

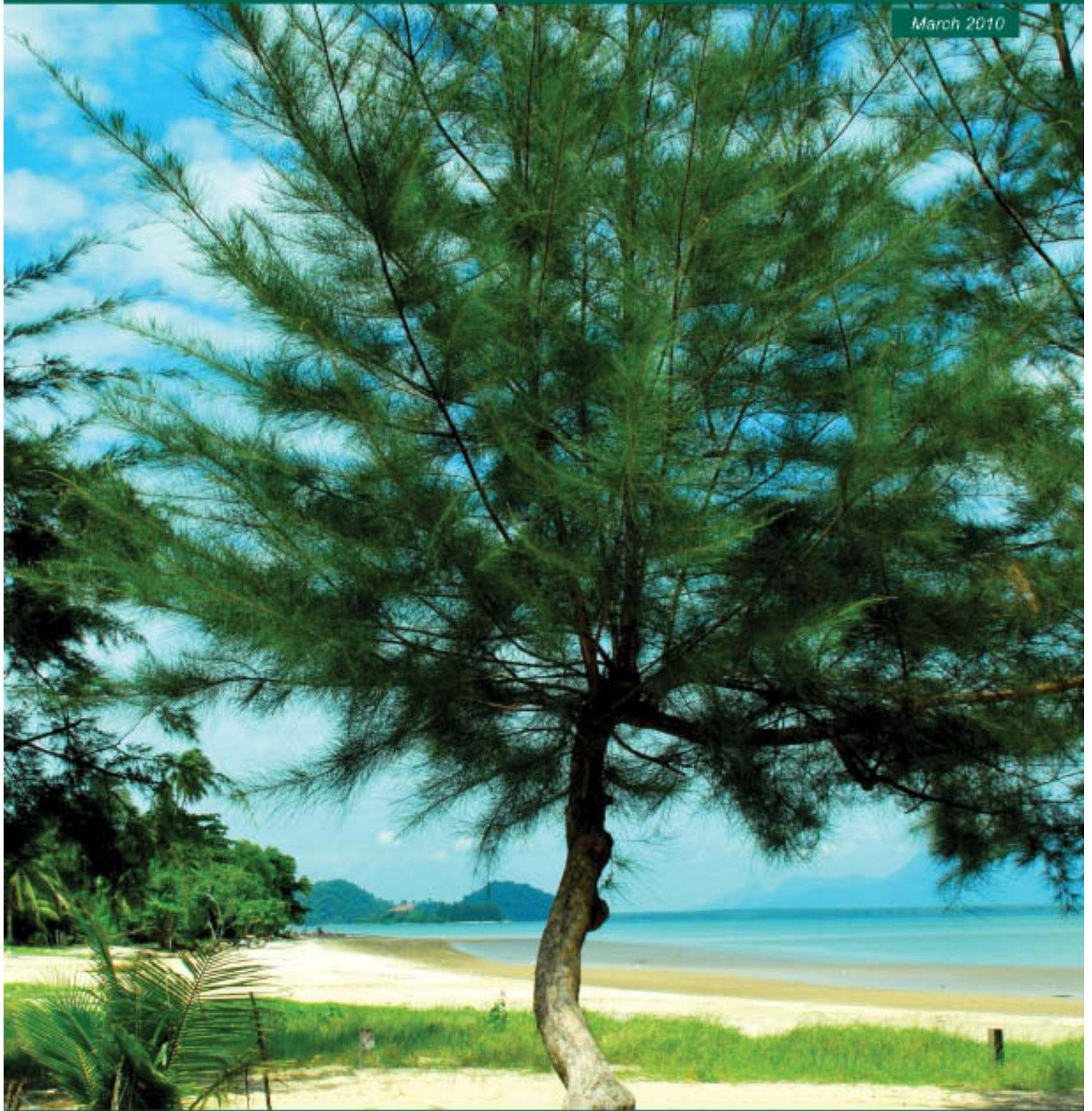
STA Review

Volume 198

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Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association

March 2010



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GENERAL MEETING



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STA COUNCIL MEMBERS
FOR YEARS 2010 AND 2011

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ANTI DUMPING
INVESTIGATION
by Korea Trade Commission

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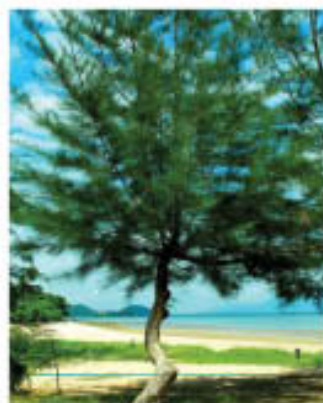
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COVER IMAGE:
Protected Tree Species in Sarawak
Family : Casuarinaceae
Species : *Casuarina equisetifolia* L.
Common Name : Rhu laut
Natural Habitat : Found on sandy beach front

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 Officers, Members 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 Officers, Members or Employees. The contents of the Review may be reprinted with prior written permission from STA.

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ERRATA

The Association wishes to apologise for the misprint in the contents of its STA Review publication for the month of February 2010. The following correction applies to our statistics' pages from page 12 – 19 due to misprint in the label column:

Misprint:

Country of Destination	August '09	September '09	October '09	November '09	December '09	January '10
	Vol (m3)	Vol (m3)	Vol (m3)	Vol (m3)	Vol (m3)	Vol (m3)

Correction:

Country of Destination	October '09	November '09	December '09	Jan - Dec '09	January '10	January '09
	Vol (m3)	Vol (m3)	Vol (m3)	Vol (m3)	Vol (m3)	Vol (m3)

The Association apologises for any inconvenience caused arising from this matter.

STA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

STA held its Annual General Meeting on 31 March 2010 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The AGM was attended by representatives from 187 Member Companies.

During the AGM, the Chairman, Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, presented his report on the activities of the Association for the year 2009.

The Meeting dealt with matters related to the Association and its wholly-owned companies, namely STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Training Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd and STA Ventures Sdn Bhd. The election for the new Council Members and Office Bearers took place at the end of the Meeting.

The following is the Chairman's Report for the year ending 31 March 2010:

Mesuarat Agung Tahunan STA telah diadakan pada 31 Mac 2010 di Wisma STA, Kuching yang dihadiri oleh wakil dari 187 syarikat ahli.

Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, Pengerusi, membentangkan laporan tentang aktiviti-aktiviti Persatuan bagi tahun 2009.

Mesuarat juga berbincang tentang hal-hal berkaitan dengan empat anak syarikat Persatuan iaitu STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Training Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd dan STA Ventures Sdn Bhd dan diikuti dengan undian untuk memilih Ahli Majlis dan Pemegang Jawatan yang baru. Berikut adalah Laporan Pengerusi sehingga 31 Mac 2010:

STA常年会员大会于2010年3月31日假古晋，STA大厦召开。共有187间会员公司代表出席今年的大会。

本会主席，邦曼查拿督黄皆畔呈报本会2009年活动事项。

大会也商讨本会旗下4间全资拥有公司；STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Training Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd及STA Ventures Sdn Bhd各别公司事务。随后推选本会新任理事会委员及执政委员。

以下是主席报告。



Left : Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, Chairman of STA (6th from left) presenting his report during the AGM



Above : STA Members, observers and invited guests at the Meeting



Above : Election in progress

**REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009
BY PEMANCA DATUK WONG KIE YIK
CHAIRMAN
SARAWAK TIMBER ASSOCIATION**

1. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your support and attendance at our AGM especially those members from outstation. 2009 has been another challenging year for the Association. During the year, the timber industry and trade continued to face many new challenges. Although the national economy had improved somewhat in 2009 over that in year 2008, the timber trade had not improved in consonance.

2. MEETINGS HELD IN YEAR 2009

The table below gives a summary of meetings held in year 2009.

NATURE OF MEETING	NUMBER OF TIMES
STA Council	3
Management Committee	
IR & Labour Committee	2
IR Committee (before merging with Labour Committee)	2
Panel Products Committee	3
M & A Committee	2
Certification Committee	8
Malaysia-EU FLEGT-VPA	more than 16
Wood Residue Committee	1

3. ACTIVITIES OF WHOLLY-OWNED COMPANIES

3.1 STA Enterprises Sdn. Bhd

Established in 1996, this is the property holding company of STA. Wisma STA is currently more than 95% occupied.

3.2 STA Training Sdn. Bhd.

STAT, a wholly owned company of STA, was incorporated on 26 March 2002 with the primary objective of setting up a training structure and programme to produce 'skilled forest workers' in accordance with Sector 54B of the Forests Ordinance (Sarawak Cap 126).

3.2.1 Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules

These Rules have been amended by the Forest Department with significant input from our Association. The Department had indicated that these Rules will soon be approved by the Majlis Mesyuarat Kerajaan Negeri (State Cabinet) and is targeting 1 July 2010 as the date the Rules will come into force.

3.2.2 STA's Training programme

In year 2004, STAT worked with the Forest Industries Training and Education Council (FITEC), New Zealand to develop the Sarawak Modular Training Framework for the timber and forest industries.

There are 7 certificates offered by STAT.

- 1 Certificate in Tree Felling (CTF)
- 2 Certificate in Log Extraction (Tractor) (CLE)
- 3 Certificate in Log Loading (CLL)
- 4 Certificate in Clear-fell Site Preparation (CCSP)
- 5 Certificate in Mechanical Site Preparation (Excavator) (CMSP)
- 6 Certificate in Tree and Log Identification (CTLI)
- 7 Certificate in Log and Timber Identification (CLTI)

The number of trained trainers, trained operators and trained assessors as at 31 December 2009 is summarized in the table below:

Trained Trainers								
Organisation	CTF	CLE	CLL	CCSP	CMSP	CTLI	CLTI	Total
STAT	3	2	2	2	1	0	0	10
Industry	49	66	31	1	5	0	0	152
Total	52	68	33	3	6	0	0	162
Trained Assessors								
STAT	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	13
Industry	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total	4	6	2	1	1	1	1	16
Trained Operators								
Industry	172	244	80	0	10	0	1	507
Total	172	244	80	0	10	0	1	507

Most of the trainers are now training operators in their own logging camps. Under training to be trainers are 34 candidates (3 candidates in Tree-felling, 11 in Log Loading, 9 in Clear-fell Site preparation and 11 in Mechanical site preparation). 14 Assessors from Member Companies of STA are under training.

3.2.3 Post Graduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forestry Management)

In October 2006, STAT and Lincoln University New Zealand, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to deliver a Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management) course in Kuching. This course aims to train managers and senior management staff in the relevant skills to manage forest sustainably in the tropics. This training would complement the skills training that STA had started in 1996.

I am proud to announce that the first cohort of 22 students (17 in person and 5 in absentia) were conferred the Postgraduate Diploma at the graduation ceremony in Christchurch on 24 April 2009.

This represents a significant step forward for our industry and it is hoped that these graduates are able to help the industry towards managing our forests sustainably. The second cohort for this programme, which is currently in progress, has 13 students.

