

STA Review

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June 2008

MoU Signing & Cheque Presentation Ceremony

Pada 18 Jun 2008, STA telah mengadakan Majlis menandatangani Memoranda Persefahaman dan Penyampaian Cek di Wisma STA, Kuching. Majlis ini disaksikan oleh Y.B. Dato Sri Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan, Menteri Kedua Kementerian Perancangan dan Pembangunan Sumber.

Tiga memoranda persefahaman telah ditandatangani. Pertama, Adendum kepada MoU yang telah ditandatangani pada 30 September 1996 antara STA dengan Kerajaan Negeri Sarawak, yang diwakili oleh Jabatan Hutan Sarawak berkenaan dengan kerjasama dalam penyelidikan penggunaan kayu dan aktiviti latihan yang memanfaatkan industri kayu Negeri. MoU kedua yang juga ditandatangani antara STA dan Kerajaan Negeri Sarawak adalah berkenaan implementasi penyelidikan tentang penilaian semula terhadap status pemeliharaan tiga genera Dipterocarpaceae (*Dipterocarpus*, *Dryobalanops* dan *Shorea*) di

■ On 18 June 2008, STA had a Memoranda of Understanding Signing and Cheque Presentation Ceremony at Wisma STA, Kuching. The event was witnessed by Y. B. Dato Sri Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan, the Second Minister of Planning and Resource Management.

In his welcoming speech, Datuk

Wong Kie Yik, Chairman of STA, said that the signing of the Memoranda signified the start of processes that will ensure the viability and sustainability of the timber industry in Sarawak. Three Memoranda were signed.

The first one was an Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding

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Picture: Exchanging of Memoranda of Understanding between Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, the Deputy Permanent Secretary Ministry of Planning and Resource Management cum Director of Forests Sarawak and Datuk Wong Kie Yik, Chairman of STA in the presence of Y. B. Dato Sri Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan, the Second Minister of Planning and Resource Management. Present were Dato Henry Lau, Honorary Secretary of STA (right) and Tuan Haji Ali Yusop, the Deputy Director of Forests

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which was signed on 30 September 1996 between the Association and the Government of Sarawak, represented by the Forest Department Sarawak with regards to the collaborative work on timber utilisation research and training activities that will bring benefit to the State's timber industry. This Addendum extends the period of the MoU to 17 June 2011.

The second MoU signed was also between STA and the Government of Sarawak, represented by the Forest Department Sarawak on the implementation of a project on the reassessment of the conservation status of three genera of Dipterocarpaceae (*Dipterocarpus*, *Dryobalanops* and *Shorea*) in

Sarawak.

STA, through a Working Group, formed after the announcement of the amendment to the Sarawak Labour Ordinance (SLO) on 1 October 2005, had conducted a review on the impact of the newly amended Labour Ordinance and found that seven provisions of the SLO to be impractical and inappropriate for the forestry and timber industry in Sarawak. Thus, STA duly applied to the Ministry of Human Resources for exemption of the seven provisions namely Section 11 (Guaranteed Week), Section 104 (Holidays), Section 105 (Hours of Work), Section 105A (Shift Work), Section 105B (Rest Day), Section 105C (Work on Rest Day) and Section 105D (Annual

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Sarawak. MoU ketiga ditandatangani antara STA dan enam kumpulan Syarikat Perkayuan iaitu KTS, Rimbunan Hijau, Samling, Shin Yang, Ta Ann dan WTK yang menunjukkan sokongan mereka terhadap Pakej Ganjaran Kerja Hutan.

Pada masa yang sama, dua cek telah diserahkan kepada Jabatan Hutan Sarawak dan Sarawak Forestry Corporation untuk projek-projek iaitu "Penilaian semula terhadap status pemeliharaan tiga genera Dipterocarpaceae (*Dipterocarpus*, *Dryobalanops* dan *Shorea*)" dan "Penilaian daya maju Spesis Pokok Peribumi dan Teknik Pembangunan Perladangan Hutan di Sarawak" masing-masing.



