

STA Review

Volume 212

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Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association

May 2011



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ADVANCED

Mediation Course for
Natural Resource Conflict
Management Practitioners



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10TH MEETING

of the Working Group on
a Pan ASEAN Timber
Certification Initiative



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GRADUATION

Ceremony for the Second Cohort
of the Postgraduate Diploma in
Applied Science (Sustainable
Tropical Forest Management)

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COVER IMAGE:

Lambir Hills National Park

Land Area : 6,949 (ha)

Date Gazetted : 26 June 1975

Location : Miri Division

(24km south of Miri Town)

Lambir's major attractions are its interesting selection of forest walks and spectacular waterfall trails. Its unique topography and environment have made Lambir a major centre for rainforest research. Lambir is not only diverse its flora (i.e. plant life,

tree species and wild fruit trees), but also fauna (i.e. birds, flying squirrels, wild pigs, gibbons, different types of monkeys and various species of deer, insects and other invertebrates).

Photo courtesy of Sarawak Forestry Corporation

ADVANCED MEDIATION COURSE FOR NATURAL RESOURCE CONFLICT MANAGEMENT PRACTITIONERS

The Center for People and Forests (RECOFTC) organised the Advanced Mediation Course for Natural Resource Conflict Management Practitioners from 24 to 27 May 2011 at Sanur Paradisa Plaza in Bali, Indonesia.

The Course brought together RECOFTC alumni from different training programmes that had been conducted, including the Responsible Asia Forestry and Trade (RAFT) programme, United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as well as key personnel from RECOFTC. Participants were from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.

The Course was led by Mr Merrick Hoben, the Director of The Consensus Building Institute; a non-profit institute based in the United States of America that works with multilateral development institutions, corporations, NGO and community stakeholders to resolve natural resource-based conflicts.

This 4-day Course provided an opportunity for participants to:

- Explore mediation as an option for government, industry, communities and NGOs in the forest conflict context to resolve disputes more effectively
- Explore the use of conflict assessment to determine whether and how to proceed with mediation; as well as to consider specific conditions and process design under which mediation is likely to lead to satisfactory resolution of complaints/concerns
- Learn about strategies, tools and resources for assisting stakeholders in the negotiation process
- Explore and discuss common challenges faced by mediators working in the forest conflict context; and best practices to address them
- Engage with peers and resource persons to assess whether and how mediation could help resolve participants' current/potential cases
- Evaluate participants' skills base and strengthen core competencies

The Course concluded in the fourth day with a resolving forest conflicts clinic where course participants shared their specific forest conflict / land use dilemma that they were involved in. The course participants also came up with recommendations for the way forward for each case with the guidance from Mr Hoben.



Photo: Mr Merrick Hoben, the Director of The Consensus Building Institute



Photo: Group Discussion



Photo: Participants with their Certificates

RECOFTC – 人民与森林中心(RECOFTC) 于2011年5月24日至27日假印尼，巴厘岛沙努尔天堂广场酒店举办自然资源冲突管理执业高级调解课程。

建立共识研究所所长，梅里克先生（译音）率领该课程。建立共识研究所是基于美国的非盈利机构，与多边开发机构，企业，非政府组织和社区利益相关者解决以自然资源为基础的冲突。

RECOFTC - Pusat untuk Orang Ramai dan Hutan (RECOFTC) telah menganjurkan Kursus Lanjutan Peleraian untuk Pengamal-pengamal Pengurusan Konflik Sumber Asli dari 24 hingga 27 Mei 2011 di Plaza Sanur Paradisa di Bali, Indonesia.

Kursus ini diketuai oleh Encik Merrick Hoben, Pengarah Institut Pembinaan Muafakat; satu institut bukan berasaskan keuntungan (non-profit institute) yang bertempat di Amerika Syarikat di mana ia bekerja dengan institusi-institusi pembangunan pelbagai hala, korporat, NGO dan pelbagai pihak yang berkepentingan (stakeholders) komuniti untuk menyelesaikan konflik-konflik berasaskan sumber asli.

10TH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON A PAN ASEAN TIMBER CERTIFICATION INITIATIVE

The tenth (10th) meeting of the Working Group on a Pan ASEAN Timber Certification Initiative was held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia from 25 to 26 May 2011. ASEAN Member States who attended the Meeting were representatives from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia and Myanmar.



Photo: Meeting in progress

Dr Hadi Daryanto, the Secretary General Ministry of Forestry, Indonesia in his opening remarks expressed that the attendance of delegates to the Meeting reflected the willingness and commitment of ASEAN Member States to engage and have more active roles to build stronger and closer relationships among ASEAN Member States (AMSs) in supporting Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in the region. He informed all delegates that SFM is not only a concern at the national but also at the regional and international levels. He highlighted that the most challenging issue in SFM is illegal logging and its associated trade. He outlined the achievements of the Working Group that has contributed towards better SFM practices in the region, among others through:

- the development of ASEAN criteria and indicators for SFM of tropical forests,
- the development of Guidelines for Phased-approach to Certification, and
- the formulation of ASEAN Criteria and Indicators for Legality Timber and ASEAN Guidelines for Chain of Custody (CoC) Certification for Legal and Sustainable Timber

In representing Malaysia as the Lead Country for the Initiative, Mr Chew Lye Teng, Chief Executive Officer of Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) summarised the significant achievements of the Working Group including the ASEAN CoC Guidelines for Legal and Sustainable Timber at the 9th Meeting of the Working Group. With the adoption of these guidelines the Working Group had developed a number of key guiding documents to assist AMSs to implement systems to verify legality as well as to certify the sustainability of their timber products.

The Meeting received an update from the ASEAN Secretariat that besides signing the ASEAN Charter at the 13th ASEAN Summit in Singapore, the ASEAN Leaders had also approved the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint, as a roadmap for transforming ASEAN into a single market and production base, which is highly competitive and fully integrated into the global community by the year 2015. This blueprint will be a strategic document

with legal standing that serves as a single reference point for ASEAN economic initiatives. The ASEAN Leaders had also approved the AEC Scorecard as a tool to monitor and to evaluate the achievement of measures/activities toward AEC building by the year 2015. The Scorecard was updated based on the Country Reports presented during the Meeting and it should be reported to ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF) for its consideration.

