

STA Review

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MAY
2017



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on Sarawak Timber
Legality Verification
System and Forestry-
related Matters



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3RD SARAWAK
TIMBER & SMES
EXPO 2017



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NEW RATE
of Hill Timber Premium
Effective 1 July 2017

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COVER IMAGE:

Coelogyne pandurata;
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STA REVIEW

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STA Log Marketing Committee Meeting No 1/2017

The STA Log Marketing Committee convened its meeting No 1/2017 on 9 May 2017 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Meeting was presided over by its Chairman, Mr Ho Yam Kuan.

The discussion focused on several factors deemed to have impact on the sustainability of the timber industry; namely the effect of the gradually increasing Log Reservation Quota and the impact of the impending increased in the rate of Hill Timber Premium.

The Committee also received updates on Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS); the final draft of STLVS Standard; as well as notification on a series of *Roadshows on STLVS and forestry-related matters* organised by STA Secretariat in Miri on 23 May 2017, Sibul on 24 May 2017, Bintulu on 25 May 2017 and Kuching on 29 May 2017. The Committee was also informed on the various laws and regulations imposed by major timber importing countries such as Japan, the United States of America (USA), Australia and the European Union (EU) on their importers.

STA 原木促销委员会在其主席何炎光先生主持下于2017年5月9日假古晋STA大厦召开本年度首次会议。

会议关注商讨几项被视为影响木材业可持续性的因素，譬如逐渐减少原木出口配额以及近期所调高的高山木材税。



Photo: Meeting in progress

Jawatankuasa Pemasaran Balak STA mengadakan mesyuarat Bil. 1/2017 pada 9 Mei 2017 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusinya, Encik Ho Yam Kuan.

Perbincangan tertumpu kepada beberapa faktor yang dianggap mempunyai kesan ke atas kemampuan industri perikanan; iaitu peningkatan kuota tempahan balak secara beransur-ansur dan peningkatan *Hill Timber Premium* baru-baru ini.

STA Timber Products Marketing Committee Meeting No 1/2017



Photo: Group photo at the meeting

The STA Timber Products Marketing Committee Meeting No 1/2017 was convened on 25 May 2017 at Tanahmas Hotel, Sibul. A total of eight (8) committee members attended the Meeting, presided by its Committee Chairman Mr Stephen Hii Hium Ung.

The Meeting discussed and deliberated on the working plan for the Committee to undertake in 2017 in particular, the friendly golf match cum dinner gathering in Kuching for TPM members and marketing/trade mission to India in November 2017. The Meeting also discussed the shortage of raw materials faced by members and impact of the impending increased in the rate of Hill Timber Premium.

Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Pemasaran Produk Kayu STA Bil. 1/2017 telah diadakan pada 25 Mei 2017 di Hotel Tanahmas, Sibul. Seramai 8 ahli jawatankuasa menghadiri Mesyuarat yang dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusinya Encik Stephen Hii Hium Ung.

Mesyuarat membincangkan dan mempertimbangkan rancangan kerja Jawatankuasa pada tahun 2017 khususnya, perlawanan golf merangkap makan malam di Kuching untuk ahli TPM dan misi perdagangan ke India pada November 2017. Mesyuarat turut membincangkan isu kekurangan bahan mentah yang dihadapi oleh ahli-ahli dan peningkatan kadar *Hill Timber Premium* baru-baru ini.

STA木材产品促销委员会于2017年5月25日假诗巫金地酒店召开本年度第一次会议。共有8位委员在该委员会主席许勋文主持下出席该会议。

会议讨论和审议2017年的工作计划，特别是为该小组会员所设定的高尔夫球友谊赛暨晚宴聚会以及今年11份前往印度的销售/贸易团。会议也商讨会员面对的原料短缺和近期所调高的高山木材税事项。

Roadshows on the Implementation of the Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) and SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFCSB) jointly organised a series of Roadshows on the "Implementation of the Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015".

Three (3) briefings had been organised in Miri on 26 April 2017, Bintulu on 27 April 2017 and Sibul on 28 April 2017. Following this, the 4th and final briefing in the series was held on 17 May 2017 at the Seminar Room, SFC Corporate Office, Kuching. A total of sixteen (16) participants from the timber industry and forestry-related agencies attended the Briefing in Kuching.