3.2.4 Financial Contribution to Educational Institutions

In 2009 the STA Council approved a financial contribution of RM200,000.00

to the Riam Institute of Technology. This Institute has been training technicians who have been employed by many of our Member Companies. Following the financial contribution this Institute had, at our request, launched a Certificate Course in Forest Plantation Practices for Field Supervisors with the course syllabus drawn up jointly with the Forest Department Sarawak, the Sarawak Forestry Corporation and our Association.

3.2.5 Research & Development Financial Contributions

In addition to training, STAT is also providing financial contributions for R&D into development of improved planting materials for Member Companies involved in the establishment of planted forests. So far STAT had signed MoUs with four organisations. Financial contributions for R&D had been provided to the following organisations:

- Borneo Tree Seeds & Seedlings Supplies Sdn. Bhd
- Grand Perfect Sdn. Bhd.
- Zedtee Sdn. Bhd.
- Sarawak Forestry Corporation (Micro-propagation work)

Our Association commissioned the Sarawak Forestry Corporation's assistance to address the listing of commercial species of 3 genera of dipterocarps namely, *Shorea* (Meranti), *Dryobalanops* (Kapur) and *Dipterocarpus* (Keruing) on the IUCN Red List of Threatened species. The research is still on-going.

Two seminars were organised at the Association to discuss the outcome of the research work arising from two of the projects above, as follows:

- Seminar on Viability Assessment of Indigenous Tree Species and Propagation Techniques for Planted Forest Development in Sarawak on 21 May 2009; and
- Seminar on *Dipterocarps* in the IUCN Red List on 10 September 2009.

3.3 STA Mutual Sdn. Bhd.

The primary objective is to provide social and financial assistance to communities residing in the vicinity of timber concessions. STAM also provides financial contributions to educational institutions. In addition STAM also provides scholarships to needy student pursuing courses related to forestry and the timber industry. All requests for donations are being channeled to this company for consideration. However it is not possible to consider all requests for donation and other assistance.

4. REPORT ON GLOBAL ISSUES

4.1 Certification

4.1.1 Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS)

To further enhance the acceptance of its scheme in the international market, the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) has implemented a new institutional arrangement for its certification scheme, the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS). The MTCS was subsequently endorsed by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) Council on 5 May 2009. This will reinforce the recognition of MTCS at the international level.

The Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification [MC&I(2002)] which is the standard used for forest management certification under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS), operated by MTCC since October 2005, is currently undergoing its first review which started in 2009. This review is in line with international practices that the certification standard used is to be reviewed at least every five years to ensure continuous improvement. The first meeting of the Standards Review Committee was held in Kuala Lumpur from 29 - 30 October 2009 and the continuation of the first meeting was held in Kota Kinabalu on 15-16 December 2009. It is anticipated that the whole review process of the MC&I(2002) would take 16 months (from April 2009 to July 2010).

4.1.2 Forest Plantation Certification

The Eleventh National Steering Committee (NSC) Meeting held on 25 November 2008 adopted the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Forest Plantations) or in short the MC&I(Forest Plantations) as a standard for certification of forest plantations in Malaysia. The adoption of the MC&I(Forest Plantations) marks another milestone in the work of the NSC which in 2004 had adopted the Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management certification or in short the MC&I(2002) as the standard for certification of natural forests in Malaysia. Our Association will be working closely with MTCC on MC&I (Forest Plantations) related matters for year 2010.

4.1.3 Conflict Management

For a forest certification scheme to be credible, there is a need for a framework for conflict resolution mechanisms which will be used to resolve disputes arising from the convergence of different resource utilization systems and to ensure the interests and concerns of the people are looked into. To address the social issue, a Workshop-Dialogue was organised by Sarawak Forestry Corporation and Forest Department Sarawak in August 2008 with participation from the Association where a set of guidelines was developed.

The guidelines comprise three components to be implemented in sequence namely Formation of Community Representative Committee, Formulation of Conflict Resolution Guidelines, and Mediation. A "Final Workshop on Conflict Resolution Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management" was conducted on 21 July 2009 to fine-tune the guidelines. During the workshop, the participants decided to:

- Accept the Guidelines in principle,
- Include MC&I Forest Plantations into the Guidelines,
- Conduct field-tests on the Guidelines a natural forest area and another area within a Licence for Planted Forest,
- Conduct wider consultation with stakeholders, including NGOs, and
- Endorse the formation of a Technical Working Group with increased membership from the Attorney General's Chamber, Lands & Survey Department, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, Forest Department Sarawak Planted Forest Sdn Bhd and NGOs.

4.1.4 Forest Sustainability (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd

The Company, originally known as Forest Stewardship (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd, a company limited by shares, was incorporated on 5 January 2007. The objective of the Company is to provide a legal entity to support and monitor the development and implementation of forest certification and responsible forestry in Malaysia. The main task of this company is to come up with a standard compatible with Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). The Association has been appointed as a Member in the National Working Committee (NWC) as well as is holding the Directorship in the Company. Our Association was represented at the Fifth Meeting of the NWC in Kota Kinabalu on 23 March 2009.

As requested by FSC International, the NWC had to change the name from Forest Stewardship (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd to Forest Sustainability (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd. This was accomplished in July 2009. The reason for the change was that the name Forest Stewardship (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd would cause some problems on FSC trademark rights.

4.1.5 High Conservation Value Forest

WWF-Malaysia has taken the initiative to come up with the draft for the National High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) Toolkit for Malaysia in 2008. The Association, as one of the stakeholders, was consulted on the matter. A National Workshop was organised by WWF-Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur on 29 June 2009 during which the National Toolkit was finalised. Members of the STA Certification Committee and STA Secretariat attended this final meeting and provided significant input to the toolkit. This Toolkit will be used as a practical guidance for forest managers and stakeholders to comply with the requirements of forest certification. The National Toolkit was officially adopted on September 2009.

4.2 Timber Standards

4.2.1 EN636 (Plywood Specifications)

The Association has been informed that in the revision of EN636 (Plywood Specifications) there is a proposal to include natural durability rating for plywood. For plywood manufactured from mixed species with unknown durability, this plywood will be downgraded to Durability Class 5, which is the lowest class even when used in combination with meranti. The Malaysian Panel-Products Manufacturers' Association (MPMA) has been working with Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), to come up with a database of the natural durability of 99 commonly-used timber species in the manufacture of plywood in Malaysia, which will be tested using methods specified in EN350.

4.2.2 International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No.15

In the briefing on 23 October 2009, the Department of Agriculture (DoA) Malaysia announced that they will be implementing ISPM 15 for imports starting 1 January 2010. As such, all wood packaging material used in any consignments imported into Malaysia should be treated and marked accordingly as prescribed in the standard. A grace period of 6 months from the date of implementation will be given to allow all government agencies, forwarding agents and the importers to familiarise with the necessary requirements.

5. TIMBER LEGALITY ISSUES

5.1 Malaysia – European Union FLEGT VPA

Our Association continues to keep track of the development of this initiative to ensure that industry's concern on certain terms and conditions of the proposed VPA have been properly addressed. Quite a number of meetings were organised by the Forest Department Sarawak and STIDC to which the STA Secretariat was invited to attend. A Dialogue was held with the newly-appointed Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities Tan Sri Bernard Dompok in Kota Kinabalu on 15 May 2009 during which our Association had the opportunity to express its views on the Malaysia-EU-FLEGT-VPA to the Minister.

During the year, our Association had held three meetings with H.E. Vincent Piket, Ambassador and Head of Delegation of the European Union to Malaysia. We also consolidated our views on the initiative in a book entitled 'Myth, Facts & Reality of EU FLEGT VPA: Sarawak's Perspective'. A Dialogue was organised in Kota Kinabalu with the Timber Association of Sabah and Sabah Timber Industries Association on 23 October 2009. Immediately after the Dialogue, the three Associations issued a Joint Statement and this was subsequently presented to the Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities at his office on 27 October 2009.

On the Legal Text side, our Association is keeping a watching brief on the negotiation process which usually took place through video-conferencing between Malaysian and European Union counterparts.

5.2 The Lacey Act

Lacey Act is the United State's oldest wildlife protection statute, enacted in 1900. In 28 May 2008, an amendment to the Act was passed to primarily combat the illegal logging issue. The Lacey Act now makes it unlawful to participate in interstate or foreign commerce of any plant that was traded in violation of the US law or most foreign laws. It is also against the law to submit false declaration of any plant and as of 15 December 2008, unlawful to import any plant or its product without a declaration. This declaration form

must be made in time of import and contain information of scientific name of plant (including genus and species), value of import, quantity of plant and name of country in which the plant was harvested. Implementation of this new amendment will be in phases, with declaration for wood and articles of wood enforced on 1 April 2009 and for furniture on 1 July 2009.

Briefing on the Lacey Act was organised by staff of the US Embassy in Malaysia in Kuching on 14 April 2009. STIDC through its Industry Update on 20 July 2009 also invited US Embassy staff to brief STA Members on issues and challenges faced during the implementation process. STA posed many questions during the STIDC Industry Update particularly on the use of protected tree species which are allowed to be harvested by the Forest Department in areas earmarked for agri-conversion and also planted forest areas.

6. LOCAL ISSUES

6.1 Revision of Timber Royalty rates

In November 2008, the Association received a circular DF Circular No. 5/2008 advising us of the revision of First Schedule of the Forests Ordinance [Section 52(2)] on rates of royalty for produce taken under licence whereby there would be a flat rate of royalty of RM65.00 for all timber 30 cm. diameter and above. Our Association felt that it was inequitable and appealed to the Government represented by the Forest Department for a reduction of the royalty rates. The Government favourably considered our appeal and subsequently revised the rate of royalty to RM50.00 with effect from 1 January 2009; RM55.00 with effect from 1 January 2010 and RM65.00 with effect from 1 January 2011. Our Association also appealed for a 50% discount on royalty for timber extracted from agri-conversion areas and also for timber in the diameter class 30-40cm. However this was not approved.

Towards the end of 2009, our Association appealed to the State Government through the Director of Forests for the deferment of the increase in royalty rates and requested the Government to maintain the royalty at RM50.00 per m³. The Director of

Forests informed the Association that

its request was approved and royalty rate will be maintained at RM50.00 per m³ until 30 June 2010.

6.2 Log Tracking System (LOTS)

The Log Tracking System had been extended from the Rejang basin to application throughout the State during the year.

6.3 Forest Management Certification

6.3.1 Financial Contribution to Members Achieving Certification

The STA Council had in 2007 set aside a sum of RM 1 million as financial contribution to member companies achieving timber certification based on a quantum proposed by the Timber Certification Committee and endorsed by the Council. Applications and disbursement of this contribution will be made on a first come first served basis.

6.4 Standard Guidelines in lieu of EIA Reports

During the year, the Association submitted a proposal to the Minister of Environment for Standard Guidelines on environmental management for consideration. This is in lieu of conducting EIA study for logging in re-entry areas and planted forests, as a better alternative to manage the environment. These proposed Standard Guidelines are not aimed at changing the current laws and regulations, but rather to allow the operators to carry out environment protection and management more efficiently as well as cost effectively.

