工造林地所砍伐, 那么该原木仅可供本地加工处理, 不得出口。

Interview Session with Students

Apart from giving scholarships to tertiary students, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM), a subsidiary company of Sarawak Timber Association (STA) also provides education assistance, as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to students studying in Institut Kemahiran Mara (IKM), Kuching by subsidising the course fees and giving an allowance of RM300 for every semester to each eligible student. The purpose of this assistance is to create potential and better skilled workers for the timber industry.

STAM had its first meeting with IKM in June 2015 where both parties had agreed to select students from the July 2014 and January 2015 intakes based on their academic performance, leadership and participation in Extra Curricular Activities. As a result, eleven (11) students comprising five (5) Malays and six (6) Bumiputera have been recommended by their instructors based on the said criterias to apply for the education assistance. The selected students were later interviewed by a panel from both STA and IKM on 18 January 2016. The interview panel comprised Dr Peter Kho, General Manager of STA, Ms Thresa Aji, Administrative Officer of STAM, Puan Hazlina Binti Mohd Kasim, Assistant Director of Promotion Department, IKM and Puan Dayang Lailawati Binti Awang Redzuan, Head of Department for General Studies, IKM.

These students had been categorised into two (2) categories, where only three (3) best students from each category will be selected to receive the education assistance.

STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) sebuah anak syarikat Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah menyediakan bantuan pendidikan sebagai sebahagian daripada Tanggungjawab Sosial Korporat (CSR) kepada pelajar-pelajar yang belajar di Institut Kemahiran Mara (IKM), Kuching dengan memberi subsidi yuran kursus dan elaun sebanyak RM300 bagi setiap semester kepada pelajar yang layak. Tujuan bantuan ini adalah untuk mewujudkan pekerja berpotensi dan berkemahiran dalam industri kayu.

STAM telah mengadakan mesyuarat pertamanya dengan IKM pada bulan Jun 2015 di mana kedua-dua pihak telah bersetuju untuk memilih pelajar dari pengambilan Julai 2014 dan Januari 2015 berdasarkan prestasi akademik, kepimpinan dan penyertaan dalam aktiviti ko-kurikulum. Hasilnya, 11 pelajar telah disyorkan. Pelajar yang terpilih kemudiannya ditemuramah oleh panel dari STA dan IKM pada 18 Januari 2016.

Pelajar-pelajar ini telah dikategorikan kepada 2 kategori, di mana hanya 3 orang pelajar terbaik daripada setiap kategori akan dipilih untuk menerima bantuan pendidikan.

Corporate Social Responsibility Effort by STA Mutual Sdn Bhd



Photo: Madam Ani anak Nios (Right), receiving the financial assistance from Mr Brian Yeo (Left), Group Finance and Administration Manager of STA

An appeal in the local newspapers by a disabled single mother, Madam Ani anak Nios has drawn the attention of Sarawak Timber Association (STA) in 2015. STA through its subsidiary company, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) made a decision to provide a financial assistance as part of its efforts on corporate social responsibility (CSR) to support Madam Ani and her family's living expenses while her son, Mr Maxwell Aiman is undergoing an operation in Kuala Lumpur.

Mr Maxwell Aiman has Down Syndrome and was suffering from a Complex Congenital Heart disease. He had gone through a successful operation on 3 November 2015 at the National Heart Institute in Kuala Lumpur.

Rayuan melalui akhbar tempatan oleh seorang ibu tunggal kurang upaya, Puan Ani anak Nios telah menarik perhatian Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) pada tahun 2015. STA melalui anak syarikatnya, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) telah membuat keputusan untuk memberikan bantuan kewangan sebagai sebahagian daripada tanggungjawab sosial korporat (CSR) untuk menyokong kos sara hidup Puan Ani dan keluarga sementara anaknya Encik Maxwell Aiman sedang menjalani pembedahan di Kuala Lumpur.