Above: The signing of Memorandum of Understanding between STA and the six groups of Timber Companies witnessed by Y. B. Dato Sri Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan, the Second Minister of Planning and Resource Management



Left: Cheque presentation to the Forest Department Sarawak for the project entitled "Reassessment of Conservation Status of Three Genera of Dipterocarpaceae (*Dipterocarpus*, *Dryobalanops* and *Shorea*)"

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Leave). A Forestry Labour Remuneration Package (FLRP) was formulated in place of the seven provisions of the SLO and document the entrenched practices of the forestry industry in Sarawak. The final MoU that was signed between STA and six groups of Timber Companies, namely, KTS, Rimbunan Hijau, Samling, Shin Yang, Ta Ann and WTK signifies their support of the FLRP. Other Members of STA who wish to adopt this FLRP may do so if they wish.

In conjunction with this occasion, two cheque presentations to the Forest Department Sarawak and Sarawak Forestry Corporation for the projects entitled "Reassessment of Conservation Status of Three Genera of Dipterocarpaceae (*Dipterocarpus*, *Dryobalanops* and *Shorea*)" and "Viability Assessment of Indigenous Tree Species and Propagation Techniques for Planted Forest Development in Sarawak" respectively. ❁



Picture: Cheque presentation to the Sarawak Forestry Corporation for the project entitled "Viability Assessment of Indigenous Tree Species and Propagation Techniques for Planted Forest Development in Sarawak"

Briefing on Environmental Impact Assessment

■ A Briefing Session on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedures, processes and requirements for forest operation was held on the afternoon of 18 June 2008 at Wisma STA. Moderated by Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, the session was attended by approximately 55 people comprising representatives from the Natural

Resources Environmental Board (NREB), the Forest Department Sarawak, the Sarawak Forestry Corporation, the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, Harwood Sdn Bhd and members of STA.

Dr. Penguang Manggil, the Controller of Environmental Quality

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Satu sesi taklimat mengenai prosedur, proses dan keperluan Penilaian Impak Alam Sekitar untuk operasi hutan telah diadakan pada

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Sarawak, NREB was on hand to deliver the presentation on EIA. During the question and answer

session, members of STA were able to seek clarifications on EIA issues which they are currently facing . ❁



Left: Datuk Wong Kie Yik (2nd from right) delivering his remarks at the briefing session. From left: Dr. Penguang Manggil, the Controller of NREB, Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, the Deputy Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Planning and Resource Management cum the Director of Forests Sarawak and Dato Henry Lau, Honorary Secretary of STA

Below: Dr. Penguang Manggil delivering his presentation



Left : STA Members at the briefing session

Right: Members making enquiries during the Question and Answer session



petang 18 Jun 2008 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Taklimat yang dipengerusikan oleh Datu Len Talif Salleh dan dihadiri oleh lebih kurang 55 wakil dari Lembaga Sumber Asli & Alam Sekitar Sarawak(NREB), Jabatan Hutan Sarawak, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak, Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd dan ahli-ahli STA. Taklimat mengenai EIA telah disampaikan oleh Dr. Penguang Manggil, Pengawal Kualiti Alam Sekitar Sarawak (NREB). Ahli-ahli STA juga mendapat penjelasan berhubung isu EIA yang dihadapi oleh mereka semasa sesi soal jawab.

Dialogue on Forestry Matters

■ A dialogue session was organised on 18 June 2008 at Wisma STA, Kuching amongst representatives of the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd and STA Council Members pertaining to forestry and timber industry matters. The meeting was jointly chaired by Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh, and Datuk Wong Kie Yik.

Amongst some of the issues discussed were Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade-Voluntary Partnership Agreement (FLEGT-VPA), issuance of training certificates and the implication on training rules, measurement of logs for royalty assessment, functions of each unit of the SFC & FDS, logging in Terrain 4 if the log fisher system is used, Native Customary Rights claims by communities living in the vicinity of timber concessions and tenure of forest timber licences. ❁

Satu sesi dialog membincangkan tentang isu-isu perhutanan telah diadakan pada 18 Jun 2008 di Wisma STA, Kuching . Sesi ini dihadiri oleh lebih kurang 50 wakil dari Jabatan Hutan Sarawak, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak, Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd and Ahli-ahli Majlis STA. Mesyuarat ini dipengerusikan bersama oleh Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh dan Datuk Wong Kie Yik.