Dr Peter Kho, Manager of STAT gave a brief introduction on the background of skills training. He informed all participants at the Briefing that STAT has been appointed as a Training Provider and further sought the co-operation of both members of STA and non members to plan their training needs of their workmen to ensure they are able to comply with the requirements of both The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules 2015 (The Rules) and Forests Ordinance 2015. In his presentation, he emphasised on the importance of skills training, the types of training courses offered by STAT as well as how skills training and assessments are carried out.

Ms Shirley Lyn Michael Gias, Manager Forest Industry Training, on behalf of Tuan Haji Zolkipli Mohd Aton, Acting General Manager, Strategic Planning and Special Projects Division of SFC gave a presentation on the requirement of The Rules, the responsibilities of the timber licensees or contractors as well as SFC's roles and responsibilities as an Agent. She also highlighted the consequences of

non-compliance (*employer and workman*) under the Forests Ordinance, 2015 and The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015. She then presented the Standard Operating Procedures for the monitoring of compliance for both employers and workmen.

Participants at the Briefing were urged to fully understand and be aware of the requirements of Section 51(1) of The Forests Ordinance, 2015 and The Rules. Those interested to get their workmen trained are requested to contact either Dr Peter Kho or Ms Melinda Chai at 082-332222.



Photo: Briefing in Kuching

本会子公司, STA Training有限公司连同砂拉越森林企业机构(SFC) 举办一系列“实施2015年森林(员工培训)法令”讲座会。

首3次的讲座会于2017年4月26日至28日分别在美里、民都鲁和诗巫举行。第四也是最后一次的讲座会于2017年5月17日在古晋SFC总部研讨室进行。

参与讲座会的参与者受促充分了解及知道2015年森林法令第51(1)条文及其规则的要求。对技能培训有兴趣的人士, 请联络许晋生博士或蔡莲珍小姐, 联络电话082-332222。

STA GST Technical Committee Meeting No 1/2017

The STA Goods and Services Tax (GST) Technical Committee convened its first meeting No 1/2017 on 3 May 2017 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Meeting was chaired by its Chairman, Mr Philip Choo Kwong Hui and attended by four (4) Committee Members.

The STA GST Technical Committee is a new sub-committee formed under the STA GST Working Group to look into and discuss any GST operational issues the Association may wish to bring up to the Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD).

During the Meeting, the Committee Members identified several GST operational issues to be submitted to RMCD. In total, the Committee has submitted twenty four (24) operational issues to the RMCD for clarification/decision. The Meeting also deliberated on the appeal of some GST policy issues to be submitted to the Ministry of Finance, such as (1) the claiming of input tax credit for motor vehicles used exclusively in the logging and forest plantation operations, (2) the relief from charging GST on Corporate Social Responsibility projects/initiatives and (3) the claiming of input tax credit on expenses incurred for these projects.

Jawatankuasa Teknikal Cukai Barang dan Perkhidmatan STA telah mengadakan mesyuarat pertamanya Bil. 1/2017 pada 3 Mei 2017 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Mesyuarat ini dipengerusikan Pengerusinya, En Philip Choo Kwong Hui.

Jawatankuasa Teknikal tersebut merupakan sub-jawatankuasa baru yang dibentuk di bawah Kumpulan Kerja GST STA, bertujuan untuk meneliti dan membincangkan isu operasi yang ingin dikemukakan kepada Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia (JKDM).

Dalam mesyuarat tersebut, ahli Jawatankuasa mengenalpasti beberapa isu operasi GST yang akan dikemukakan kepada JKDM. Secara keseluruhan, Jawatankuasa telah mengemukakan 24 isu-isu operasi kepada JKDM bagi tujuan mendapatkan penjelasan/keputusan. Mesyuarat juga membincangkan beberapa rayuan berkaitan isu dasar GST untuk dikemukakan kepada Kementerian Kewangan.

Financial Assistance to Sekolah Kebangsaan Kampung Buda, Betong

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) dan SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFC) telah menganjurkan satu siri jelajah mengenai "Pelaksanaan Peraturan Hutan (Pekerja Terlatih) 2015".