Although the Association was invited for technical discussions with relevant Government agencies on its proposal, the Government had not to date made any decision on STA's proposal.

6.5 Sarawak Labour Ordinance (SLO)

Our Association through the STA Labour & Industrial Relations Committee had follow-up meetings with the Minister of Human Resource and the Labour Department Sarawak on STA's application to exempt the seven (7) provisions under the Labour Ordinance (Swk Cap 76) for forest undertaking in Sarawak.

6.6 Foreign Labour in the Timber Industry

In 2009, our Association through the STA Manpower Working Group under the STA Labour & Industrial Relations Committee was very actively tackling issues relating to our Government's decision to reduce dependency on migrant workers and challenges faced by Members when recruiting workers from the Republic of Indonesia.

During the year, our Association had held a series of meetings and dialogues with the Minister of Human Resources, the State Secretary of Sarawak and the Acting Consul-General of the Republic of Indonesia in Kuching to ensure the continuous well being of the timber trade of the industry.

6.7 Goods & Services Tax

The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) organised a briefing on Goods and Services Tax (GST) Implementation in Forestry Industry on 7 September 2009. The briefing, presented by representatives from the Tax Review Panel (TRP), was an effort by MTIB to educate and gather feedback from the industry on the impending implementation of GST.

Following the briefing, the Association had responded in writing to the TRP on several proposals presented during the briefing. The Association is currently awaiting the TRP's reply and shall continue to work closely with them to ensure that the implementation of GST is not detrimental to the forest and timber industry in Sarawak.

Although the Government had recently announced its intention to implement GST in year 2011, the second reading of the GST bill, which was scheduled in March 2010, had been postponed.

6.8 Planted forest matters

The Forests (Planted Forests) Rules 1997 stipulate that cess is payable for timber harvesting from Licence for Planted Forests. Our Association has applied to the Director of Forests to consider granting Planted Forest Licensees exemption from payment of cess for a period of 5 years effective from the date of first harvest. Our application is still being considered by the Director. There had been no response to our application.

Some of the planted forests established by STAMember Companies are nearing harvesting age. Our Association is currently working with the Forest Department Sarawak to come up with a simplified procedure for harvesting planted forests as the Permit to Enter Coupe system used in natural forest areas may not be applicable to the harvesting of planted forests.

Our Association is a member of the Technical Committee on Forest Plantation Development formed by the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities and chaired by MTIB. This Committee addresses issues related to the servicing of soft loans dished out to planted forest developers under the Special Purpose Vehicle, as well as tax incentives for forest plantation development and other technical matters.

6.9 National Timber Policy (NATIP)

NATIP is being implemented by MTIB which invited STA to sit on Technical Working Group 3 which focuses on Marketing and Promotion of Timber Products.

6.10 Issuance of Transportation Passes for Logs transported by Land Vehicles

Briefing was conducted by Harwood Timber Sdn. Bhd. to STA Members in Kuching on 24 August 2009 with a view to implementation of the system with effect from 1 September 2009. STA requested for deferment of the implementation which was subsequently granted until 31 December 2009.

6.11 Heart of Borneo Initiatives

STA participated in a preliminary discussion on Project Implementation Framework for Heart of Borneo called by the Forest Department on 12 June 2009. Subsequently Secretariat staff attended the Regional Forum on 'Enhancing Forest Ecosystems Connectivity and Corridors within the Heart of Borneo in Sabah' organised by the Forest Department of Sabah in Kota Kinabalu from 26 - 27 October 2009.

6.12 Corporate Social Responsibility of the Timber Industry

Sarawak Timber Association and its

Members recognise the importance of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and many STA Members in fact carry out social projects to benefit local communities in the vicinity of their forest management units as a matter of routine. On 25 November 2009, STA and some of its Member Companies participated in the Roundtable Discussion (RTD) on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) of Logging and Plantation Companies organised by the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) in Miri.

The industry is challenged in carrying out CSR due to the physical characteristics and environment of the forests (i.e. harsh terrain that results in inaccessibility, remoteness, and isolation of an area and lack of infrastructure) in Sarawak. STA Members tend not to publicise the community service projects they carry out and their contributions to society, giving the impression that they are not fulfilling their corporate social responsibility. Thus STA undertakes to conduct a one-year study on CSR practices of its members to give a holistic view of the contributions to community service and the society at large.

7. INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

7.1 ITTO Meetings

The Association takes part in international meetings to keep abreast of issues affecting trade in tropical timber. During the year Honorary Secretary Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong and CEO Dr. Lee Hua Seng represent the Association at the Forty-Fifth Session of the International Tropical Timber Council from 9 - 14 November 2009.

Our Association took the opportunity during this Session to distribute the book 'Myth, Facts & Reality of EU FLEGT VPA: Sarawak's Perspective' to enable the global forestry community to be aware of our Association's views on the matter. During the Session also, STA representatives had in-depth discussions with the representative from the EU on the FLEGT-VPA and with the Forestry Agency of Japan, Friends of the Earth Japan and the Global Environmental Forum Japan on legality issues in Japan and the requirements of the Japan market on legality verification.

7.2 Joint Meetings JLIA/JPMA/APKINDO/MPMA/STA

These meetings among members of the Japan Lumber Importers' Association, Japan Plywood Manufacturers' Association, APKINDO, Malaysian Panel-Products Manufacturers' Association and Sarawak Timber Association are conducted regularly to exchange information and discuss issues affecting the plywood trade among the three countries. In 2009, two meetings were held - one in Tokyo on 16 April 2009 and the second in Singapore on 13 October 2009.

TIMBER INDUSTRIALISED BUILDING SYSTEM

The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB), together with the Construction Industry Development Board, Malaysia, has formed an Advisory Committee comprising representatives from related Government Agencies, Universities and Associations to introduce and promote the use of timber as one of the types of material for the Industrialised Building System (IBS) in the country.

The roles of this Committee are as follows:

- to promote and encourage the manufacture of timber products/components for the Industrialised Building System (IBS),
- to promote IBS timber compliant products to developers, contractor, architects and engineers, and
- to foster vendor development programme (VDP) for timber IBS.

Industrialised Building Systems (IBS), also known as the complete assembly construction, is a construction system where components are manufactured in factories on-site or off-site, transported and then assembled into a structure with minimum work on-site. Inherent advantages over conventional system of construction are as the followings:

- High-quality products produced with minimum waste,
- Elimination of conventional timber props and supports through the use of complete assembly element,
- Stronger and safer work platform,
- Faster completion as a result of the use of prefabricated components to replace on-site fabrication,
- Safer, cleaner and more organised site due to the reduction of construction waste, site workers

8. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I have to thank Vice-Chairman Y. Bhg. Tan Sri Datuk Sir Tiong Hiew King; Vice-Chairman Y. Bhg. Datuk Ling Chiong Ho, Honorary Secretary Y. Bhg. Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong, Honorary Treasurer Mr Philip Choo and all the Committee Chairmen and Council Members for their support and cooperation. I have similarly to thank the Forest Department Sarawak, Sarawak Forestry Corporation, STIDC, NREB, and Department of Environment for their support.

and prefabricated construction materials, and

- Cheaper total construction costs as the result of all benefits gained from the above factors.

Three Working Committees were formed, namely (i) IBS technology Research & Development under the chairmanship of Prof. Madya Dr. Rahinah Ibrahim of Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) (ii) IBS Promotion and Marketing under the chairmanship of Puan Loke Sim Wah of MTIB, and (iii) IBS Technology Support/Training under the chairmanship of Encik S. Rajan of MTIB. These three Committees will meet separately and then report their activities to the Advisory Committee.

马来西亚木材工业局 (MTIB) 连同马来西亚建筑工业发展局已成立一组咨询委员会, 成员包括政府机构, 大学和公会代表以推介和促进木材为国内工业化建筑系统 (IBS) 使用材料之一。IBS是在工厂或厂外组件建设系统, 然后运到工作现场进行筒易结构组装。

该委员会的任务如下:

- 促进和鼓励对IBS木材产品/组件制造,
- 推销符合IBS木材产品予开发商, 承包商, 建筑师和工程师,
- 加强对木材IBS的供应商发展计划 (VDP)。

三组工作委员会已成立并各别召开会议及报告各组的活动予咨询委员会。

I have also to thank CEO Dr Lee Hua Seng, General Manager Dr Peter Kho, Senior Manager Annie Ting and Finance & Administration Manager Brian Yeo and all members of the Secretariat for their tolerance and cooperation without which it would be impossible to manage the Association.

Once again thank you for your attendance.

Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia (MTIB) bersama-sama Lembaga Pembangunan Industri Pembinaan, Malaysia membentuk satu Jawatankuasa Penasihat terdiri daripada wakil-wakil dari Agensi Kerajaan yang berkaitan, Universiti dan Persatuan untuk memperkenalkan dan mempromosikan penggunaan kayu-kayan sebagai sebagai satu daripada jenis bahan untuk Sistem Binaan Berindustri (IBS) di negara ini.

Tugas Jawatankuasa adalah seperti berikut:

- untuk mempromosi dan menggalakkan pembuatan produk kayu/ komponen untuk Sistem Binaan Berindustri (IBS)
- untuk mempromosikan produk kayu IBS yang sesuai untuk pemaju-pemaju, kontraktor, arkitek dan jurutera.
- untuk menggalakkan program pembangunan vendor (VDP) untuk kayu IBS.

Tiga Jawatankuasa Kerja ditubuhkan dan akan mengadakan perjumpaan secara berasingan untuk melaporkan aktiviti-aktiviti mereka kepada Jawatankuasa Penasihat.

STA COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR THE YEARS 2010 AND 2011

The 74th STA Council Meeting was held after STA Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 31 March 2010 at Wisma STA, Kuching.

The table shows 12 Permanent Council Members appointed by the eligible members companies pursuant to the passing of the amendments in the Articles under Article 8(c) in October 2009, the Office Bearers and Category Chairmen for the years 2010 and 2011.

Right : Meeting in Progress



Mesyuarat Majlis STA yang ke-74 telah diadakan sejurus selepas Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan (AGM) STA pada 31 Mac 2010 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Jadual berikut menunjukkan 12 Ahli Majlis Tetap yang dilantik oleh syarikat ahli yang layak dalam melaksanakan kelulusan pindaan dalam Artikel di bawah Perkara 8(c) pada Oktober 2009, Ahli Majlis dan Pengerusi Kategori bagi tahun 2010 dan 2011.