Left: Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh and Datuk Wong Kie Yik jointly chairing the dialogue session



Above and right: Dialogue in progress between representatives from the Forest Department Sarawak, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd and STA Council Members



STA Friendship Night

■ STA organised the STA Friendship Night on 18 June 2008 at Wisma STA, Kuching. Attended by more than 150 guests, the event was graced by Y. B. Tuan Haji Hamden bin Haji Ahmad, Assistant Minister of Youth Affairs and Tourism, representing Y. B. Dato Sri Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan, the Second Minister of Planning and Resource Management.

This event was also to welcome Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh as the Director of Forests Sarawak and the Chief Executive Officer of Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd as well as to officially introduce STA's new Council Members to the Director of Forests and the senior staff members of the Ministry of Planning and Resource Management, the Forest Department Sarawak, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, Natural Resources Environmental Board, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation and

Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd.

Datuk Wong Kie Yik, Chairman of STA, in his address, said that the event was organised to show the Association's appreciation to the colleagues in the public sector, in particular the Ministry of Planning and Resource Management, the Forest Department Sarawak, the Sarawak Forestry Corporation, the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, the Natural Resources and Environment Board and Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd for their assistance and cooperation they had rendered all this time. The timber industry, he added especially in tropical regions, is faced with many issues in the international market. Thus, it is important for all agencies to work closely together to resolve these issues for the benefit of the industry in the State and the country as a whole. He hoped that the evening will enable all parties to foster even closer relationships and

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Left: Welcoming Y. B. Tuan Haji Hamden bin Haji Ahmad, Assistant Minister of Youth Affairs and Tourism to STA Friendship Night

Right: Datuk Wong Kie Yik, Chairman of STA presenting a memento to Datuk Leo Chai, the Immediate Past Chairman of STA for his contribution to the Association



STA telah menganjurkan Malam Persahabatan STA pada 18 Jun 2008 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Majlis dihadiri oleh lebih kurang 150 tetamu jemputan dan tetamu kehormat pada malam tersebut adalah Y. B. Tuan Haji Hamden bin Haji Ahmad, Menteri Muda Pelancongan dan Hal Ehwal Belia yang mewakili Y.B. Dato Sri Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan, Menteri Kedua Kementerian Perancangan dan Pembangunan Sumber.

Majlis ini bertujuan untuk mengalu-alukan Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh selaku Pengarah Jabatan Hutan Sarawak dan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd.

Malam Persahabatan STA ini juga bertujuan untuk memperkenalkan Ahli Majlis baru STA kepada Pengarah Hutan dan pegawai-pegawai dari Kementerian Perancangan dan Pembangunan Sumber, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, Lembaga Sumber Asli & Alam Sekitar Sarawak, Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak dan Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd.

Pada malam yang sama, Persatuan memberikan penghargaan kepada Datuk Leo Chai atas sumbangan beliau kepada Persatuan dari Mac 2000 hingga 31 Mac 2008.

Majlis ini diserikan lagi dengan persembahan daripada penjenaka terkenal, Encik Hariith Iskandar, kumpulan pemuzik dan cabutan hadiah bertuah.

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greater networking, renew old acquaintances and establish new ones.

On the same night, the Association acknowledged the contribution of Datuk Leo Chai, the Immediate Past Chairman, to the Association during his tenure of office firstly as Honorary Secretary from March 2000 to March 2002 and subsequently as Chairman from 31 March 2002 to 31 March 2008. He

had brought with him to the Association a wealth of knowledge and experience gained from his long service in the Forest Department Sarawak and therefore was able to view the timber industry from both the perspective of the public and private sector.

The gathering was entertained to a performance by famous comedian, Mr. Harith Iskandar, a four-piece band and lucky draws. ❁



Left: STA Members and staff mingling at the STA Friendship Night



Right: Invited guests collecting their lucky draw numbers and door gifts



Right: Invited guests enjoying the evening

Left: The comedian, Mr. Harith Iskandar in action



STA Tea Talk: Biotechnology

■ A Tea Talk was organised by STA on 28 June 2008 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The talk drew an audience of 70 participants. The invited speaker, Dr. Clem Kuek, spoke on Biotechnology. Dr. Kuek is the Associate Professor with the School of Engineering & Science, Swinburne University of Technology, Sarawak Campus. Participants were treated to a colourful and informative presentation about what biotechnology is and the examples of biotechnology in our every day life.