3 taklimat telah dianjurkan terdahulu di Miri pada 26 April 2017, Bintulu pada 27 April 2017 dan Sibu pada 28 April 2017. Taklimat ke 4 juga yang terakhir dalam siri ini telah diadakan pada 17 Mei 2017 bertempat di Bilik Seminar, Pejabat Korporat SFC, Kuching.

Peserta Taklimat diseru untuk memahami dan menyedari keperluan Seksyen 51(1) Ordinan Hutan 2015 dan Kaedah-Kaedah. Bagi mereka yang berminat untuk mendapatkan latihan kemahiran, sila hubungi sama ada Dr Peter Kho atau Ms Melinda Chai di 082-332222.

Sarawak Timber Association (STA), through its subsidiary company, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) has been working together with the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) since year 2012, to identify schools located in the rural areas of Sarawak that are in need of financial assistance to repair, build or renovate key facilities. This collaborative project aims to provide a conducive environment for both learning and teaching in these schools.



Photo: Datu Haji Sarudu bin Haji Hoklai (4th from Right) presenting a mock cheque to Mr Kon @ Sapawi Bin Yahu (4th from Left)

As part of the activities planned for 2017, a simple ceremony was organised on 4 May 2017 where Datu Sarudu Haji Hoklai, General Manager of STIDC presented a mock cheque to Mr Kon @ Sapawi Bin Yahu, the Headmaster of SK Kampung Buda in Betong Division. The financial assistance of RM73,000 is to be used to repair the school's building which had suffered partial collapse during the landslide incident on 8 June 2016. The Ceremony was witnessed by Dr Peter Kho, General Manager of STA, Mr Syahrudin Bin Jais, Head of Services and Human Development of Betong District Office and Tuan Haji Salleh Bin Haji Ismail, Assistant Supervisor of *Ujian Penilaian Kelas Kafa (UPPK)* of Betong District Office.

SK Kampung Buda has seventy two (72) students enrolled in classes ranging from pre-schools to Primary Six as well as seventeen (17) teaching and supporting staff.

本会通过子公司，STA Mutual有限公司，自2012年起与砂拉越木材工业发展机构（STIDC）合作鉴定位于砂拉越乡村地区需要经济援助来装修、重建或翻新重点设施的学校。这个合作项目旨在为这些学校的学习和教学提供有利的环境。

作为2017年活动计划之一，STIDC总经理拿督沙鲁杜于2017年5月4日在一项简单的仪式上将模拟支票交给坐落在木中省的SK Kampung Buda的校长贡@沙巴威先生（译音）。



Photo: Meeting in progress

STA消费税（GST）技术委员会于2017年5月3日假古晋STA大厦举行第一届会议。会议由该委员会主席朱光輝先生主持。

STA GST技术委员会是在STA GST工作小组旗下所成立的新技术委员会，负责调查和讨论本会向马来西亚皇家关税局（RMCD）提出的任何消费税运作问题。

会议期间，委员会确定数项提交给RMCD的消费税运作课题。委员会总共提交24项运作课题予RMCD以作出澄清/决定。会议也审议即将提交给财政部的消费税政策问题。

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak, melalui anak syarikatnya, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd telah bekerjasama dengan Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (PUSAKA) sejak tahun 2012 untuk mengenalpasti sekolah-sekolah di luar bandar Sarawak yang memerlukan bantuan kewangan untuk tujuan membaiki, membina atau mengubahsuai kemudahan utama di sekolah masing-masing. Projek bersama ini bertujuan untuk menyediakan persekitaran pembelajaran dan pengajaran yang kondusif di sekolah terlibat.

Sebagai sebahagian daripada aktiviti yang dirancang untuk tahun 2017, satu majlis ringkas telah dilaksanakan pada 4 Mei 2017, di mana Datu Sarudu Haji Hoklai, Pengurus Besar PUSAKA menyampaikan sumbangan kewangan kepada Encik Kon @ Sapawi Bin Yahu, Guru Besar SK Kampung Buda di Bahagian Betong.

Roadshows on Sarawak Timber Legality Ver

Sarawak Timber Association (STA) organised a series of Roadshows on *Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS) and Forestry-related Matters* for its members in Miri on 23 May 2017, Sibu on 24 May 2017, Bintulu on 25 May 2017 and Kuching on 29 May 2017.