Other issues discussed during the Meeting were:

1. To work on a mechanism that will take into account and give due recognition of the many existing initiatives for ensuring legal and sustainable timber that is already undertaken within the ASEAN Member States such as timber certification and the EU-FLEGT VPA.
2. To take note of the countries' progress reports and updates on the development of Criteria and Indicators (C&I) for Legality of Timber, forest management certification as well as the implementation of timber certification and legality assurance systems.
3. To take note of the FLEGT VPA between EU and Indonesia which was concluded on 15 April 2011 in Brussels and followed by initialised the issuance of a joint statement on 4 May 2011 in Jakarta. Malaysia made a presentation on its experience in negotiating with the EU for concluding the VPA.
4. To update on the finalisation of Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS), capacity building projects, legal drafting and administrative as well as funding arrangements.
5. Representatives from Malaysia and Indonesia shared their experiences on the impact of Lacey Act amendment and the regulatory procedures issued by the US since December 2008, in particular the timber trade and export market.

Mr Tom Ter Horst, representative from the EU FLEGT Asia programme presented a proposal on "Second Sub-Regional Training Workshop on timber legality assurance for the Mekong region". The objectives of the training workshop are:

- to enhance the capacity of the Mekong countries including Thailand, to develop and implement timber legality assurance systems based on the ASEAN framework and other initiatives,
- to exchange practical experience on timber legality assurance, in particular with regard to stakeholder involvement and timber tracking,
- to explore and learn from technical options for timber tracking implemented by the Forestry Department and the private sector in Sabah, Malaysia, and
- to discuss and elaborate further steps for regional coordination.

The training workshop event is proposed to be carried out between October and November 2011 in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. The Meeting was informed that the 11th Working Group on a Pan ASEAN Timber Certification Initiative will be held in 2012 in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

PAN ASEAN TIMBER CERTIFICATION INITIATIVE

Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Kumpulan Kerja yang ke-10 berkenaan Inisiatif Pensijilan Kayu Kayan Pan ASEAN telah diadakan di Yogyakarta, Indonesia dari 25 hingga 26 Mei 2011. Dr Hadi Daryanto, Setiausaha Jeneral Kementerian Perhutanan, Indonesia dalam ucapan alu-aluan beliau menyatakan bahawa kehadiran para perwakilan di Mesyuarat menunjukkan kesediaan dan komitmen negara-negara anggota ASEAN untuk terlibat dan mempunyai lebih banyak peranan-peranan aktif untuk membina perhubungan lebih rapat dan lebih kukuh antara Negara-negara Anggota ASEAN (AMSS) dalam menyokong Pengurusan Hutan Mampan (SFM) di rantau ini. Beliau menekankan bahawa isu yang paling mencabar dalam SFM ialah pembalakan dan perdagangan haram.

Dalam mewakili Malaysia sebagai Negara Peneraju untuk inisiatif tersebut, Encik Chew Lye Teng, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Majlis Pensijilan Kayu Malaysia (MTCC) mengimbas kembali pencapaian-pencapaian yang penting bagi Kumpulan Kerja, termasuk Garis Panduan ASEAN CoC untuk Kayu Sah dan Mampan. Dengan penerimaan garis panduan tersebut Kumpulan Kerja telah membangunkan beberapa dokumen panduan utama untuk membantu AMSS bagi melaksanakan sistem-sistem untuk menentusahkan kesahan serta untuk mengesahkan kemampuan produk-produk kayu tersebut.

第10届泛东盟木材认证计划工作小组会议于2011年5月25日至26日假印尼，日惹举行。印尼林业部秘书长哈迪博士（译音）在开幕词中表示东盟成员国代表积极出席和参与该会议显示东盟成员国（AMSS）愿意承诺建立更强大和更密切的关系在支持该区域的可持续森林管理（SFM）。他强调，在可持续森林管理最具挑战性的问题是非法采伐和其相关贸易。

马来西亚木材认证理事会(MTCC)首席执行官，邱赖登先生回顾MTCC代表马来西亚在该倡议所达成的重大成就，当中包括工作小组成功规划东盟产销监管链系（ASEAN CoC）法制和可持续木材指导。工作小组通过这些指导已制定关键的指导文件以便协助AMSS实施验证合法性及证明其木材产品可持续性系统。

THE MALAYSIA INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY CONFERENCE AND SHOWCASE (MICCOS) 2011

The Malaysia International Commodity Conference And Showcase (MICCOS) is a premier event on Malaysian Commodities organised by the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities. This biennial event brings together major industry players and entrepreneurs in the commodities sector.

MICCOS 2011 with the theme "Creating Wealth Through Innovation" will be held from 28 to 30 October 2011 at Malaysia Agro Exposition Park Serdang (MAEPS), Selangor. MICCOS 2011 will showcase a wide range of latest products as well as technological developments and innovations in the Malaysian commodities sector which includes palm oil, timber, rubber, cocoa, pepper, tobacco, kenaf, jatropaha and sago.

MICCOS 2011 had proposed the timber sector pavilion plan to be divided into the following ten sections incorporating the "time tunnel" concept based on this year's theme:-

1. The Future of Timber Industry
2. Technology and Innovations
3. Innovations in Furniture and Furnishing
4. Innovations in the Use of Timber
5. Innovations in the Use of Raw Materials
6. Sales Area
7. Human Resource Development
8. Business Area/ Networking
9. Natural Forest and Forest Plantation
10. Traditional Use of Timber

Pameran dan Persidangan Antarabangsa Komoditi Malaysia (MICCOS) merupakan satu acara yang utama berkenaan komoditi Malaysia yang dianjurkan oleh Kementerian Perusahaan Perladangan dan Komoditi.

MICCOS 2011 dengan temanya "Menjana Kekayaan Melalui Inovasi" akan diadakan dari 28 hingga 30 Oktober 2011 di Taman Ekspo Pertanian Malaysia Serdang (MAEPS), Selangor. MICCOS 2011 akan mempamerkan pelbagai produk yang terkini serta pembangunan teknologi dan inovasi dalam bidang komoditi Malaysia.