Thus, what is Biotechnology? It is a diverse collection of technologies where *"the application of science and technology to living organisms, as well as parts, products and models thereof, to alter living or non-living materials for the production of knowledge, goods and services (OECD, 2005)"* is practised. An equally good definition is: *"the application of scientific and engineering principles to the processing of materials by biological agents to provide goods and services"*. The application of Biotechnology is wide-ranging from processed food, medicine to detergents, toilet cleaners, etc.

Some examples of how biotechnology is put to use commercially. Soya sauce is made from cooked soya beans fermented



Picture: The speaker, Dr. Clem Kuek

with a fungus. Farmed eggs are able to maintain the healthy looking orange colour because chicken breeders add beta-carotene into the chicken feed producing this color. In the pharmaceutical industry, antibiotics are sourced from fungi, actinomycetes or bacteria. In agriculture, bacterium can be used to substitute the use of chemical pesticides by inserting bacterium in the plant so that the toxins are present in the plant which will prevent the plant from being attached by pest and diseases. ❁

Note: Presentation slides from the Talk are available for viewing at the STA Exhibition Centre.

STIDC Industry Briefing Session

■ The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) organised a Second Industry Update Briefing on 24 June 2008 at the STIDC Theatre, Wisma Sumber Alam Kuching. The session was attended by more than 100 participants comprising timber exporters, importers, manufacturers

and those involved in the production and marketing as well as individuals who are interested to update their knowledge on the timber trade.

The briefing informed and updated the timber industry on issues related to the findings of a review on the Sarawak Chain of Custody
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STA Tea Talk telah diadakan pada 28 Jun 2008 di Wisma STA. Penceramah jemputan adalah Dr. Clem Kuek, Profesor Madya Sekolah Kejuruteraan dan Sains, Universiti Teknologi Swinburne, Kampus Sarawak yang membincangkan topik Bioteknologi. Ceramah ini memberi pandangan asas tentang Bioteknologi and penggunaannya dalam pemprosesan makanan, ubat-ubatan, pelbagai bahan pencuci dan lain-lain.

Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak telah mengadakan Taklimat Industri Kedua pada 24 Jun 2008 di Teater STIDC, Wisma Sumber Alam

Kuching. Taklimat ini bertujuan untuk mengemaskinkan industri kayu-kayan dengan maklumat terbaru berkaitan dengan pencarian Rantaian Jagaan Sarawak, Sistem e-Permit, Polisi Pengimportan Kayu dan topik-topik yang berkaitan dengan perdagangan kayu antarabangsa.

Institut Penyelidikan Perhutanan Malaysia, Universiti Teknologi Mara dan Pertubuhan Hasil-Hasil Hutan Malaysia bersama-sama akan menganjurkan Persidangan Nasional Hasil-Hasil Hutan 2008 dari 29 hingga 31 Oktober 2008 di Kuala Lumpur. Bertemakan "Menghala Ke arah Persaingan dan Pengekekalan", persidangan ini bertujuan memberikan maklumat terbaru tentang penyelidikan dan pembangunan penemuan hasil-hasil hutan kepada sektor swasta, penyidik, ahli akademik, ahli industri dan pengubal polisi.

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(CoC), e-Permit System, Policy on Importation of Timber as well as topics on the current international timber trade.

Seven papers were presented at the briefing namely;

- **Review of Chain of Custody in Sarawak - Findings** by Mr. Grahame Applegate, Technical Advisor, PT. URS Indonesia
- **ePermit for Timber Industry** by Mr. Tagat Jimbat, Assistant General Manager, Domestic Trade, STIDC
- **Global Aspects of the Timber Industry and Market Development Grant (MDG)** by Ms. Trra Banau ak Gilbert Taylor, Assistant Director, MATRADE Sarawak
- **Import of Timber from**

Indonesia by Mr. Hohd Hinri Abdullah, Assistant General Manager, Preventive & Enforcement, STIDC

- **Malaysia's Involvement in Free Trade Agreements** by Mr. Peter Brian Wang, FTA Policy and Negotiations Coordination, Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI)
- **Timber Trade Action Plan Programme** by Ms. Aida Adnan, Project Officer, Tropical Forest Trust
- **Design of Automatic Wood Species Recognition System** by Professor Marzuki Khalid, Director Malaysia-Japan University Centre

Note: The papers presented at the Briefing are available upon request and for reference at the STA Exhibition Centre.