The purposes of the Roadshows were to update members on the latest developments in STLVS as well as to inform members on recent changes to policies on forestry matters, DF Circulars and Directives, trade and market requirements as well as other forestry-related matters. The Roadshows also provided an avenue for members to share information on issues and challenges faced when complying with the requirements of STLVS as well as other requirements related to forestry.

A total of 222 participants, with background ranging from forest surveyors to shipping clerks from STA member companies, attended the Roadshows as summarised below:

Date/Day	Region	Venue	Number of Participants
23 May 2017	Miri	ParkCity Everly Hotel	46
24 May 2017	Sibu	Tanahmas Hotel	92
25 May 2017	Bintulu	Promenade Hotel	56
29 May 2017	Kuching	Wisma STA	28
Total			222

The briefings in the four (4) regions were conducted by Ms Annie Ting, Senior Manager of STA. She highlighted matters related to natural resources, forest policies, STLVS, trade and market requirements as well as other forestry-related matters. She informed participants of the Roadshows that logs production from natural forests had decreased over the past few years. In 2016, a total of 7.4 million m³ logs were harvested from natural forests while 1.3 million m³ of logs were harvested from planted forests.

She also informed participants that in 2016, the State Forestry Agencies under the Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources (MUDNR) (formerly known as the Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment), had come out with the STLVS Standard for independent third party verification of forest operations, timber processing and trade of timber and timber products against the compliance of existing laws, regulations and procedures governing forests and timber trade in Sarawak. She urged all members to understand their own operational activities and to make sure they comply to STLVS Standard. This is important as all Members must ensure they supply and use only legal timber for manufacturing of timber products and its subsequent trade.

Ms Ting shared with the participants of the Roadshows latest information on the export of timber and timber products from Sarawak, which was dominated by logs, plywood and sawntimber, with a total export value of RM5.9 billion in 2016. She also briefed participants on the laws and regulations put in place by a few countries when importing timber and timber products such as Lacey Act 2008, Formaldehyde Emissions Regulation for Composite Wood Products as well as



Photo: Briefing in Miri on 23 May 2017



Photo: Briefing in Sibu on 24 May 2017



Photo: Briefing in Bintulu on 25 May 2017



Photo: Briefing in Kuching on 29 May 2017

Antidumping and Countervailing Duties by the United States of America, European Timber Regulation 2013 by the European Union, Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012 by Australia and Clean Wood Act 2017 by Japan.

The participants were also informed on the current forestry policies and directives issued by the State and Federal Government, such as the requirement of forest management certification for all forest management units, reduced impact logging, Log Reservation Quota, forest plantation development, implementation of the Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015 as well as the Companies Act 2016.

During the Roadshows, participants raised questions concerning the requirement for all FMUs to have forest management certification, STLVS, the five (5) prescribed forestry activities under The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules 2015 as well as port charges.

本会于2017年5月23日至25日分别在美里、民都鲁、诗巫和5月29日假古晋为会员举办一系列的砂拉越木材合法性验证系统(STLVS)及相关林业课题讲座会。

讲座会的目的是告知会员关于STLVS的最新进展,并通知会员关于林业事项的政策修改、森林局局长所发出的公函和指令、贸易和市场需求以及其它林业相关事项。讲座会也提供会员分享资讯的平台。在4个地区举办的讲座会是由本会高级经理陈燕贞小姐主讲。她强调自然资源、森林政策、STLVS、贸易和市场需求,以及其他林业相关事项的事项。

她也告知参与者,城市发展及天然资源部(MUDNR)(原名为资源策划与环境部)属下的州林业机构在2016年发出了STLVS准则,对森林经营、木材加工及木材和木制品贸易进行独立的第三方验证,以符合现有的砂拉越森林和木材贸易法律、法规和程序。她呼吁所有会员需了解自己的业务活动,并确保他们遵从STLVS准则。这极为重要因为所有会员都必须确保他们只提供和使用合法木材来制造木材产品及其后续贸易。

参与者也获悉由州政府和联邦政府发出的最新林业政策和指令,例如所有森林管理单位必须获得森林管理认证、降低伐木影响、原木保留配额、人工林发展、实施2015年森林(员工培训)法令以及2016年度公司法令。

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak telah menganjurkan siri jelajah *Sistem Verifikasi Kesahan Kayu Sarawak dan Perkara Berkaitan Perhutanan* untuk ahli-ahlinya di Miri, Bintulu, Sibu dan Kuching dari 22 hingga 29 Mei 2017.