马来西亚国际原大会和展览会(MICCOS) 是由种植与原产业部所举办的原产业盛会。

MICCOS 2011将在2011年10月28日至30日假雪兰莪州，马来西亚沙登农业博览园(MAEPS)举行。MICCOS 2011主题为“通过革新创造财富”。MICCOS 2011将展示各式各样的马来西亚原产业最新产品，科技发展和革新。

GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR THE SECOND POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN APPLIED SCIENCE (SUSTAINABLE TROPICAL FOREST MANAGEMENT)



Photo: The graduates with their PG Diploma certificates with the Programme Director from Lincoln University, Associate Professor Hugh Bigsby and Dr. Peter CS Kho from STA.

Sekumpulan enam pelajar dari kumpulan kedua Diploma Lepas Ijazah dalam Sains Gunaan (Pengurusan Hutan Tropika Mampan) telah menghadiri Majlis Graduasi Universiti Lincoln pada 6 Mei 2011 di Christchurch, New Zealand.

第二届应用科学研究生文凭(持续性热带森林管理)毕业典礼于2011年5月6日假纽西兰, 基督城举行。来自砂州的6位毕业生出席这项盛会。

A group of six students from the second cohort of the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Science (Sustainable Tropical Forest Management) attended the Lincoln University graduation ceremony on 6 May 2011 in Christchurch, New Zealand.

They joined more than 200 students who received their degrees, diplomas and certificates in two separate ceremonies which were held at the new and recently dedicated Lincoln Events Centre, following earthquake damage to the Christchurch Town Hall where celebrations have been held since 1994. A further 138 awards were made in absentia.

The students had the opportunity to meet up with teaching, support and management staff from Lincoln University over a graduation lunch and dinner hosted by the University, as well as a dinner sponsored by the Chairman of STA, Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik. Prior to the convocation ceremony, the students and their families were taken on a specially organised trip to parts of the South Island, where they had the chance to experience the New Zealand way of life.

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN APPLIED SCIENCE (SUSTAINABLE TROPICAL FOREST MANAGEMENT) - 3RD COHORT

Applications are still being taken for the third cohort of the Postgraduate Diploma. Please contact Ms Suzie Adee (suzie@sta.org.my), Dr Peter Kho (peter@sta.org.my) or Associate Professor Hugh Bigsby (hugh.bigsby@lincoln.ac.nz) for more information.

Permohonan untuk kumpulan ketiga Diploma Lepas Ijazah masih terbuka. Sila hubungi Cik Suzie Adee (suzie@sta.org.my), Dr Peter Kho (peter@sta.org.my) atau Professor Madya Hugh Bigsby (hugh.bigsby@lincoln.ac.nz) untuk maklumat lanjut.

第三届应用科学研究生文凭仍接受申请。预知详情, 请电邮Suzie Adee女士 (suzie@sta.org.my), 许晋生博士 (peter@sta.org.my) 或休毕史彼副教授(译音) (hugh.bigsby@lincoln.ac.nz)。

ND COHORT OF THE IENCE (SUSTAINABLE MENT)



Photo: Field trip to see how plantation wood is utilised.



Photo: Dr Patrick Aldwell, Dean of the Faculty of Commerce, Lincoln University giving a speech during the dinner hosted by the university.



Photo: Graduates at the Graduation Ceremony

INTER AGENCY COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP



The Inter Agency Committee Working Group met on 9 May 2011 at Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. The meeting was chaired by Puan Dayang Nena Abang Bruce, Senior Assistant General Manager, Trade and Industry Division, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and was attended by representatives from Forest Department of Sarawak (FDS), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd, Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) and Sarawak Timber Association (STA).

Some of the matters discussed in the meeting included updates on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Voluntary Partnership Agreement (FLEGT VPA), timber legality issues, certification, log supply situation in the State and participation in marketing missions and exhibitions.

Jawatankuasa Panitia Kerja Inter-Agensi (IACWG) telah berjumpa pada 9 Mei 2011 di Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. Mesyuarat tersebut dipengerusikan oleh Puan Dayang Nena Abang Bruce, Penolong Pengurus Besar Kanan, Bahagian Perdagangan dan Industri, Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA).

机构工作小组在砂木材工业发展机构，贸易与工业部，高级副总经理，蕾娜女士（译音）的主持下于2011年5月9日假Wisma Sumber Alam召开会议。



Photo (from Left): Tuan Haji Shamsudin Bardan, Executive Director MEF, Mr Robert Vijendran Henry, Vice President MYUC, Puan Maimunah Aminuddin, Chairperson, Mr P. Jayasingam, Partner Messrs Zul Rafique & Partners and Mr Fong Khei Por, Director, Labour Department Selangor.

The 7th National Employment Law Conference 2011 was held at the Doubletree Hotel, Kuala Lumpur from 11 to 12 May 2011. More than 200 participants including staff from the STA Secretariat and as well as members of the Labour and IR Committee attended the Conference.

The keynote address was delivered by Yang Arif Dato' Abdul Hamid Embong, Judge of Federal Court of Malaysia on behalf of Yang Amat Arif, Tun Dato' Seri Zaki Tun Azmi, Chief Justice of Malaysia. Yang Arif Dato' stressed that the judiciary needs a reform of its process to ensure that cases are dealt with expeditiously and justices of innocent parties are better served. The judiciary is currently putting emphasis on expediting justice through efficient case management by transferring the management and control of litigation from litigants/ advisors to the court.

Yang Arif Pn Susila Sithamparam, President, Industrial Court, Malaysia spoke on the alternative dispute resolution such as early evaluation of cases and mediation to enable parties to reach an agreement speedily without having the matters being tried or to go through a long protracted litigation process. During mediation, the chairman of the Industrial Court will be the mediator assisting parties in settling their dispute.