National Conference on Forest Products 2008

■ The Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), the Universiti Teknologi Mara and the Malaysian Forest Products Society (MFPS) will jointly organise the National Conference on Forest Products 2008 (NCFP 2008) from 29 to 31 October 2008 in Kuala Lumpur. With the chosen theme "Towards Competitiveness and Sustainability", this Conference is designed to disseminate the latest R&D findings in forest products to the private sector, researchers, academicians, industrialists and policy makers.

The objectives are;

- To discuss issues affecting forest products sectors such as technology, environmental and trade
- To explore, exchange and update scientific and technological findings and information related to

wood based industries

- To provide a forum for forest products researchers to present their results and findings, state-of-the-art technologies, products and services.

Registration fees for the Conference are RM600 per person, for students RM350 per person and for group registration of three or more RM550 per person. A Post-conference tour is also being planned for registered participants for a fee of RM50 per person (including lunch and refreshments).

For enquiries, please contact:
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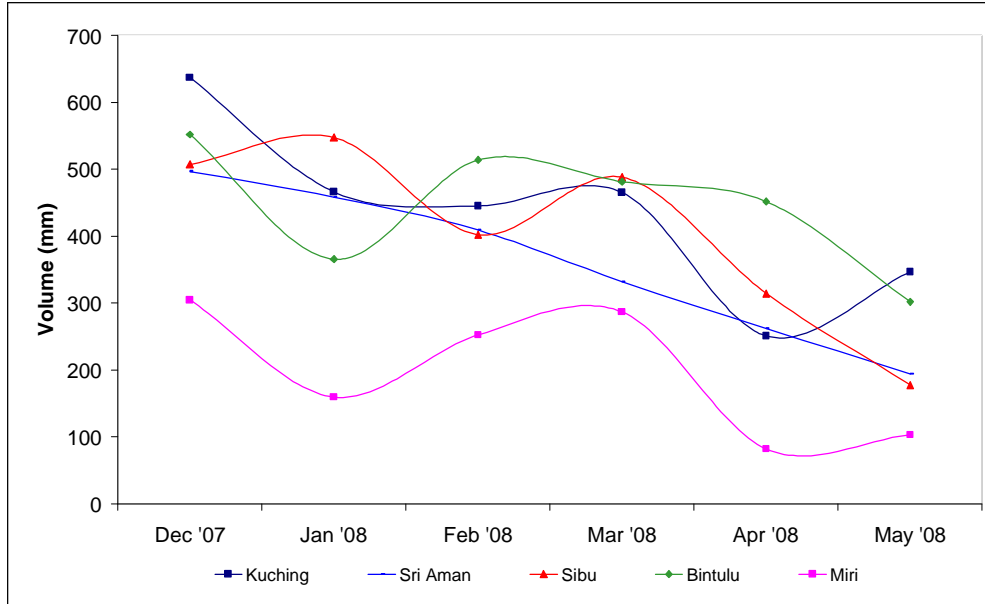
Requirement for Submission of Monthly Industrial Production Return

STA received a letter from the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) Ref. No.: STIDC.12.PI(U.PI).04.1.3 dated 24 June 2008, pertaining to the requirement for submission of monthly industrial production return.

Pursuant to Section 5(2)(d) of the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation Ordinance 1973, all companies operating wood-based mills are required to submit to STIDC their monthly production return **within 30 days** of the following month by completing the Industrial Production Return form. This is to ensure that accurate and up-to-date data required by government agencies, trade associations and private organisations for industry planning and monitoring is always made readily available. STIDC **will not** process export and import license applications of companies that fail to comply with this requirement. This requirement is enforced **with immediate effect**.

Berkuatkuasa serta merta, Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA) memerlukan semua syarikat yang mengoperasikan kilang-kilang berasaskan kayu perlu menghantar pulangan pengeluaran industri bulanan mereka kepadanya dalam masa 30 hari pada bulan berikutnya dengan mengisi Borang Pulangan Pengeluaran Industri.

Rainfall : December '07 - May '08 Kadar Hujan Bulanan



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