Siri jelajah bertujuan untuk maklumkan kepada ahli mengenai perkembangan terkini berkaitan STLVS, dasar hutan terbaru, Pekeliling dan Arahan Pengarah Hutan, keperluan perdagangan dan pasaran serta perkara berkaitan perhutanan yang lain. Siri jelajah ini turut bertujuan memberi peluang kepada ahli untuk berkongsi maklumat. Taklimat jelajah di 4 lokasi dijalankan oleh Cik Annie Ting selaku Pengurus Kanan STA. Beliau memberi penekanan terhadap perkara berkaitan sumber asli, dasar hutan, STLVS, perdagangan dan keperluan pasaran serta perkara berkaitan perhutanan yang lain.

Beliau turut memaklumkan peserta jelajah bahawa pada tahun 2016, Agensi-Agensi Perhutanan Negeri Sarawak, di bawah Kementerian Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli, yang dahulunya dikenali sebagai Kementerian Perancangan Sumber dan Alam Sekitar telah memperkenalkan Standard STLVS untuk digunapakai dalam pengesahan bebas pihak ketiga ke atas operasi hutan, pemprosesan serta perdagangan kayu dan produk kayu terhadap pematuhan undang-undang, peraturan dan prosedur yang mengawal hutan dan perdagangan balak di Sarawak yang sedia ada. Beliau menggesa kesemua ahli untuk memahami operasi-operasi masing-masing serta mematuhi Standard STLVS. Ini adalah penting untuk memastikan bekalan kayu yang sah dan penggunaan kayu yang sah sahaja untuk pengeluaran dan perdagangan.

Peserta jelajah juga dimaklumkan mengenai dasar-dasar perhutanan semasa dan arahan Kerajaan Negeri, antaranya pelaksanaan pensijilan pengurusan hutan, pembalakan kurang impak, kuota balak tempahan, pembangunan ladang hutan, pelaksanaan Peraturan Hutan (Pekerja Terlatih) 2015 serta Akta Syarikat 2016.

Meeting with Members on Port Tariff on Timber Products

A second meeting with members of Sarawak Timber Association (STA) who are using value-added services provided by KPA Port Sdn Bhd for the export of timber products was held on 5 May 2017 at Wisma STA, Kuching. KPA Port Sdn Bhd is an associate company of Kuching Port Authority (KPA), located at Senari Port, Kuching.

The objectives of this Meeting are to obtain feedbacks from members on the services provided by KPA Port Sdn Bhd and to share with members, the information on benefits which are guaranteed by KPA Port Sdn Bhd after the port tariff charge on timber products for Receiving, Sorting and Delivery (RS&D) services was fixed at RM5.00 per tonne / cubic metre.

The Meeting was informed that the current charge of RM5.00 per tonne / cubic metre for RS&D services was effective from 1 April 2017, and shall gradually be increased to the statutory rate of RM9.00 per tonne / cubic metre. However, It was agreed in the Meeting that there will be prior consultations with members of the Association before any future increments in the port tariff be implemented.

Mesyuarat kedua bersama dengan ahli-ahli Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) yang menggunakan perkhidmatan nilai tambah yang disediakan oleh KPA Port Sdn Bhd untuk mengeksport produk kayu telah diadakan pada 5 Mei 2017 di Wisma STA, Kuching.

Objektif Mesyuarat adalah untuk mendapatkan maklum balas daripada ahli mengenai perkhidmatan yang disediakan oleh KPA Port Sdn Bhd serta berkongsi dengan ahli-ahli tentang manfaat yang dijamin oleh KPA Port Sdn Bhd selepas caj tarif pelabuhan bagi produk kayu untuk Menerima, Menyusun dan Pelaksanaan (RS&D) ditetapkan pada RM5.00 setiap tan / meter padu.

使用KPA Port Sdn Bhd为木材产品出口提供的增值服务的本会会员于2017年5月5日假古晋STA大厦召开第二次会议。

会议的目的是向会员获取对KPA Port 有限公司提供的服务之反馈意见,并与会员分享KPA Port 有限公司在木材产品接收、分拣和配送(RS&D)港口关税收费法定在每吨或每立方米为马币5令吉后所保证的利益。

3rd Sarawak Timber & SMEs Expo 2017

The Sarawak Timber & SMEs Expo (Expo) is a bi-annual expo jointly organised by the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) and the Ministry of Industrial and Entrepreneur Development (MIED) in conjunction with the State level Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Week 2017 celebrations, which is supported by SME Corp. This third (3rd) Expo was held from 18 to 21 May 2017 at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCCK).