STA理事会于2010年3月31日在常年会员大会后，召开第74届理事会会议。以下为本会2010年至2011年新任倡导委员，各小组主席及根据本会章程第8C条文下而委任的12位常务理事委员会：

PERMANENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

PEMANCA DATUK WONG KIE YIK 邦曼查拿督黃啓暉	WTK GROUP
WONG HAW YEONG, PATRICK 黃厚勻	WTK GROUP
DATUK HAJI ABDUL HAMED BIN HAJI SEPAWI	TA ANN GROUP
DATO WONG KUO HEA 拿督黃國惠	TA ANN GROUP
DATUK LING CHIONG HO 拿督林昌和	SHIN YANG GROUP
LING CHIONG SING 林昌陞	SHIN YANG GROUP
YAW CHEE CHIK 丘志堅	SAMLING GROUP
HO YAM KUAN 何炎光	SAMLING GROUP
TAN SRI DATUK SIR TIONG HIEW KING 丹斯里拿督張曉輝爵士	RIMBUNAN HIJAU GROUP
TIONG CHIONG ONG 張昌思	RIMBUNAN HIJAU GROUP
TEMENGGONG LAU LEE MING, VINCENT 天猛公劉利民	KTS GROUP
DATO LAU LEE KONG, HENRY 拿督劉利康	KTS GROUP

OFFICE BEARERS

Position	Name
STA CHAIRMAN	PEMANCA DATUK WONG KIE YIK 邦曼查拿督黃啓暉
STA VICE CHAIRMAN	TAN SRI DATUK SIR TIONG HIEW KING 丹斯里拿督張曉輝爵士
STA VICE CHAIRMAN	DATUK LING CHIONG HO 拿督林昌和
HONORARY SECRETARY	DATO LAU LEE KONG, HENRY 拿督劉利康
HONORARY TREASURER	CHOO KWONG HUI, PHILIP 朱光輝

CATEGORY CHAIRMEN

SWAMP LOGGING	CHOO KWONG HUI, PHILIP 朱光輝
FOREST PLANTATION	LING KWONG HUNG, PETER 林光訓
FURNITURE & OTHER WOODWORKING	CHENG HWA TANG, DESMOND 曾緯談
HILL LOGGING	LAW KIU KIONG 劉久健
LOG MARKETING	TAN SRI DATUK LAU HIENG WUI, JIMMY 丹斯里拿督劉賢威
MOULDING	LAW BUONG HOO, PHILIP 劉本武
PANEL PRODUCTS	WONG KAI SONG 黃凱孫
SAWMILLING	WONG HAW BING, ANNIE 黃厚彬
TIMBER PRODUCTS MARKETING	TENG KHENG HUH, PATRICK 陳慶富

AWARENESS AND INTRODUCTION PROGRAMME ON (GST) FOR INDUSTRY SECTOR

The Malaysian Royal Customs Sarawak organised an Awareness and Introduction Programme on Goods and Services Tax (GST) for Industry Sector on 2 March 2010 at Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak in Kuching. The objective of this Programme was to promote and create awareness on the new tax system among the members of the business community.

A briefing on the Malaysian GST module and GST treatments was presented by Puan Nurhanisah Dukes Abdullah, Senior Assistant Director of Customs. Also present to address queries from the floor was Mr Tan Sim Kiat, Senior Assistant Director of Customs.

The Ministry of Finance first introduced GST for implementation on 1 January 2007 in the 2005 Budget. However, the implementation of GST was subsequently deferred to allow the public more time to prepare for its implementation. On 16 December 2009, the GST bill was tabled for its first reading in the Parliament. However, the second reading of the GST bill in March 2010 had been deferred to allow the government more time to gather feedback from the public.

GST is expected to be implemented in 2011 at a rate of 4% to replace the current sales tax and service tax. GST is a multi-stage tax, where the government collects tax on the value-added activities at each stage of the supply chain. Registered businesses will be able to claim GST paid on their inputs as refund. Businesses were urged to fully comprehend GST and be ready for its implementation in 2011. Early or pre-registration exercise shall begin six months before the GST implementation date.

Kastam Diraja Malaysia Sarawak telah menganjurkan Program Kesedaran dan Pengenalan tentang Cukai Barang dan Perkhidmatan (GST) untuk Sektor Industri pada 2 Mac 2010 di Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak di Kuching.

GST mula diperkenalkan oleh Kementerian Kewangan semasa Bajet 2005 untuk dilaksanakan pada 1 Januari 2007. Walaubagaimanapun, pelaksanaannya ditunda bagi memberikan masa kepada orang awam untuk bersiap-sedia. Pada 16 Disember 2009, bil GST telah dibentangkan untuk bacaan pertama di Parlimen. Walaubagaimanapun, bacaan kedua bil GST pada Mac 2010 telah ditunda untuk memberikan masa kepada kerajaan mengumpul maklumbalas dari orang awam.

马来西亚砂州海关局于2010年3月2日假古晋举办物品服务税(GST)简报会。

财政部于2007年1月1日首次在2005年预算案下宣布实施GST。然而，政府已宣布无限期推迟实施GST以让民众有更多的时间来准备。国会于2009年12月16日提呈GST新法案一读。然而，2010年3月的GST法案二读已被推迟因政府需花更多的时间收集民意。

NOTIFICATION ON 'THE REQUIREMENTS FOR INDONESIAN WORKERS' PASSPORTS RENEWAL'

The Consulate General of The Republic of Indonesia Kuching, Sarawak had issued a notification on 'The Requirements for Indonesian Workers' Passports Renewal' in The Borneo Post on 6 March 2010. The notification is as follows:

CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA KUCHING, SARAWAK

No. 21, Lot 16557, Block 11, Jalan Stutong, MTLD, 93350 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.

Telp. (60-82) 460734, (60-82) 461734 Fax. (60-82) 456734

NOTIFICATION THE RECRUITMENTS FOR INDONESIAN WORKER'S PASSPORT RENEWAL NO : KCH/163/UM/III/10

The passports for Indonesian Workers contain 24 pages and will expire after 3 (three) years.

The cost for the passport renewal is RM18.00 within one day service.

Both the employer & the worker who work in informal sector, such as housemaid and waiter/waitress must present in persons in Indonesian Consulate General and should not be represented by other parties.

For worker who works in Incorporated firm/company (formal sector) it is not necessity for the employer to be present in Indonesian Consulate General as long as the worker is provided with a letter from the company proposing passport renewal for the worker.

The requirements to renew passport:

- Previous Passport
- Working permit from the Immigration of Malaysia

- Working contract between Employer and Employee
- Form Perdim-14 (available at Indonesian Consulate Office)
- Photographs, (2) two pieces of 4 x 6 cm with a red background

f. The letter of recommendation from employer

Renewal of Indonesian Passport will not be served, if:

- The person applying the passport does not come in person to Indonesian Consulate General or represented by agencies
- Indonesian workers do not have valid working permit from Immigration of Malaysia

Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia would like to extend its appreciation to employers who do not employ any illegal Indonesian workers.

Kuching, March 4th 2010

BRIEFING TO NEW STIDC GENERAL MANAGER

On 4 March 2010, the General Manager (GM) of the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), Datu Haji Sarudu Haji Hoklai paid a courtesy call to Sarawak Timber Association (STA), accompanied by senior officers of STIDC.

Dr Lee Hua Seng, Chief Executive Office of STA gave a briefing on behalf of STA to the new GM. The GM was given an overview on the roles, functions and structure of the Association, as well as the various issues that are being

handled by the various Committees in the Association.

In this visit, Datu Haji Sarudu acknowledged the efforts of STA to address the concern of the timber industry and he hopes that the Association will continue to work closely with STIDC through information sharing, training activities, and collaboration on marketing and trade missions as well as to come up with strategic plans for the development of the timber industry.



Above : One for the album

Pada 4 Mac 2010, Pengurus Besar Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA), Datu Haji Sarudu Haji Hoklai telah mengadakan lawatan rasmi ke Persatuan Kayu-Kayan Sarawak (STA) ditemani pegawai atasan PUSAKA.

Beliau diberikan penerangan ringkas mengenai peranan, tugas dan struktur organisasi Persatuan, termasuklah isu-isu yang ditangani oleh pelbagai Jawatankuasa dalam Persatuan. Datu Haji Sarudu berterima kasih kepada STA atas usaha menyampaikan terhadap industri dan berharap Persatuan akan terus berkerja dengan lebih rapat dengan PUSAKA.

砂拉越木材工业发展机构总经理，拿督沙路杜（译音）在STIDC高级职员的陪同下于2010年3月4日拜访本会从中理解本会任务，职能与结构以及本会目前正在处理的各项课题。拿督沙路杜确认本会所作出的贡献并希望本会与STIDC将继续密切合作。

BRIEFING TO MR TOSHIYUKI AKAGI

Mr Toshiyuki Akagi, Director of Wood Products Trade Office, Forestry Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Japan, accompanied by Mr Katsuya Taki, Assistant Director and Mr Yoshimitsu Kawamoto, Vice-Consul Consulate – General of Japan at Kota Kinabalu were in Sarawak from 21 – 23 March 2010 for an official visit. The Group was briefed on 22 March 2010 by officials from Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd on the roles and responsibilities of the various agencies.

The Group visited the Sarawak Timber Association (STA) on 23 March 2010 during which they were briefed on the organisation, roles and responsibilities

of the Association. Representatives from STA brought up various issues such as certification and legality system requirements in Japan during the meeting. The visit and discussion ended with both STA and the Forestry Agency pledging to continue working closely together to strengthen legality verification to sustain the long established timber trade between Sarawak and Japan. The Group sought clarification from STA on matters pertaining to the Malaysia EU-FLEGT-VPA and importation of logs from Indonesia.

The Group visited a plywood mill in Kuching.

日本农业，林业和渔业局农林局木材产品贸易办事处主任，赤木利行先生在浅胜也先生与日本驻亚庇领事，川本芳光先生的陪同下于2010年3月22日至23日官方访问砂拉越并从中理解砂州森林局，砂拉越木材工业发展机构及Harwood Timber有限公司角色和责任。

该组于2010年3月23日拜访本会。STA和林业机构在这次的访问与讨论中承诺继续紧密合作于加强合法性核查以维持砂拉越和日本之间的长期木材贸易。

Mr Toshiyuki Akagi, Pengarah Pejabat Perdagangan Produk-produk Kayu, Agensi Perhutanan Kementerian Pertanian, Perhutanan dan Perikanan Jepun, ditemani oleh Mr Katsuya Taki, Penolong Pengarah dan Mr Yoshimitsu Kawamoto, Timbalan Konsul Konsulat - Jeneral Jepun di Kota Kinabalu telah mengadakan lawatan rasmi ke Sarawak pada 21-23 Mac 2010. Rombongan diberikan taklimat pada 22 Mac 2010 oleh wakil dari Jabatan Hutan Sarawak, Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA) dan Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd tentang peranan dan tanggungjawab pelbagai agensi.

Rombongan ini melawat STA pada 23 Mac 2010. Lawatan dan perbincangan diakhiri dengan kedua-dua belah pihak iaitu STA dan Agensi Perhutanan menyeru untuk terus bekerja rapat untuk mengukuhkan lagi sistem verifikasi pengesahan untuk mengekalkan hubungan perdagangan antara Sarawak dan Jepun.