The two panel discussions held during the Conference were:

A. Modernisation of Labour Laws In Line With The Economic Transformation Programme (ETP)

Panelists

1. Tn Haji Samsuddin Bardan, Executive Director, Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF)
2. Mr Robert Vijendran Henry, Vice President, Malaysian Trade Union Congress (MTUC)
3. Mr Fong Kei Por, Director, Labour Department
4. Mr P Jayasingam, Partner, Messrs Zul Rafique & Partners

The panelists shared their viewpoints on a few issues on the current government's endeavour to modernise labour laws. They were:

- increasing the retirement age may not be suitable to industries which are highly dependant on the physical strength of employees to perform their works,
- provision in allowing flexibility to employers in implementing annual shutdown will increase the costs of business,
- allowing foreign workers to apply freely for transfer of employment due to unfair termination may "induce" termination in the event the workers merely wish to move to a different employer,
- making Employees Provident Fund (EPF) coverage a compulsory for foreign workers is not suitable as EPF is meant for retirement, whereas the

employment of foreign workers are normally on short term basis,

- the drop in Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) in Malaysia could not be attributed to the reasons perceived by the Working Committee of the Government formed to examine this issue, and
- limiting the security of tenure of employment is as good as allowing employers to dismiss employees at their whims and fancies.

B. Relevance Of Trade Unions In A Modern And Globalised Economy

Panelists

1. Dato' T Thavalingam, Partner, Messrs Lee Hishammuddin Allen & Gledhill and Honorary Secretary of MEF
2. Datuk Nicholas, President of American Malaysian Chamber of Commerce
3. Mr A Navamukundan, Executive Secretary, National Union of Plantation Workers
4. Associate Professor Dr Sharifah, Faculty of Law, University Malaysia

The panelists presented their respective views concerning the relevance of trade unions in a modern and globalised economy. They were:

- the contents of employment contracts must adapt to changes to recognise the greater

bargaining position vested in the individual currently, owing to the increased skills, knowledge and tools of trade, and with tele-working becoming more common,

- there will be a further shift towards contracts for services which would provide the employee with greater flexibility and choice,
- the wave of the 21st century i.e. globalisation, capitalism, privatisation, liberalisation, deregulation, democratisation and etc., and
- unions are encouraged to make better use of the social media such as the internet, to get the message across to the young educated workforce and build an eventual “cyber union” for the resurgence of collectivism.

The following topics/papers were presented during the Conference:

1. Malaysian Employers Federation’s (MEF) View On The Employment Of Foreign Workers - Mr Ramadass, Vice President of MEF.

The speaker highlighted that the labour shortage in our country prompted the Malaysian Government to allow the private sector to employ foreign workers. Factors to attract foreign workers to Malaysia include higher wages and better opportunities for foreign workers as compared to their own country.

He also touched on the ad hoc policies introduced by the Government on the employment of foreign workers and expatriates such as the introduction of mandatory induction course for new foreign workers effective 1st November 2004 and the imposing compulsory medical examination for foreign workers. He stated that MEF recommended to the Government to set up the National Council of Foreign Workers and to implement a comprehensive system and policy of recruitment of foreign workers in an organised and systematic manner that would not only enhance the productivity and efficiency of companies but to ensure industries would not experience shortfall in productivity and sales growth.

2. Personal Data Protection Act 2010 (PDPA) - Mr Vihayan Venugopal, partner of Shearn Delamore & Co.

The key objective of PDPA is to regulate the processing of personal data in the context of commercial transactions by data users, and to provide a safeguard for the interests of the data subject. PDPA will give rise to new legal rights and obligations between employer-employee relationships.

The speaker informed participants at the Conference that employees will have a new set of rights including being informed about their personal data as well as the right to access, correct and also control the processing of their personal data by their employer.

3. Grievance Management: Tactical & Procedural Considerations in Employment Arbitration and Mediation Process – En Azimeer Manaf, Senior

Assistant Director of Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration (KLRCA)

The speaker covered conflict management of the employment relationship and resolution of employment disputes at the work place through Alternate Dispute Resolutions (ADR) mechanism. ADR refers to any procedure used in lieu of formal process such as litigation to resolve conflict.

4. Minimising Turnover and Absenteeism, and Boost Productivity through Effective Employee Engagement - Mr Hakam S. Tiwana, Consultant, Effectus Consulting

The speaker spoke about:

- effective organisations,
- ways to improve employee engagement in an organisation,
- ways to build conditions for such engagement,
- identify the effects of absenteeism and lack of engagement, and
- the road to excellence.



Photo: Conference in Progress

Persidangan Kebangsaan Undang-Undang Pekerjaan 2011 yang ke-7 telah diadakan di Hotel Doubletree, Kuala Lumpur dari 11 hingga 12 Mei 2011.

Ucuptama tersebut disampaikan oleh Yang Arif Dato' Abdul Hamid Embong, Hakim Mahkamah Persekutuan Malaysia bagi pihak Yang Amat Arif Tun Dato' Seri Zaki Tun Azmi, Ketua Hakim Negara Malaysia. Yang Arif Dato' menekankan bahawa suatu reformasi perlu dilaksanakan dalam proses kehakiman tersebut, bagi memastikan kes-kes ditangani secara cepat dan cekap, dan keadilan bagi pihak yang tidak bersalah dapat dilaksanakan atau berlaku sebaik-baiknya.

第7届全国雇佣法令大会于2011年5月11日至12日假吉隆坡,希尔顿逸林酒店举行。

联邦法院法官拿督阿都哈密 (译音) 代联邦法院首席大法官丹斯里敦查基 (译音) 发表其基调演说。拿督阿都哈密强调司法进程需要改革以确保案件迅速处理以便无辜一方可得到更好的权利保护。

INDUSTRY LEAD BODY FOR THE TIMBER SECTOR

The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) called a meeting to discuss the implementation concept of Industry Lead Body (ILB) for the timber sector on 3 May 2011 at the MTIB's office at Menara PGRM, Cheras.

The Meeting was chaired by Dr Jalaluddin Harun, the Director-General of MTIB.

ILB is an initiative focusing on the development of human capital and workforce in the industry sectors. ILB plays an important role in establishing job standard and specification for the scope of skills in the respective industry. ILB concept has been long in practice of developing country and it will make the industry leap to a higher level based on the increase of skills.



Photo: Meeting in progress

Encik Mohd Yusoff bin Abu Bakar, the Director of the Department of Skills Development (DSD) briefed the Meeting on the purpose of the implementation concept of Industry Lead Body. He started off the briefing with the introduction to the DSD and its roles.