残疾单亲母亲安妮女士（译音）通过本地媒体求助引起本会的关注。为此，本会通过旗下子公司STAMutual有限公司（STAM）决定在安妮女士8岁的儿子，麦克斯小弟弟在吉隆坡接受手术时，安妮及家人的生活开支方面提供资金援助。这为本会对企业社会责任（CSR）的部分努力。

ts from Institut Kemahiran Mara

本会旗下子公司STA Mutual有限公司 (STAM) 提供教育援助予古晋Institut Kemahiran Mara(IKM), 这作为本会企业社会责任 (CSR) 的部分努力。STAM将补贴符合条件学生的学费及每人每学期马币300令吉的津贴。这基于培养有潜能和高素质的木材行业技术工人。

STAM与IKM于2015年6月召开第一次会议。双方同意在2014年7月和2015年1月报道的学生当中, 根据学生的学业成绩, 领导和参与课外活动的表现来推荐受惠的学生。

这批学生被分为2组, 其中每组只有3位最优秀的学生将被选中接受教育援助。



Photo: Mas Eizwani Spary, student studying for Certificate of Engineering Technology (Domestic and Industrial) at IKM was interviewed by panels from STA and IKM

Malaysian Timber Association Executive Committee Meeting No 1/2015



Photo: Meeting in Progress

The Malaysian Timber Association (MTA) had its Executive Committee meeting on 7 December 2015 in the MTC Board Room, Menara PGRM Kuala Lumpur. It was attended by all eight (8) members of the Association. Dato' Low Kian Chuan, President of MTA thanked all for attending the Meeting, and stressed that the main agenda that day is to discuss the work plan for next year 2016, with the objective of making MTA more effective and having impact on the industry even though we are one country with three (3) forestry regions. The Malaysian Wood Moulding & Joinery Council (MWMJC) attended this meeting as an observer and will join MTA as a new member, commencing on 1 January 2016.

Amongst the many issues discussed, the Meeting also agreed to consult Datuk Andrew Tham of Timber Association of Sabah (TAS) for a suitable person to be the representative for MTA in the Technical Committee for Propagation of Seedlings for Forest Plantation through Biotechnology- Tissue Culture, with Sarawak Timber Association (STA) as the alternate representative to TAS.

As for the major activities for 2016, the Committee agreed that visits to both China and Thailand can continue to be organised, in addition to the 1-day convention, proposed to be held in the second half of the year as MTC is planning one for Peninsula Malaysia in the first half of next year.

马来西亚木材公会 (MTA) 旗下所有8位会员出席于2015年12月7日假吉隆坡, 民政大厦所召开的执行委员会。MTA主席, 拿督卢成全感谢所有出席会议的会员, 并强调会议主要议程是讨论2016年的工作计划, 以使MTA更加有效影响行业, 即使马来西亚森林管理是一国三区域政策。

会议也同意征询沙巴木材公会 (TAS) 会长拿督谭志男的意见在提名生物技术繁殖人工林苗木技术委员会的MTA代表, STA则作为副代表。

委员会一致认同前往中国和泰国木材贸易考察将继续举办, 并列为2016年的主要活动之一。

Persatuan Kayu Malaysia (MTA) telah mengadakan mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Eksekutif pada 7 Disember 2015 di Bilik Lembaga Pengarah MTC, Menara PGRM Kuala Lumpur. Mesyuarat dihadiri oleh kesemua 8 orang ahli Persatuan. Dato' Low Kian Chuan, Presiden MTA mengucapkan terima kasih kepada semua yang hadir dan menegaskan bahawa agenda utama mesyuarat adalah untuk membincangkan pelan kerja bagi tahun 2016, dengan tujuan untuk meningkatkan keberkesanan MTA dan mempunyai impak kepada industri walaupun terdapat 3 wilayah perhutanan di Malaysia.

Mesyuarat bersetuju untuk berunding dengan Datuk Andrew Tham dari Persatuan Perkayuan Sabah (TAS) sebagai wakil MTA dalam Jawatankuasa Teknikal untuk Pengembangan Benih Ladang Hutan melalui Bioteknologi, dengan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) sebagai wakil alternatif kepada TAS.

Bagi aktiviti-aktiviti utama tahun 2016, Jawatankuasa bersetuju untuk menganjurkan lawatan ke China dan Thailand.