Above : One for the album

ANTI-DUMPING INVESTIGATION BY KOREA TRADE COMMISSION

On 18 March 2010, the KPMG Korea (a consulting firm) represented by Mr Mun-Gu (Moon) Park and Mr Jin Sung Baek paid a visit to Sarawak Timber Association (STA) to brief on the Anti-Dumping Investigation by Korea Trade Commission on Malaysian Plywood. The Briefing was attended by Director MITI Sarawak, Director MATRADE Sarawak, and Officers from STIDC and STA.

As Malaysian exporters and association are very new to the anti-dumping investigation, KPMG Korea took the opportunity to explain the case overview and investigation timeline. KPMG Korea also informed that if the mandatory respondents fail to respond to the investigation, they will be treated as non-cooperative companies and may be given the highest dumping margin, which is alleged to be 87.6%.

Pada 18 Mac 2010, KPMG Korea (firma Konsultan) diketuai oleh Mr. Mun-Gu (Moon) Park dan Mr Jin Sung Baek telah mengadakan lawatan ke STA untuk memberikan penerangan tentang Siasatan berkenaan Anti-Lambakan oleh Suruhanjaya Perdagangan Korea berkenaan Papan Lapis Malaysia. KPMG Korea mengambil peluang itu bagi menerangkan gambaran keseluruhan kes.

韩国KPMG代表,Mun-Gu (Moon) Park先生和Jin Sung Baek先生于2010年3月18日拜访本会并借此机会为国际贸易及工业部砂州分局局长, 大马外贸发展局砂州分局局长, 砂拉越木材工业发展机构代表及本会职员讲述有关韩国贸易委员会对马来西亚胶合板所展开的反倾销调查, 当中包括案件概述和调查时间表。KPMG告知如强制性答辩者没有对调查作出回应, 他们将被视为不合作企业则征收高达87.6%的最高倾销幅度。

PANEL PRODUCTS COMMITTEE MEETING

The 21st STA Panel Products Committee Meeting was held on 24 March 2010 at Wisma STA, Kuching.

The Meeting discussed the current log situation and plywood market, in particular the Japan market. The Meeting also resolved to delegate the current survey questionnaire on Wage Index to the Manpower Working Group under STA Labour & IR Committee.

The Meeting was briefed and deliberated on the Anti Dumping Investigation by Korea Trade Commission on Malaysian Plywood. The Meeting agreed to participate in the investigation and by producing a position paper to refute claims of injury to Korean domestic plywood industry.

Jawatankuasa Produk Panel STA telah mengadakan mesyuarat yang ke-21 pada 24 Mac 2010 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Mesyuarat membincangkan situasi bekalan balak semasa dan pasaran papan lapis, terutamanya pasaran Jepun. Mesyuarat juga bersetuju untuk terlibat dalam penyiasatan anti lambakan dan menyediakan kertas posisi untuk menyangkal dakwaan yang menjejaskan industri papan lapis tempatan Korea.

STA合板/人造板小组于2010年3月24日假古晋, STA大厦召开第21届会议。小组会员讨论的事项包括砂州当今原木局势和合板市场, 特别是日本市场。会议也同意参与反倾销调查和聘雇韩国顾问于反驳有关韩国内地夹板工业的索赔。

BRIEFING ON ANTI-DUMPING INVESTIGATION

The Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA) jointly organised a briefing on Anti-Dumping Investigation on plywood imported from Malaysia to Korea on 26 March 2010 at STIDC Theorette, Kuching.

The objective of this Briefing was to inform and explain to the State plywood manufacturers the allegation made by Korea Timber Commission on the alleged dumping rate of 87.6% of Malaysian plywood in Korea.

The Briefing was facilitated by Encik Mohd Zahid Abdullah and Encik Mohd Rashidi Yusof, both from Trade Practices Section, Ministry of International Trade & Industry (MITI).

Encik Mohd Zahid briefed the plywood manufacturers on the Trade Remedy Instruments under World Trade Organization (WTO) and provided consultation to the Mandatory Respondents on methods to respond to the Anti Dumping Questionnaire.

Perbadanan Kemanusiaan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA) dan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah bersama-sama menganjurkan taklimat tentang Siasatan "Anti Dumping" papan lapis yang diimport dari Malaysia ke Korea pada 26 Mac 2010 di PUSAKA, Kuching.

Objektif Taklimat adalah untuk memberitahu dan menjelaskan kepada pengusaha papan lapis Negeri tentang tuduhan oleh Suruhanjaya Perdagangan Korea yang menyatakan kadar lambakan papan lapis Malaysia di Korea adalah sebanyak 87.6%.

砂拉越木材工业发展机构 (STIDC) 及本会于2010年3月26日在古晋, STIDC Theorette共同举办马来西亚进口至韩国胶合板反倾销调查简报会。这旨于告知砂州胶合板制造商关于韩国木材委员会对马来西亚胶合板所指控的87.6%倾销率及世界贸易组织 (WTO) 贸易救济办法同时也提供咨询予强制性答辩者回应反倾销调查问卷。

STUDY ON THE 'STATE'S KEY FOCUS ACTIVITIES PERTAINING TO MARITIME CAPABILITIES IN TANJUNG MANIS'

An informal meeting was held between Sarawak Timber Association (STA) and Captain Walter J. Nair, on 9 March 2010 at the Sarawak Rivers Board (SRB) office in Kuching. SRB has engaged Captain Walter J. Nair, a consultant to study the State's Key Focus Activities pertaining to Maritime Capabilities in Tanjung Manis, in particular, and ways to enhance the facilities at Tanjung Manis.

Captain Walter J. Nair briefed on the developments of the Tanjung Manis Integrated Port. According to him, the main issues are the increasing activities anticipated when the Integrated Port is fully functional i.e. the number of users as well as the number of different types of goods handled through the port. Riverine traffic will be increased manifold and specific areas for anchorage need to be allocated and marked as the issue of safety amongst users is of paramount importance. These points were further stressed again by Mr. Teo Swee Ann, Deputy Controller, SRB who wanted the Consultant to address the issues.

It was also stressed that STA members would like to have permanent access to load floater logs in the current area (rather than for 6 months, which is on a temporary basis), for safety as well as cost reasons.

Captain Walter J. Nair informed STA that STIDC is seriously considering an alternative proposal to build the Container Port in the vicinity of Sungei Selumit as the cost to renovate/upgrade the current Port is as high as building a new Container Port. This new area will not have the problem of space for wharf extension. If this alternative is realised, then pressure on the loading of floater logs will be reduced although traffic through this temporary allowed anchorage/loading area would still be a problem to the many ships sailing to Sibul. However, with the proposed Marine Traffic Code, this would reduce the problem. There is also mention of the need to reduce length of the raft of logs to 150 m. Other suggestions are to place light buoys in anchorage positions, marking of anchorage areas as well as signs for aiding navigation.

Encik Muhamad Yakup Kari, the Controller, SRB reassured STA that SRB will consider STA's proposals carefully and is fully aware of the contribution of the timber trade to the State.



本会与砂拉越河流管理局(SRB), 瓦尔特J.奈尔船长(译音)于2010年3月9日进行一项非正式会议。瓦尔特J.奈尔船长被聘任从事研究有关州重点聚焦活动-丹绒马尼航运能力, 特别是如何加强丹绒马尼的设施。

瓦尔特J.奈尔船长告知本会砂拉越木材工业发展机构正认真考虑候补提案即在森鲁密双溪附近兴建货柜港口因目前港口的翻新/提升费用与新建货柜港口费用不分上下。此外, 船长也讲述有关丹绒马尼综合港口的发展, 增加港口的功能如用户数量及不同类型货物数量。

SRB主任, 雅古卡里先生(译音)清楚木材贸易对本州所作出的贡献并向本会保证SRB将仔细考虑STA的建议。

Above: Encik Muhamad Yakup Kari, the SRB Controller

Satu mesyuarat tidak rasmi telah diadakan antara Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) dan Kapten Walter J.Nair, pada 9 Mac 2010 di pejabat Lembaga Sungai-Sungai Sarawak (SRB) di Kuching. SRB telah melantik Kapten Walter J.Nair, seorang Perunding untuk mengkaji Aktiviti Fokus Utama Negeri yang berkaitan dengan Keupayaan Maritim di Tanjung Manis, khususnya, dan cara-cara untuk meningkatkan kemudahan di Tanjung Manis.

Kapten Walter J.Nair menerangkan tentang pembangunan Perlabuhan Bersepadu Tanjung Manis. Menurut beliau, isu utama adalah berkenaan peningkatan aktiviti-aktiviti yang dijangkakan akan berlaku apabila Perlabuhan Bersepadu ini mula beroperasi sepenuhnya kelak.

Bellau turut memberitahu STA bahawa STIDC adalah serius mempertimbangkan proposal alternatif untuk membina Perlabuhan Kontena di kawasan Sungei Selumit di mana kos untuk mengubahsual/ menaik taraf Perlabuhan semasa adalah sama tinggi untuk membina perlabuhan kontena yang baru.

Encik Muhamad Yakup Kari, Pengawal, SRB memberi jaminan kepada STA bahawa SRB akan menimbang semula cadangan STA dengan teliti dan menyedari sumbangan perdagangan kayu kayan kepada Kerajaan Negeri.

REGULATIONS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF LOGS, LUMBER/SAWN TIMBER AND WOOD CHIPS

The Plant Protection and Quarantine Division of the Department of Agriculture, Kuala Lumpur in a meeting on 16 March 2010 held in Wisma Tani, Putrajaya had informed the participants that logs, sawn timber and wood chips imported into Malaysia have to be fumigated (for sawn timber, kiln drying certificates are acceptable) with effect from 1 September 2010. The Meeting was chaired by Encik Sulaiman bin Mohd Zain, the Deputy Director-General (Operations) and was attended by some 40 persons from the relevant Government Agencies and Trade Associations, MTC, MTIB, MWIA, TEAM, MPMA, STIDC and STA.

These Regulations are introduced to prevent the diseases South American Leaf Blight (SALB) and Fusarium Wilt from entering the country, which may affect our oil palm and rubber plantations. This means that fumigation with methyl bromide must be carried out in the country of export after 1 September 2010, and at a dosage depending on the level of risks of the pests and diseases in question. For high risks countries, the dosage of methyl bromide used is 120 g/m³ for 24 hours at a minimum temperature of 21°C. Only sawn timbers are allowed (i.e. no logs) from these high risk countries, and must be accompanied by (i) an Import Permit from the Department of Agriculture and (ii) a Phytosanitary Certificate from the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) of the exporting country. Full details on treatment requirements can be obtained from the Plant Protection and Quarantine Division of the Department of Agriculture, Annex Complex, Jalan Kumpang, Off Jalan Ong Tiang Swee, 93200 Kuching or call 082-414712. A copy of the Regulation can also be found in our website www.sta.org.my.