The DSD (formerly known as the National Vocational Training Council) is a Department under the Ministry of Human Resources (MoHR) set up on 2 May 1989 through the restructuring of the National Industrial Training and Trade Certification Board (NITTTCB). The aims of the establishment of the DSD were to formulate, promote and coordinate strategies and skills training programmes in line with national needs and technological and economic development.

Under the National Skilled Manpower Development Act of 2006 (Act 652), the National Skills Development Council (NSDC) was established to approve the National Occupational Skills Standards (NOSS) and to provide advisory services on skills development to the MoHR.

The mission of the DSD is to development knowledge (k-worker) and competitive human resources with the following two objectives:

1. To coordinate and control the implementation of the skills training system to produce k-workers to meet labour needs and to obtain national and international recognition; and
2. To develop work competency standards and skills to enhance the quality of skilled human resources on a continuous basis to contribute to economic growth and national competitiveness

DSD is responsible to undertake the establishment of ILB for all identified industries sectors in Malaysia. DSD has appointed CIDB for building and construction sector, MDEC for information and communication technology sector, FMM for Machinery and equipment sector, and etc. DSD is proposing to appoint MTIB as the ILB for timber sector in view of the Government's aim to achieve a total export revenue of RM53 billion from the value-added timber products by the year 2020 under the National Timber Industry Policy.

MTIB as the ILB will take the lead in drawing up Occupational Standards for the timber sector in Malaysia and will take into consideration the different development pace in the three regions in Malaysia.

Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia (MTIB) telah mengadakan satu mesyuarat bagi membincangkan konsep pelaksanaan Badan Peneraju Industri (ILB) untuk sektor kayu kayan pada 3 Mei 2011 di pejabat MTIB, Menara PGRM, Cheras.

ILB adalah satu inisiatif yang fokus pada pembangunan modal insan dan tenaga kerja dalam sektor industri. ILB memainkan peranan yang penting dalam penubuhan piawai kerja dan spesifikasi untuk skop kemahiran-kemahiran dalam industri yang berkenaan.

Jabatan Pembangunan Kemahiran (DSD) sedang bercadang untuk melantik MTIB sebagai ILB bagi sektor perkayuan memandangkan sasaran Kerajaan untuk mencapai pendapatan eksport RM53 bilion dari produk kayu tokokan nilai menjelang tahun 2020 di bawah Dasar Industri Perkayuan Kebangsaan.

马来西亚木材工业局(MTIB)于2011年5月3日在蕉赖, PGRM大厦办公室召开会议商讨工业领导者(ILB)实施概念。

ILB着重于工业部人力资本和员工发展。ILB在各行业上扮演着建立职业标准和技能范围规格的角色。

技能发展局(DSD) 建议委任MTIB为木材业ILB以响应政府在国家木材工业政策下, 于2020年, 增值木材产品总收入达到马币53亿的目标。

EUROPE DAY RECEPTION

HE Ambassador Vincent Piket, the Head of the Delegation of the European Union (EU) to Malaysia, celebrated and hosted the Europe Day Reception on 9 May 2011 at the Grand Ballroom of the InterContinental Hotel in Kuala Lumpur.

Every year on this day, all the twenty-seven (27) countries, which democratically chose to accede to the European Union, will endorse its fundamental values of peace and solidarity. These values embrace environmental and regional dimensions which guarantees a decent standard of living for all citizens. This year's theme was "Know your rights, use your rights".

In 2010, the EU was Malaysia's 4th largest trading partner with a share of about 11% of Malaysia's total export. Within a total of about Euro30 billion, EU exports to Malaysia amounted to about Euro12 billion while Malaysia exports to the EU reached about Euro18 billion.

As the ASEAN countries continue on the path of regional integration, the strategic position of Malaysia is becoming increasingly attractive for trading partners such as the EU.

The Prime Minister of Malaysia Najib Tun Razak and the European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso had reached new horizons with the launch of the negotiations of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) and the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) in October 2010 in Brussels. Both negotiations are in progress and are expected to be concluded in 2012.

The PCA will provide an overarching strategic political framework for the EU-Malaysia cooperation for the medium term.

Tuan Yang Terutama (T.Y.T) Duta Vincent Piket, ketua delegasi Kesatuan Eropah (EU) ke Malaysia, telah meraikan dan menganjurkan Jamuan Hari Eropah pada 9 Mei 2011 di Hotel InterContinental Grand Ballroom di Kuala Lumpur.

Setiap tahun pada hari ini, kesemua dua puluh tujuh (27) Negara, yang telah memilih untuk menyertai Kesatuan Eropah secara demokrasi, akan menyokong nilai-nilai asasnya iaitu keamanan dan perpaduan. Nilai-nilai tersebut dapat diungkapkan melalui pembangunan ekonomi dan sosial yang meliputi dimensi-dimensi alam sekitar serta serantau.

欧盟驻马大使，文森披克先生（译音）于2011年5月9日假吉隆坡洲际酒店庆祝及主办欧洲日招待会。

所有民主性的选择加入欧盟的27国都在每年的这一天支持和平与团结的基础价值观。这些价值观通过经济和社会发展包含环境和区域层面中传达出来。

1MALAYSIA TRAINING PROGRAMME

Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad (PSMB), an agency under the Ministry of Human Resources, gave a briefing to employers at the 1Malaysia Training Programme on 20 May 2011 at Wisma PERKESO, Kuching.

Under this programme, the Government has allocated RM200 million from the HRDF Levy and RM40 million incentive to enhance the skills of the Malaysia workforce. The objectives of the 1 Malaysia Training Programme are to increase the number of skilled workforce; and to upskill as well as to provide reskilling opportunities for the current workforce.

There are over 2,000 readily available training programmes and the training courses which are delivered in modular form, certification programmes, and recognition of skills or enhancement in academic qualifications.

Employers must have sufficient levy balance in their HRDF account to qualify for this training incentive. Employers with insufficient levy balance are also eligible to participate if their levy balance covers a minimum of 80% of the course fees. The Government will reimburse 20% of the course fees into employers' levy accounts after the completion of the training.