Themed “*Timber and Beyond*”, the Expo 2017 aimed to provide a platform for suppliers and manufacturers of timber and non-timber products as well as SMEs to showcase and promote trade and sales of their products. As a “One-Stop-Centre”, the Expo 2017 was an ideal avenue to generate potential business opportunities and networking.

Sarawak Timber Association (STA) participated in the Expo 2017 together with a total of 280 exhibitors, both local and overseas from Sabah, Sarawak, Peninsular Malaysia, China, India, Indonesia and South Korea, occupying a total of 400 booths.

The Expo 2017 was officiated by Datuk Amar Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, the Right Honorable Chief Minister of Sarawak. In his opening speech, he called for the major groups of timber companies to intensify their research and development (R&D) in forest plantation and reforestation efforts to ensure sustainability of the industry. He highlighted the need for the state’s timber-based industry to produce downstream products using the resource from fast growing planted species, while emphasising on innovation and creativity to boost production and market value.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Sales of Timber Products was signed between each of the major group of timber companies namely; KTS, Rimbunan Hijau,



Photo: STA's booth at the expo



Photo: Datuk Amar Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg (3rd from right) visiting STA's booth.

Samling, Shin Yang, Ta Ann and WTK with their respective buyers, witnessed by the Chief Minister of Sarawak during the opening of the Expo 2017. The execution of the contracts would boost the export of timber products from Sarawak and contribute to the growth of the industry and the Gross Domestic Products (GDP) of the State.

Following the successful 3rd Expo, STIDC has announced that the next edition of the Sarawak Timber and Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Expo will have more exhibitors.

Sarawak Timber & SMEs Expo (Ekspo) merupakan ekspo dwi-tahunan anjuran bersama Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak dan Kementerian Perindustrian dan Pembangunan Usahawan sempena Minggu Perusahaan Kecil dan Sederhana (PKS) 2017 peringkat Negeri, yang disokong oleh MSE Corp. Ekspo tersebut telah dilangsungkan untuk kali ketiga dari 18 hingga 21 May 2017 di Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCCK).

Bertemakan “Timber and Beyond”, Ekspo 2017 tersebut bertujuan menyediakan landasan untuk pembekal dan pengeluar produk kayu dan bukan kayu serta PKS untuk mempamer sekaligus mempromosikan perdagangan dan jualan produk mereka. Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak turut mengambil bahagian dalam Ekspo 2017 bersama-sama sejumlah 280 peserta dari dalam dan luar negara, contohnya Sabah, Sarawak, Semenanjung Malaysia, China, India, Indonesia dan Korea Selatan yang menyumbang kepada pembukaan 400 gerai di Ekspo tersebut.

Ekspo 2017 tersebut dirasmikan oleh Datuk Amar Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg selaku Ketua Menteri Sarawak. Dalam ucapan perasmian, beliau menyeru syarikat pembalakan utama untuk meningkatkan usaha penyelidikan dan pembangunan dalam perladangan dan penanaman semula hutan untuk memastikan kemampuan industri pembalakan dan perkayuan. Beliau turut menekankan kepentingan bagi industri berasaskan kayu di Sarawak untuk menggunakan sumber dari hutan tanaman dalam menghasilkan produk hiliran, di samping inovasi dan kreativiti bagi meningkatkan pengeluaran dan nilai pasaran.

Satu majlis menandatangani Memorandum Persefahaman Jualan Hasil Kayu antara syarikat pembalakan utama dengan pembeli masing-masing untuk meningkatkan eksport produk kayu dari Sarawak juga telah diadakan.