As the pests and diseases present in the three regions of Malaysia (Peninsula Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak) are different, all logs, sawn timber and wood chips exported from Sabah and Sarawak must be fumigated with methyl bromide at 64 g/m³ for 24 hours at a minimum temperature of 21°C, after which a phytosanitary certificate can be issued. Sawn timber which is kiln dried is exempted from fumigation. However, a KD certificate must be attached. A system of registration of KD operators will be studied and implemented by the Plant Protection and Quarantine Division of the Department of Agriculture, similar to that of registration of heat treatment operators.

Bahagian Perlindungan Tumbuhan dan Kuarantin, Jabatan Pertanian, Kuala Lumpur dimesyuarat pada 16 Mac 2010 yang diadakan di Wisma Tani, Putrajaya telah memberitahu Persatuan bahawa balak, kayu bergergaji dan serpihan kayu yang diimport ke Malaysia haruslah menjalankan fumigasi (untuk kayu bergergaji, sijil pengeringan adalah diterima) berkuatkuasa 1 September 2010.

Peraturan ini diperkenalkan bagi mengelakkan penyebaran penyakit "South American Leaf Blight" (SALB) and "Fusarium Wilt" masuk ke dalam negara di mana akan mempengaruhi perladangan kelapa sawit dan getah. Ini bermakna fumigasi dengan metil bromida haruslah dilakukan oleh negara yang mengeksport selepas 1 September 2010.

Peraturan ini boleh diperolehi di laman web STA di www.sta.org.my.

Satu sistem pendaftaran operator KD akan dikaji dan dilaksanakan oleh Bahagian Perlindungan Tumbuhan dan Kuarantin, Jabatan Pertanian, sama seperti pendaftaran untuk operator rawatan haba.

吉隆坡农业局，植物保护和检疫部于2010年3月16日假布城，Wisma Tani所召开的会议中通知本会从2010年9月1日起，进口至马来西亚的原木，锯材和木碎片必须被熏蒸（至于锯材，木材烘干认证书可被接受）。

这些条例的目的是为防止南美叶枯病（SALB）和枯萎病进入国内，这将可能影响国内油棕和橡胶种植园。这表示在2010年9月1日后出口国必须进行甲基溴熏蒸并且根据害虫和疾病的风险程度使用适当剂量。上述规例的副本可自本网站下载www.sta.org.my。

吉隆坡农业局，植物保护和检疫部将研究和实施KD操作员登记制度，这类似于高温处理操作员登记制度。

BUSINESS TRIP TO PONTIANAK

The Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia in Kuching under the leadership of Bapak Rafail Walangitan, MA, the Acting Consul General had initiated this business trip to Pontianak on 7 – 9 March 2010 with the cooperation and support of the Government of West Kalimantan Province.

About fifty participants from both the Sarawak Timber Association (STA) and the Sarawak Oil Palm Plantation Owners Association (SOPPOA) joined the business trip.

The main programme was for the employers from Sarawak, mainly from both timber and plantation sectors, to meet the relevant authorities in West Kalimantan who are in charge with the placement of the workers from the Republic of Indonesia and the Indonesian employment agents on 8 March 2010 at the Mercure Hotel in Pontianak. This Business Meeting was officiated by Drs. Cornelis, MH, the Governor of West Kalimantan Province in the presence of Encik Zairi Basri, the Consul of Malaysia in Pontianak; Drs. Christofel de Haan, the Head of the Balai Pelayanan Penempatan TKI (BP3TKI) Pontianak; and Bapak Maksum Jauhari SH, the Head of the Labour and Transmigration of West Kalimantan.



Bapak Maksum Jauhari SH briefed the participants on the rules and procedures pertaining to the placement of workers of the Republic of Indonesia abroad. Drs. Christofel de Haan informed the participants on the profile and functions of the BP3TKI Pontianak. As of December 2009, a total of 26 Indonesian recruitment agents registered with the BP3TKI Pontianak.

Immediately after the presentation, participants from Sarawak met with the Indonesian recruitment agents to exchange information with regards to the recruitment of workers from the Republic of Indonesia and to explore the possibility of establishing a business deal.

Participants from both STA and SOPPOA had an opportunity to have a brief discussion with Encik Zairi Basri, the Consul of Malaysia in Pontianak at the end of the Business Meeting. Encik Zairi Basri can be contacted via email at zairi.basri@yahoo.com. Bapak Rafail Walangitan, MA, the Acting Consul General also had a meeting with the Indonesian recruitment agents.



Above: Drs. Cornelis, MH, the Governor of West Kalimantan Province

Left : From Left Monica Ari Wijayanti, Vice Consul/Third Secretary of the Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia in Kuching; Annie Ting, Senior Manager of STA; Encik Zairi Basri, the Consul of Malaysia in Pontianak; Datuk Abdul Hamed Haji Sepawi, Chairman of the SOPPOA; and Bapak Rafail Walangitan, MA, the Acting Consul General of the Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia in Kuching

Jeneral Konsul Republik Indonesia di Kuching di bawah pimpinan Bapak Rafail Walangitan, MA, Pemangku Jeneral Konsul telah mengadakan lawatan perdagangan di Pontianak pada 7 - 9 Mac 2010 dengan kerjasama dan sokongan dari Kerajaan Wilayah di Kalimantan Barat.

Program utama adalah untuk majikan-majikan di Sarawak, terutamanya dari sektor pembalakan dan perladangan, untuk bertemu dengan pihak-pihak berkuasa berkaitan di Kalimantan Barat yang berkuasa dalam penempatan pekerja dari Republik Indonesia dan agensi pekerjaan Indonesia pada 8 Mac 2010 di Hotel Mercure di Pontianak.

Bapak Maksum Jauhari SH memberitahu peserta tentang peraturan dan prosedur-prosedur berkaitan dengan penempatan pekerja Republik Indonesia di luar negara.

砂州雇主，特别是来自木材业和种植业，与印尼西加里曼丹省负责安置劳工当局和印尼就业代理人于2010年3月8日在坤甸，英属酒店进行会面。此外，有关当局也讲解有关印尼海外工人安置的规则和程序。

SARAWAK TIMBER ASSOCIATION'S RESPONSE TO ANDREW LO'S STATEMENT

STA had on 25 March 2010 released a press statement in response to the allegation by Mr Andrew Lo, the secretary of Malaysian Trade Union Congress (MTUC). The press statement is as follows:

In a statement released and published on 8th March 2010 in the media, Mr Andrew Lo, the secretary of Malaysian Trade Union Congress (MTUC) accused that the Sarawak Timber Association (STA) denied workers in the timber industry of their fundamental rights to public holidays, half an hour rest after four hours of work, a rest day after working continuously for six (6) days, overtime payment for working in excess of normal working hours and annual leave.

Mr Andrew Lo further alleged that the timber industry requires its workers to work around-the-clock and he further mistakenly pointed out that all timber workers in Sarawak were employed in the non-urban areas and therefore the exemption granted to such timber industry is denying almost all workers in the industry the protection accorded by the Sarawak Labour Ordinance (SLO).

While STA is sympathetic to Mr Andrew Lo in his inherent role as a secretary of MTUC, STA is not appreciative of his abusive, malicious and misleading statement made in the press. Indeed, as an official of a respectful organization like MTUC, Mr Andrew Lo has not been acting responsibly in promoting the well being of the industry and its worker by issuing slandering remarks or statements which are untrue and baseless. It is also regrettable that the newspaper publishing such statement did not check the fact of the matter with STA.

STA has asked and obtained exemption from the application of Sections 11, 104, 105, 105A, 105B, 105C and 105D of the SLO to apply to the workers employed by timber industry companies carrying out timber operations in the interior areas (upstream) or land not in the category of town or suburban land in Sarawak.

The request for and the granting of the said exemption has been strenuously investigated and studied including by an independent panel working jointly with UNIMAS. The panel had confirmed that the Sarawak forestry industry has unique features and recognized that these unique features had brought about the development of the entrenched practices, which are accepted by both employers and workers to be able to provide protection and benefits to the workers engaged in the forestry activities and at the same time satisfy their needs. The rationale for exemption is very simple.

In upstream timber operations which are remote and essentially dependent on weather conditions, in any rainy day it is not only impossible but hazardous to health and safety to carry out work like transporting of logs on remote logging road for example. So, when work has to be suspended because of bad weather, the workers have no choice but to rest as well; sometimes over days or weeks. In turn, workers seize the opportunity to work when weather permits them to do so. Working strictly according to six (6) days together with one (1) rest day every week would be

like asking the worker to risk working in danger of health and safety in rainy days and deprive of income during good weather days because of fixed day of rest in every week.

In entrenched practice, workers are allowed to rest during rainy days as well as festive seasons and cumulate further rest days to allow them to go home between a good stretch of four (4) days in a month or eight (8) days in two (2) months to spend time with their family. Because of the distance that the workers need to travel to go home, one day rest would not be enough to travel back to their home. If insisted to be implemented, timber workers in logging camps may only be able to go home to see their family once a year.

Exemption due to peculiar nature of work or working environment is not new. In the petroleum industry's offshore operations which share similar features with timber industry, similar exemptions are granted to mitigate impracticability. This way, the workers are in fact protected and facilitated to work by such exemption.

It is in fact precisely the welfare and well-being of the workers in timber industry working in non-urban area that the STA is safe-guarding that exemption application is made. STA applauds the Ministry of Human Resources in their understanding and appreciation of the granting of the exemption and have been working with STA to establish Forestry Labour Remuneration Package (FLRP) which not only appropriately and practically protected our workers but also prepare for ground to improve from thereon.

STA calls on Mr Andrew Lo to play a positive role rather than baselessly criticizing the timber industry and the Association without even a clear understanding of the real situation on the ground.

STA is also willing to work with Mr Andrew Lo or anyone to maintain the well being of the timber workers and the industry for the benefits of all stakeholders.

*Chairman
Sarawak Timber Association*

OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE MTC GLOBAL WOODMART 2010

The official launch of the MTC Global WoodMart was performed by the Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities Tan Sri Bernard Dompok took place on 8 March 2010 at the Le Meridien Hotel Kuala Lumpur. During the launching ceremony, the WoodMart logo was introduced.

In his welcoming remarks before the official launch, the Chief Executive Officer of the Malaysian Timber Council Mr. Cheah Kam Huan explained that MTC is organising the inaugural MTC Global WoodMart to provide a premier one-stop selling, buying and networking platform for suppliers and buyers of timber products from Malaysia and around the world. Tropical hardwoods, as well as temperate softwoods and hardwoods, will be showcased at the MTC Global WoodMart 2010.

The event will take place at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre from 19 - 20 October 2010. It will be the first time such an event has been organised in South East Asia for international timber suppliers and buyers to meet and conduct business. It is expected to be held once every two years. Apart from facilitating business among local and overseas suppliers, agents, distributors, importers, manufacturers, wholesalers and others in the supply chain, the WoodMart will also help and encourage the wider application and use of timber from Malaysia and international sources.

MTC has been carrying out international marketing efforts through its offices in London, Shanghai and Dubai to bring prospective buyers from traditional markets in Western Europe, USA, Japan and Australia, as well as emerging markets such as China, Russia and other countries in Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Latin America to Malaysia.