For further information, members may contact PSMB customer service representatives at 03-2096 4600.

Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad (PSMB), satu agensi di bawah Kementerian Sumber Manusia, telah menyampaikan satu taklimat kepada pekerja-pekerja di Program Latihan 1 Malaysia pada 20 Mei 2011 di Wisma PERKESO, Kuching.

Objektif Program Latihan 1 Malaysia ini adalah untuk meningkatkan bilangan tenaga kerja mahir; dan "upskill" serta memberi peluang untuk "reskilling" kepada tenaga kerja semasa.

人力资源部旗下机构，人力资源发展公司(PSMB)于2011年5月20日假古晋，PERKESO大厦为雇主解讲有关一个马来西亚培训计划。

一个马来西亚培训计划旨在提高熟练员工量及提供现有的员工再培训和提升机会。

CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER VISIT TO STA



Photo (from Left): Mr. Stuart Shaw, Second Secretary for Political, Economic & Public Affairs Section; Mr Douglas R. Bingeman, Counsellor and Senior Trade Commissioner; Ms Annie Ting, Senior Manager of STA; HE Randolph Mank, High Commissioner of Canada to Malaysia and Mr John L. Nojey, Trade Commissioner

His Excellency Randolph Mank, the High Commissioner of Canada to Malaysia, led a delegation of three members from the High Commission of Canada to Malaysia on a 3-day visit to Kuching, Sarawak from 4 to 6 May 2011. The visit also included a call to the Office of the Sarawak Timber Association (STA) at Wisma STA.

Ms Annie Ting, the Senior Manager gave a briefing on STA and its roles to HE Randolph Mank and his delegation, followed by exchanging views on the possibility of collaborative works in future.

Tuan Yang Terutama (T.Y.T) Randolph Mank, Suruhanjaya Tinggi Kanada Malaysia mengetuai rombongan bersama-sama 3 anggota dari Suruhanjaya Tinggi Kanada Malaysia telah mengadakan lawatan 3 hari ke Kuching, Sarawak dari 4 hingga 6 Mei 2011. Lawatan tersebut termasuk satu lawatan ke Pejabat Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) di Wisma STA.

加拿大驻马最高专员兰多曼克先生（译音），率领3位加拿大驻马使馆代表于2011年5月4日至6日前往砂拉越古晋。行程包括亲临拜访本会。

VISIT BY SUMITOMO MITSUI BANKING CORPORATION

Mr Yoshitaka Morita, Head of Environmental Solution Strategic Financial Products Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) and Mr Gunalan Namasivayam, Vice President Non-Japanese Corporate Department Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation Malaysia Berhad visited the Sarawak Timber Association (STA) on 12 May 2011. The purpose of this visit was to understand the forestry and timber trade in Sarawak in order to explore opportunities to assist STA members by providing financial facilities.

Ms Annie Ting, Senior Manager STA briefed the visitor on the forestry and timber trade issues as well as the roles and activities of the Association.



Encik Yoshitaka Morita, Ketua Penyelesaian Persekitaran Produk Kewangan Strategik Perbadanan Perbankan Sumitomo Mitsui (SMBC) dan Encik Gunalan Namasivayam, Naib Presiden Korporat Bukan-Warganegara Jepun Jabatan Perbadanan Perbankan Sumitomo Mitsui (SMBC) Malaysia Berhad telah melawat Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) pada 12 Mei 2011. Tujuan lawatan ini adalah untuk memahami sektor perhutanan dan perdagangan kayu di Sarawak dalam usaha untuk meneroka peluang-peluang bagi membantu ahli-ahli STA dalam menyediakan kemudahan kewangan.

日本三井住友银行，环境解决策略金融产品部主任，森田义隆先生和马来西亚三井住友银行，非日本企业部，副总裁，古纳兰先生（译音）于2011年5月12日拜访本会。此拜访目的是了解砂州森林和木材业，以便能从中协助提供本会会员金融服务。

CESS AND ROYALTY RATE

The Forest Department Sarawak has informed the Association via the DF Circular No 1/2011 dated 4 May 2011 that the Majlis Mesyuarat Kerajaan Negeri on 20 January 2011 had approved the cess rate at RM5.00 per m³ and royalty rate at RM5.00 per m³ for timber from harvested planted forests.

The DF Circular is to be effective from 1 January 2011 onwards.

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak telah memaklumkan Persatuan melalui Pekeliling DF No 1 / 2011 bertarikh 4 Mei 2011 bahawa Majlis Mesyuarat Negeri pada 20 Januari 2011 telah meluluskan kadar ses pada RM5.00 m³ dan kadar royalti pada RM5.00 setiap m³ untuk kayu dari hutan ladang yang dituai.

Pekeliling DF akan berkuatkuasa mulai 1 Januari 2011 dan seterusnya.

砂州森林局于2011年5月4日致函(编号:DF Circular No 1/2011)通知本会州行政议会于2011年1月20日已批准重植林木材税收率为RM5.00每立方米和版税为RM5.00每立方米。

这已从2011年1月1日起开始生效。

DIRECTOR OF FORESTS

Forest Department Sarawak had written to Sarawak Timber Association on 7 June 2011 via the letter dated 27 May 2011 ref DF.681.79 (Jld.14) - 78 informing that Tuan Haji Ali bin Yusop has been appointed as the Acting Director of Forests, replacing Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh who retired on 28 March 2011.

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak telah menulis surat kepada Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak pada 7 Jun 2011 memberitahu bahawa Tuan Haji Ali bin Yusop telah dilantik sebagai Pemangku Pengarah Hutan, menggantikan Datu Haji Len Talif Salleh yang telah bersara berkuatkuasa 28 Mac 2011.

砂州森林局于2011年6月7日致函通知本会阿里尤索先生(译音)已被委任为该局代局长。前任局长,拿督达立沙里(译音)已于2011年3月28日退休。

SARAWAK STATE ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2011

The Ministry of Industrial Development Sarawak (MID) in association with the Sarawak Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) and Ernst & Young are organising the Sarawak State Entrepreneur of The Year Awards (EOYS) 2011. EOYS was first launched in 2004 and is a prestigious Awards Program held annually to honour and acknowledge exceptional entrepreneurial talent and leadership.