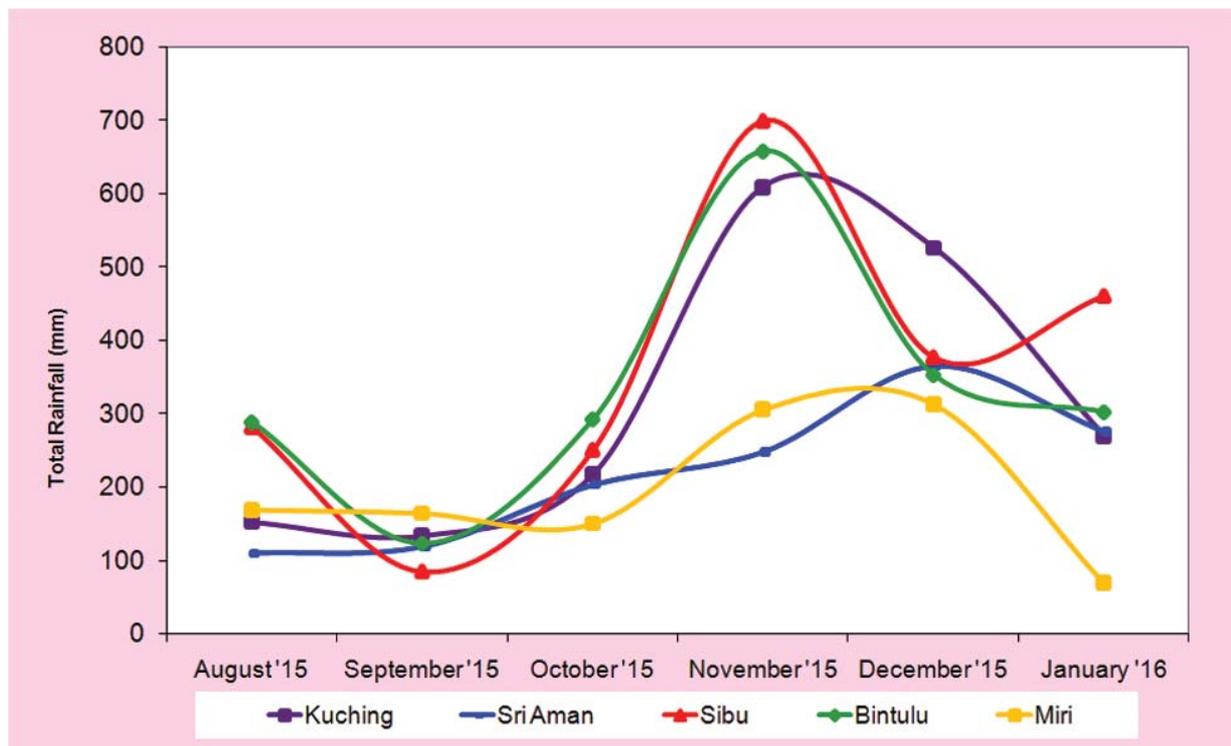
PRODUCTION OF PLANTED FORESTS LOGS BY SECTION
 FROM SARAWAK - *ACACIA MANGIUM* & *ALBIZIA* SPECIES
 PENGELUARAN BALAK LADANG HUTAN MENGIKUT BAHAGIAN DARI SARAWAK -
 SPESIS *ACACIA MANGIUM* & *ALBIZIA*
 砂拉越各区域人工林原木生产量-大叶相思与南洋楹

Section	June '15	July '15	August '15	September '15	October '15	November '15	December '15	Jan - Dec '15
	Vol (M³)	Vol (M³)	Vol (M³)	Vol (M³)	Vol (M³)	Vol (M³)	Vol (M³)	Vol (M³)
Kuching (ACMG)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
(ALBZ)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sibu (ACMG)	1,334	1,616	1,719	1,693	2,681	1,590	1,729	13,812
(ALBZ)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Bintulu (ACMG)	87,381	82,810	70,583	43,921	69,546	65,760	70,366	843,988
(ALBZ)	3,455	2,542	3,637	7,219	5,487	2,758	3,100	38,699
Miri (ACMG)	---	500	741	600	721	1,420	572	4,555
(ALBZ)	1,351	964	571	1,330	1,132	---	---	10,138
Subtotal (ACMG)	88,715	84,926	73,043	46,214	72,948	68,770	72,667	862,355
(ALBZ)	4,806	3,506	4,208	8,549	6,618	2,758	3,100	48,837
Total:	93,521	88,432	77,251	54,763	79,566	71,528	75,767	911,192

Source of data: Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd

* ACMG - Acacia Mangium
 ALBZ - Albizia

RAINFALL : AUGUST '15 - JANUARY '16
 DATA HUJAN BULANAN 雨量数据



Source : Malaysian Meteorological Services