During the MTC Global WoodMart 2010 visits to forest areas, timber factories and timber related projects in Malaysia can be arranged for buyers and suppliers, as part of MTC's value-added services to trade visitors.

One of MTC's main objectives is to expand market opportunities for the

Malaysian timber industry. As such it is actively helping industry members to penetrate global markets, both traditional and emerging, through marketing and promotional activities. Its mission is to ensure the sustainability of the Malaysian timber industry by improving its competitiveness, enhancing market access and creating trade opportunities.

The MTC Global WoodMart is endorsed by:

- *The Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities*
- *Malaysian External Trade & Development Corporation (MATRADE)*
- *Malaysian Wood Industries Association (MWIA)*
- *Malaysian Panel Product Manufacturers' Association (MPMA)*
- *Timber Exporters Association of Malaysia (TEAM)*
- *Malaysian Wood Moulding & Joinery Council (MWMJC)*
- *Malaysian Furniture Industry Council (MFIC)*
- *Association of Malaysian Bumiputra Timber & Furniture Entrepreneurs (PEKA)*

MTC will be conducting road shows in Sabah and Sarawak to promote the event.

The Sarawak Timber Association is likely to participate in the event jointly with the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation and the Sarawak Forestry Corporation.

Majlis Pelancaran Rasmi "MTC Global WoodMart" telah dilaksanakan oleh Menteri Perusahaan Perladangan dan Komoditi Tan Sri Bernard Dompok pada 8 Mac 2010 di Hotel Le Meridien Kuala Lumpur.

Dalam ucapan alu-aluan beliau, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Majlis Kayu Kayan Malaysia (MTC), Mr. Cheah Kam Huan memberitahu bahawa MTC akan menganjurkan "MTC Global WoodMart" untuk pertama kalinya.

"MTC Global WoodMart" yang akan berlangsung di Pusat Konvensyen Kuala Lumpur dari 19 - 20 Oktober 2010 dianjurkan untuk pembeli dan pembekal kayu antarabangsa bertemu dan menjalankan perniagaan.

Salah satu objektif utama MTC adalah untuk memperkembangkan peluang pasaran untuk industri kayu Malaysia. Oleh itu ia dapat membantu ahli industri secara aktif untuk menembusi pasaran global, untuk memastikan ketahanan industri kayu Malaysia.

种植与原产业部部长，丹斯里柏纳东博于2010年3月8日假吉隆坡，艾美酒店为MTC全球WoodMart主持推展典礼。马来西亚木材理事会首席执行人员，谢金汉先生告知该理事会首次举办MTC全球WoodMart。

MTC全球WoodMart将在2010年10月19日至20日假吉隆坡会展中心举行国际木材供应商和采购商开展业务。

MTC主要宗旨之一是扩展马来西亚木材业的市场机会，积极协助马来西亚打入国际市场以及确保马来西亚木材工业可持续发展。

MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE WITH THE TIMBER INDUSTRY

In connection with the official launch of the MTC Global Woodmart 2010 on 8 March 2010, a ministerial dialogue was held during which the timber industry players in Malaysia were given the opportunity to raise industry concerns and issues to the Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities Tan Sri Bernard Dompok. Issues raised included panel products manufactured using oil palm trunk, foreign labour, increasing freight charges, the Malaysia-EU FLEGT-VPA, certification of rubberwood, greater promotion of the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme, promotion of green timber products and green consumerism. The Minister and his staff took note of the issues and concerns raised and the Minister stated that some of the more pressing issues would be addressed at laboratories to be held in conjunction with other relevant ministries.

Sehubungan dengan Majlis Pelancaran Rasmi "MTC Global WoodMart 2010" pada 8 Mac 2010, satu sesi dialog telah diadakan di mana pengusaha industri kayu di Malaysia diberikan peluang untuk menyuarakan kebimbangan dan isu-isu berkaitan industri kepada Menteri Perusahaan Perladangan dan Komoditi Tan Sri Bernard Dompok.

后续MTC全球 WoodMart推展典礼之后，马来西亚木材业者和种植与原产业部部长，丹斯里柏纳东博进行对话而对部长提出木材业所面对的各项课题与难题。

CONSUMER'S RIGHTS IN COMMUNICATION AND MULTIMEDIA SERVICE

On 18 March 2010, the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) held a seminar at Hilton Hotel Kuching on "Consumer's Rights in Communication and Multimedia Service".

In his opening speech, MCMC's Senior Director, Mr Amarjit Singh informed that it is MCMC's intention to bring awareness to the public on their rights as consumers to raise complaints to MCMC regarding issues, which are related to telecommunication, broadcasting media, and postal services. He added that the seminar was timely as technology and multimedia plays an important role in our daily life (e.g. mobile communications, and internet related services), and also a main contributor to overall development and progress. Hence, he stressed the importance and need to develop a system which can assess the quality and standard of these services.

MCMC had been conducting annual consumer satisfaction survey through telephone calls to identify consumer satisfaction with MCMC's service providers. These findings were then shared with the service providers to enable them to improve on the quality of their services.

The following papers were presented during the one-day seminar:

1. "The Role of MCMC in Protecting Consumer Rights"
 - Pn Sharizan Abdul Aziz, Director, Compliance Department, MCMC
2. "The Role of CFM in Protecting Consumer Rights"
 - En Muhamad Tahir Muhamad Noor, Executive Director, Consumer Forum Malaysia (CFM)
3. "Postal Services"
 - En Mohd Zaidi Abdul Karim, Director, Postal Department, MCMC
4. "Broadband Access"
 - En Azhar Abdul Rahman, Deputy Director, Compliance Department, MCMC
5. "General Consumer Code (GCC)"
 - En Muhamad Tahir Muhamad Noor, Executive Director, Consumer Forum Malaysia (CFM)

In summary, MCMC will ensure consumer rights are addressed and protected, whilst all parties involved adhere to the relevant Acts and deliver timely and quality services. Consumers can make complaints either via internet or call 1800-18-2222.

Pada 18 Mac 2010, Suruhanjaya Komunikasi dan Multimedia Malaysia (MCMC) mengadakan seminar di Hilton Kuching bertajuk "Hak Pengguna dalam Perkhidmatan Komunikasi dan Multimedia". Dalam ucapan alu-aluan Pengarah Senior MCMC, Mr. Amarjit Singh memberitahu bahawa adalah tujuan MCMC untuk memberi kesedaran kepada orang awam tentang hak pengguna untuk menyuarakan aduan kepada MCMC berkenaan isu-isu yang berkaitan dengan telekomunikasi, media penyiaran, dan perkhidmatan pos. Teknologi dan Multimedia memainkan peranan yang penting dalam kehidupan seharian dan juga penyumbang utama ke arah pembangunan dan kemajuan. Ringkasannya, MCMC akan memastikan hak-hak pengguna diambilkira dan dilindungi, manakala semua pihak yang terlibat haruslah melaksanakan dengan menurut Akta yang berkaitan dan menyampaikan perkhidmatan yang berkualiti dan menepati masa.

马来西亚通讯及多媒体 (MCMC) 于2010年3月18日在古晋，希尔顿酒店举行“通讯与多媒体服务消费者的权利”研讨会。MCMC，高级主任，阿马尔吉先生 (译音) 告知，MCMC主要目的是使公众知悉他们的权利，并对MCMC提出相关投诉。这涉及电信，广播媒体，和邮政服务。通讯技术和多媒体在日常生活中发挥其重要的作用，同时也促进发展和进步。因此，他强调发展一个系统的重要性和必要性以改善这些服务的质量和水平。MCMC确保消费者权益得到处理和保护，同时希望各方遵守有关法令，并提供及时和优质的服务。

SEMINAR ON IMPROVED UTILISATION OF TROPICAL PLANTATION TIMBERS

The Seminar, jointly organised by the Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment (NRE), Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), Timber Research and Technical Training Centre (TRTTC) Sarawak and Forest Research Centre (FRC) Sabah on 23 March 2010, was declared opened by Dato' Dr. Abdul Rashid Hj Abd. Malik, Deputy Director General (Research & Development), was one of the outputs of a three-year project entitled, "Improving Utilisation and Value-adding of Plantation Timbers from Sustainable Sources in Malaysia" under ITTO Project PD 306/04(I).

The theme of the Seminar, Seminar on Plantation Timbers – a Viable Timber Resource was attended by some 150 participants. 10 papers were presented as follows:

1. Roles of ITTO in the promotion of sustainable forest plantation projects in member countries by Dr. Tetra Yanuariadi, ITTO, Yokohama, Japan
2. Important roles of forest plantations – innovative uses of plantation timbers in Japan by Dr. Koichi Yamamoto, Tohoku Research Centre, Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute, Iwate, Japan
3. Wood from plantation in Japan – Challenges and Opportunities by Hideaki Takai, Assistant Director, Wood Products Trade Office, Forestry Agency, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan
4. Forest Plantation Programme in Malaysia – the way forward by Zaini Ithnin Hj A. Razak, CEO, Forest Plantation Development Bhd, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia,
5. Research and Utilisation of Plantation-grown timbers in China by Professor Zhou Yongdong, Research Institute of Wood Industry, Chinese Academy of Forestry, Beijing, China
6. Development of private commercial forest plantation in Malaysia (case study) – A personal perspective by Mr. Ong Chye Lye
7. Wood properties and utilization opportunities of selected plantation-grown species in Malaysia by Dr. Tan Yu Eng, Forest Research Institute Malaysia
8. Drying of *Acacia mangium* using conventional kiln drying system by Dr. Gan Kee Seng, Forest Research Institute Malaysia
9. The development of energy saving technology in wood technology by Dr. Kiyohiko Fujimoto, Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute, Japan
10. Case study on monitoring technique of wooden truss bridge using ultrasound method by Dr. Hideo Kato, Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute, Japan

It is noted that China intends to establish 13 million hectares of fast-growing commercial tree plantations by the year 2015, culminating in a projected supply of 130 million m³ of timber then. Under the "Revival Plan of Forest and Forestry" as announced by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in year 2009, Japan targets to increase the percentage of domestic wood supply from 24% to 50% by year 2018.

Participants at the Seminar were alerted to the problems encountered by the Industry when drying *Acacia mangium*

boards. Owing to the huge areas of *Acacia mangium* planted in Malaysia, representatives from the industry requested the three research bodies to work together to address the problem.

Electronic or printed versions of the abstracts and presentations are available from the STA Secretariat at a nominal charge.

Seminar ini dianjurkan bersama oleh Kementerian Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar (NRE), Institut Penyelidikan Perhutanan Malaysia (FRIM), Pusat Latihan Teknikal dan Penyelidikan Kayu (TRTTC) Sarawak dan Pusat Penyelidikan Hutan (FRC) Sabah pada 23 Mac 2010, telah dilancarkan oleh Dato' Dr. Abdul Rashid bin Hj Abd. Malik, Timbalan Ketua Pengarah (Penyelidikan dan Pembangunan).