The objectives of EOYS are:

- to encourage the growth of small and medium scale industries in Sarawak;
- to recognise the success of up and coming entrepreneurs; and
- to recognise the best in business in Sarawak

The nominations are to be submitted no later than 15 July 2011 and the event is to take place at Riverside Majestic Hotel, Kuching on 4 November 2011.

For a copy of the nomination form, please contact The Secretariat at sta@sta.org.my or call 082-332222.

Kementerian Pembangunan Perindustrian Sarawak (MID) dengan kerjasama Dewan Sarawak Perdagangan dan Industri (SCCI) dan Ernst & Young telah menganjurkan Anugerah Tahunan Usahawan Negeri Sarawak (EOYS) 2011.

Pencalonan hendaklah dikemukakan tidak lewat dari 15 Julai 2011 dan acara ini akan diadakan di Hotel Riverside Majestic, Kuching pada 4 November 2011.

砂拉越工业发展部(MID) 联同砂拉越商业和工业公会(SCCI)和安永会计师事务所协办2011年砂拉越年度企业家奖(EOYS)。

本会会员如有意参与, 请不迟於2011年7月15日提交提名表格。颁奖典礼将于2011年11月4日在古晋河滨酒店举行。

USA STATISTICS FOR ALL FOREST PRODUCTS

The United States Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA FAS) has released the data for all forest products for the first quarter of 2011. The data shows relatively little change in overall forest products imports from January to March 2011, compared to the same period last year.

The following is the commodity report for all forest products as at the end of the year from 2006 to 2010, and for the period from January to March of 2010 and 2011.

USA Commodity report for all forest products (Values in USD'000)

Product	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Jan-Mar 2010	Jan-Mar 2011
Forest Products	23,059,890	18,717,304	14,157,850	9,820,415	11,404,214	2,519,500	2,528,216
Softwood Lumber	7,611,793	5,831,497	3,847,634	2,344,111	3,025,407	700,062	746,728
Other Wood Products	2,769,171	2,705,271	2,493,320	2,006,226	2,153,392	485,816	385,726
Builders Carpentry	2,716,132	2,317,627	1,801,509	1,180,418	1,260,389	279,580	273,887
Hardwood Plywood	1,720,721	1,752,558	1,373,157	959,030	1,211,262	261,785	281,475
Osb/waferboard	1,946,835	1,025,961	578,441	417,543	595,547	141,296	127,368
Medium Density Fiberboard	414,174	447,790	450,431	475,781	526,453	106,360	121,591
Softwood Moulding	901,073	628,883	473,812	364,518	465,520	99,613	106,169
Hardwood Lumber	709,632	647,289	534,550	272,136	344,669	70,595	88,674
Other Panel Products	544,461	349,379	290,674	205,728	219,561	50,335	53,086
Hardwood Moulding	394,493	379,191	267,969	177,270	191,165	41,688	50,447
Hardwood Veneers	323,520	345,155	287,036	176,582	180,745	45,062	42,877
Hardboard	803,406	577,689	341,762	240,355	177,840	41,250	29,793
Particleboard	204,587	205,714	181,673	144,922	166,589	40,746	34,639
Softwood Plywood	464,411	304,491	235,449	167,221	148,763	27,410	42,134
Cooperage Products	186,697	215,599	230,833	164,279	148,133	6,328	8,208
Wood Packing Material	167,778	154,789	140,436	103,387	126,411	31,300	32,354
Assembled Flooring Panels	0	65,247	132,779	107,794	109,234	25,129	24,051
Softwood Veneers	219,718	130,650	90,114	60,874	82,317	18,217	24,194
Poles	70,944	67,181	71,912	52,502	59,463	11,796	12,480
Prefabricated Buildings	136,123	98,650	64,241	56,296	50,291	9,504	7,598
Softwood Siding	47,173	54,987	67,008	34,658	36,158	7,733	6,457
Softwood Logs	232,124	165,505	74,110	33,323	33,910	2,070	9,475
Hardwood Logs	34,828	23,995	20,364	14,436	21,543	5,236	4,976
Hardwood Chips	25,965	9,586	3,554	1,504	20,962	604	339
Hardwood Flooring	332,495	136,651	46,898	23,684	17,170	2,969	5,466
Treated Lumber	12,419	13,921	10,694	14,088	17,023	3,475	4,646
Pulpwood	7,641	8,949	8,263	4,415	4,129	1,625	856
Railroad Ties	13,102	9,931	8,484	5,957	3,655	464	1,099
Softwood Flooring	31,999	28,456	18,092	3,958	2,568	867	500
Pencil Slats	10,872	10,001	9,508	4,101	2,116	252	329
Hardwood Siding	1,500	3,031	1,312	866	1,324	292	433
Softwood Chips	4,103	1,681	1,834	2,452	506	43	161
GRAND TOTAL	23,059,890	18,717,304	14,157,850	9,820,415	11,404,214	2,519,500	2,528,216

Notes:

1. Data Source: Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Statistics
2. FAS Totals include all Agricultural commodities and FAS selected NONAG commodity items.
3. All zeroes for a data item may show that statistics exist in the other import type. Consumption or General

Jabatan Pertanian Perkhidmatan Pertanian Luar Negara Amerika Syarikat (USDA FAS) telah mengeluarkan data untuk semua produk hutan bagi suku pertama 2011. Data menunjukkan perubahan yang agak kecil dalam keseluruhan produk hutan import dari Januari hingga Mac 2011, berbanding tempoh sama tahun lepas.

美国农业部，外国农业服务 (USDA FAS) 已发布有关2011年首季森林产品数据。数据显示今年首季与去年同期相比下变化不大。

STA EXHIBITION CENTRE

STA Exhibition Centre is located at Level 4, Wisma STA. It has physical exhibits, information kiosks and plasma screen displays giving pictorial information and videos of forests, biodiversity, upstream and downstream activities.

The Centre also has two Multimedia And Research Information System (MARIA) computer terminals which allow visitors and researchers to access more than 10 years of data, statistics and forest and timber industry related documents.