Tema Seminar, Seminar tentang Perladangan Kayu – satu sumber kayu berdaya maju telah dihadiri oleh 150 peserta.

Peserta pada Seminar tersebut diberitahu tentang masalah yang dihadapi oleh industri semasa mengeringkan papan *Acacia mangium*.

Abstrak dan pembentangan kertas kerja boleh diperolehi secara elektronik atau bercetak di Urusetia STA pada kadar yang berpatutan.

天然资源与环境局 (NRE), 马来西亚森林研究机构 (FRIM), 木材研究及技术训练中心 (TRTTC) 连同森林研究中心 (FRC) 于2010年3月23日举办种植林研讨会 - 可行的木材资源。这由副局长 (研究及发展), 拿督拉杜博士主持开幕。研讨会总共呈现10张论文, 共有150名参与者出席这项研讨会。

据悉, 中国打算在2015年种植1300万公顷快速增长商业造林。此外, 参与者被告知关注在烘干 *Acacia mangium* 板时所面对的问题。

有关论文摘要和相关论文电子或印刷版可向本会秘书处索取, 这将征收费用。

MALAYSIAN INTERNATIONAL FURNITURE FAIR (MIFF) AND EXPORT FURNITURE EXHIBITION (EFE) 2010

STA in collaboration with the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) participated as an exhibitor in both Malaysian International Furniture Fair (MIFF) and Export Furniture Exhibition (EFE) 2010 organised by MIFF Sdn Bhd and EFE Expo Sdn Bhd respectively. MIFF was held from 2-6 March 2010 while EFE was held from 3 – 7 March 2010.

MIFF 2010 featured a wide range of furniture, furniture accessories, fitting and hardware products from more than 571 exhibitors from 16 countries and regions. The Exhibition attracted more than 20,000 visitors, including buyers from 140 countries.

A series of industry seminars was also conducted with the theme "Sustainable Materials for a Green Future". The seminar gave useful insights to industry players on what 'green' furniture is, and how maximising this trend can be beneficial to all furniture manufacturers.

On 3 March 2010, EFE was officially declared open by Dato' Hamzah Zainudin, Deputy Minister of Plantation Industries & Commodities. A total of 217 exhibitors from local and international countries participated in this exhibition.

STA dengan kerjasama Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA) telah mengambil bahagian dalam Pameran Perabot Antarabangsa Malaysia (MIFF) dan Pameran Export Perabot (EFE) 2010 yang dianjurkan oleh MIFF Sdn Bhd dan EFE Expo Sdn Bhd masing-masing. MIFF berlangsung dari 2-6 Mac 2010 manakala EFE pula berlangsung dari 3-7 Mac 2010.

MIFF menarik seramai lebih 20,000 pelawat, termasuk pembeli dari 140 negara. Seramai 217 peserta tempatan dan antarabangsa mengambil bahagian dalam pameran di EFE.

STA连同砂拉越木材工业发展机构 (STIDC) 分别于2010年3月2日至6日及3日至7日在吉隆坡参加2项展览会, 即2010年马来西亚国际家具展 (MIFF) 和2010年出口家具展(EFE)。MIFF共吸引20,179位参观者, 包括来自140国的买家。种植与原产业部副部长, 拿督韩扎再努丁 (译音) 于2010年3月3日为EFE主持开幕。共有217家国内外的参展商参与这次的展览会。

COMPLIANCE WITH ISPM 15 FOR WOOD PACKAGING MATERIALS COURSE

International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures, Publication 15, (ISPM 15) is an international standard on regulating wood packaging material (WPM) in the international trade. It was adopted in 2002 by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) as part of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

The Timber Research and Technical Training Centre of the Sarawak Forestry Corporation, the Crop Protection and Plant Quarantine Services of the Department of Agriculture Sarawak and the Sarawak Timber Association jointly organised a 3-day course on Compliance with ISPM 15 for Wood Packaging Materials for representatives of Member Companies of the Association from 9 to 11 March 2010.

A total of 20 participants attended the course; 16 participants from the industry and 4 participants from the Crop Protection and Plant Quarantine Services of the Department of Agriculture Sarawak.

Topics covered in the 3-day course included the background to ISPM-15, the procedure to register heat treatment facility with the Department of Agriculture, the technical requirements of a heat treatment facility, the operations and management of a heat treatment facility. The course concluded with a visit to a commercial heat treatment facility.

ISPM 15 adalah piawaian antarabangsa untuk mengawal bahan membungkus kayu (WPM) di pasaran antarabangsa. Ia telah diterima pakai pada 2002 oleh Konvensyen Antarabangsa Perlindungan Tumbuh-Tumbuhan (IPPC) sebagai sebahagian daripada Pertubuhan Makanan dan Pertanian Bangsa-Bangsa Bersatu.

Pusat Latihan Teknikal dan Penyelidikan Kayu Sarawak Forestry Corporation, Bahagian Perlindungan Tanaman dan Kuarantin Tumbuh-tumbuhan di Jabatan Pertanian Sarawak dan Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak bersama-sama menganjurkan kursus 3 hari berkenaan Keperluan ISPM 15 untuk Bahan Membungkus Kayu untuk wakil-wakil dari Syarikat Ahli Persatuan dari 9 hingga 11 Mac 2010.

(ISPM 15) 国际植物检疫措施标准, 第15版, 是一项国际贸易木质包装材料 (WPM) 国际标准并且于2002年通过国际植物保护公约 (IPPC) 为联合国粮食和农业组织的一部分。

砂拉越林业机构属下木材研究及技术训练中心, 砂州农业局属下作物保护和植物检疫及本会联合于2010年3月9日至11日为本会会员公司举办3天的ISPM15木质包装材料合格课程。

MEF MEETING OF MEMBERS IN SARAWAK

The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) Meeting of Members in Sarawak was held in Pejabat Pusat Khidmat Dewan Usahawan, Kuching on 25 March 2010. Participants were mostly human resource practitioners from government agencies, private corporations and trade associations.

The meeting was officiated by Mr George Young Jr, Associate Consultant Industrial Relations of MEF and chaired by Ms Josephine Li of Plastic Pipe Industries.

En Aminuddin Abdul Aziz, Head of Enforcement from the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) gave a brief presentation on the obligations and responsibilities of employers, definition of wages, elements for contract of service, ways of making EPF payment and penalty for non-compliance by companies. He highlighted that employees aged between 55 to 75 can contribute EPF at the rate of 5.5% and 6% by their employers.

Under Section 43(3) of EPF Act, an employee can contribute more than the statutory rate of 11% and 12% by their employer by completing forms KWSP 17 & 17A.

Effective April 2010, employer who wishes to convert the manual submission of EPF contribution using Form A for the encrypted diskette provided by EPF, will be charged a fee of RM100.00 by the organisation.

Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia mengadakan mesyuarat dengan Ahlinya di Sarawak di Pejabat Pusat Khidmat Dewan Usahawan, Kuching pada 25 Mac 2010.

En Aminuddin bin Abdul Aziz, Ketua Penguatkuasaan dari Kumpulan Wang Simpanan Pekerja (KWSP) menyampaikan satu pembentangan ringkas tentang kewajipan dan tanggungjawab majikan, definisi gaji, elemen untuk perkhidmatan kontrak, cara untuk membuat pembayaran KWSP dan penalti bagi syarikat yang tidak mematuhi.

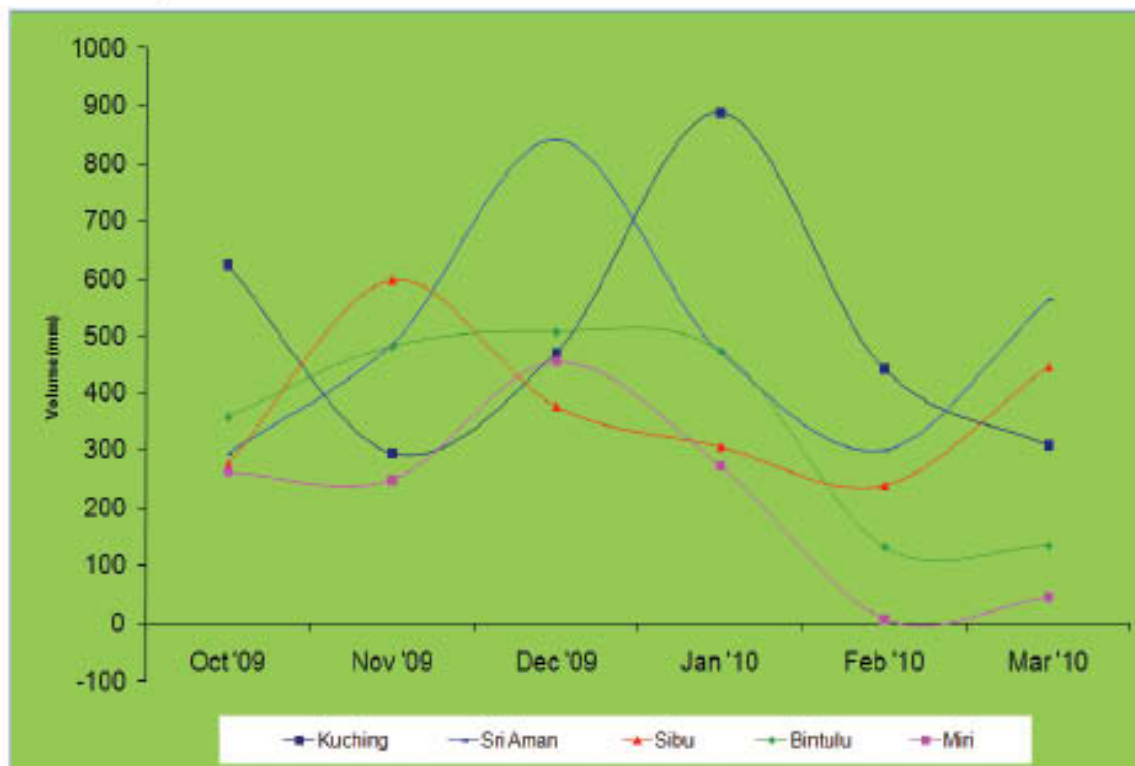
Berkuatkuasa April 2010, majikan yang mahu menukar permohonan sumbangan KWSP menggunakan Borang A secara manual kepada disket yang diberikan oleh KWSP akan dikenakan bayaran sebanyak RM100.00.

马来西亚雇主联合会 (MEF) 于2010年3月25日在古晋, Pejabat Pusat Khidmat Dewan Usahawan召开会员会议。

公积金局 (EPF), 执行负责人讲解有关雇主的义务和责任, 工资的定义, 服务合约详情, 公积金支付法和违法罚款。

由2010年4月起生效, 任何希望转换缴纳公积金提交手册的雇主, 可从公积金局加密软盘索取Form A, 该局将为此服务征收RM100.00费用。

RAINFALL : OCTOBER '09 - MARCH '10 KADAR HUJAN BULANAN



Source : Malaysian Meteorological Services