Opening Hours

Mondays to Fridays : 9:00am to 12:30pm , 1:30pm to 4:30pm

Saturdays : 8:30am to 12:00pm

(Closed on Sundays, Public Holidays and 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month)

Admission is FREE

Pusat Pameran STA terletak di Aras 4, Wisma STA. Ia mempunyai barang pameran secara fizikal, kiosk maklumat dan skrin plasma yang memaparkan informasi dan video mengenai hutan, biodiversiti, aktiviti hulu dan hilir.

Pusat ini juga mempunyai dua terminal komputer, Sistem Informasi Multimedia dan Penyelidikan (MARIA) yang membenarkan pelawat dan penyelidik mengakses data berusia 10 tahun, statistik dan dokumen berkaitan dengan industri hutan dan kayu.

Kemasukan adalah PERCUMA

STA展览中心坐落在STA大厦4楼。中心具有实物展示品，资讯展台和平面显示银幕呈现生物多元化，森林及木业活动资料录像。

STA展览中心拥有2架多媒体与研究系统(MARIA)电脑供参观者和研究生搜取超过10年与森林及木业相关的资料，数据和文件。

免费入场

ARE YOU MISSING OUT ON TIMBER-RELATED NEWS AND TRADE ENQUIRIES?

STA Grapevine is an electronic mailing List created and managed by the STA Secretariat to deliver news and information related to timber and timber trade (market news, seminar papers, technical/research information, statistics, timber trade enquiries and etc) in a more efficient way.

This service is exclusively for staff of STA member companies only. Sign up now by sending your request to grapevine@sta.org.my stating your full name, designation, name of company, address, telephone no, fax no and most importantly your email address.

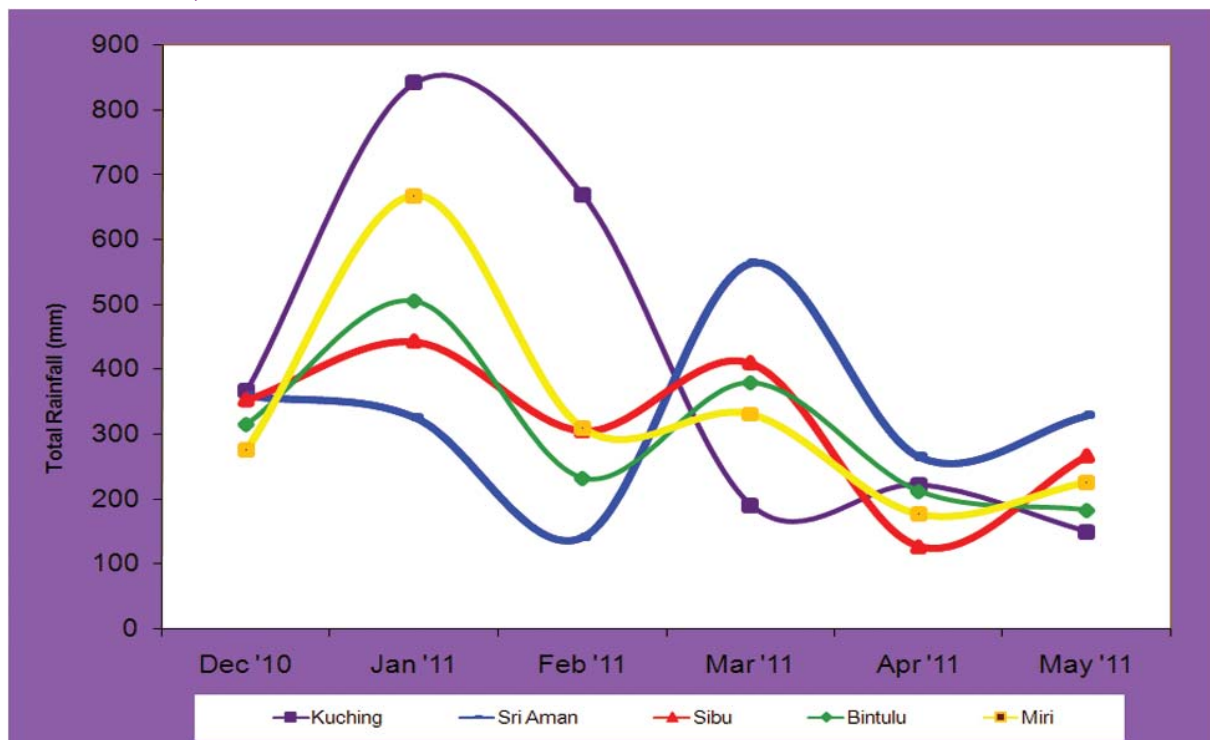
STA Grapevine adalah satu senarai mel elektronik yang diwujudkan dan diurus oleh Sekretariat STA untuk menyampaikan berita-berita dan informasi yang berkaitan dengan kayu kayan dan perdagangan kayu kayan. Perkhidmatan ini adalah eksklusif untuk kakitangan syarikat-syarikat ahli STA sahaja.

STA Grapevine是一项由本会秘书处创建和管理的电子邮寄讯息服务。这项服务是专为本会会员公司的职员提供木材和木材贸易相关新闻和信息。

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENTS	VENUE	ORGANISER
22 to 25 September 2011	The 7 th Asean International Woodworking Machinery, Timber Processing & Furniture Manufacturing Supplies Exhibition and Conference (Aseanwood-Woodtech 2011)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Malaysian Woodworking Machinery Association and Trade-Link Management Service Sdn Bhd
21 to 26 October 2011	The 8 th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nanning International Convention & Exhibition Center, Nanning, China 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The people's Government of GuangXi Zhuang Autonomous Region
31 October to 4 November 2011	The 110 th China Import and Export Fair (CANTON) 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> China Import and Export Complex (Pazhou Complex), Guangzhou, China 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China People's Government of Guangdong Province
6 to 10 March 2012	The 18 th Malaysian International Furniture Fair (MIFF) 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia MATRADE Exhibition & Convention Centre (MECC), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MIFF Sdn Bhd

RAINFALL : DECEMBER '10 - MAY '11 KADAR HUJAN BULANAN



Source : Malaysian Meteorological Services