Corporate Social Responsibility Projects in Kapit and Song

砂拉越木材业和中小型企业展销会是由砂拉越木材工业发展机构(STIDC)连同工业与企业家发展部(MIED)联合举办的两年一度博览会。今年基于配合由中小型企业机构所推展的砂州中小企业周庆典礼活动，第三届展销会于2017年5月18日至21日假古晋婆罗洲会展中心(BCCK)举行。

2017年展销会主题为“木材与远景”，旨在为木材和非木材产品供应商和制造商以及中小企业提供展示和促销其产品平台。本会连同280家来自砂拉越，沙巴，马来西亚半岛，中国，印度，印尼和韩国的参展商总共设立400摊位参与今年的展销会。

2017年展销会由砂州首席部长拿督阿玛阿邦佐哈里主持开幕。首席部长在致开幕辞时呼吁6家主要木材公司加强人工造林和林地重新造林的研发以确保行业可持续发展。首席部长提示本州木材工业须通过人工造林木材生产下游产品，同时也强调创新和创造力来提升生产和市场价值。

随后，6家主要木材公司与各自采购商签订木材产品销售谅解备忘录。此举将促进本州木材产品出口。



Photo: New tables in the library of SK Nanga Nyimoh



Photo: Teachers' quarters of SK Ulu Melipis



Photo: Group photo taken at the classrooms block of SK Nanga Encheremin

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA), melalui anak syarikatnya, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) melancarkan projek baharu Tanggungjawab Sosial Korporatnya (CSR) di sekolah-sekolah luar bandar yang terletak di dalam kawasan konsesi balak syarikat ahli STA. Ianya dapat dilaksanakan melalui peruntukan kewangan oleh STA bagi penambahbaikan atau kerja-kerja penyelenggaraan perabot dan kemudahan utama di sekolah-sekolah yang dinamakan oleh ahli-ahlinya.

Pada 3 Mei 2017, seorang kakitangan STAM melawat 2 buah sekolah yang dinamakan oleh Ta Ann Plywood Sdn Bhd dari Kumpulan Syarikat Ta Ann. Sekolah pertama dilawati ialah Sekolah Kebangsaan (SK) Nanga Nyimoh dan sekolah kedua yang dilawati ialah SK Ulu Melipis.

Pada 4 Mei 2017, lawatan diteruskan ke sekolah SK Nanga Encheremin yang dinamakan oleh Immense Fleet Sdn Bhd dari Kumpulan Syarikat WTK. Sekolah ini terletak di dalam konsesi balak Immense Fleet Sdn Bhd di Kapit.

Sarawak Timber Association (STA), through its subsidiary company, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) launched its new Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects in rural schools which are located within the timber concession areas of STA member companies. This is made possible through funding allocated by STA to schools with furniture and key facilities that require repair and /or maintenance works, nominated by its members.

On 3 May 2017, a member of staff from STAM visited the two schools nominated by Ta Ann Plywood Sdn Bhd of the Ta Ann Group of Companies. The first school visited was Sekolah Kebangsaan (SK) Nanga Nyimoh, a full-boarding school with forty five (45) students benefiting from the purchase of new tables and bookshelves in the school's library and teachers' administrative office. The second school visited was SK Ulu Melipis where the old electrical wiring system for the teachers' quarters was replaced.

On 4 May 2017, the trip was extended to visit the school nominated by Immense Fleet Sdn Bhd of the WTK Group of Companies. This school is located within the timber concession of Immense Fleet Sdn Bhd in Kapit.

SK Nanga Encheremin, with a total enrolment of 156 students, benefited from the major repair works carried out on the buildings which included re-roofing to prevent water leakages during rainy days and re-wiring of the electrical system.

本会通过子公司，STA Mutual有限公司，在位于STA会员公司木材特许经营区域内的乡区学校推出新的企业社会责任(CSR)计划。本会在会员的协助下通过资金分配给需要维修及维护其家具和关键设施的学校。

STAM 职员于2017年5月3日参观2间由大安集团旗下大安合板有限公司提名的学校，即SK Nanga Nyimoh 和SK Ulu Melipis。

STAM 职员也于2017年5月4日参观由黄传宽集团旗下Immense Fleet 有限公司提名的学校，SK Nanga Encheremin。这间学校坐落在Immense Fleet 有限公司位于加帛的木材特许经营区域内。

Sarawak Timber Association (STA) was informed on the new rate of Hill Timber Premium chargeable to logs harvested from hill forests and logs of hill species from agri-conversion area via DF Circular No 2/2017 ref. DF.681.76 (VII) – 44 dated 12 April 2017 issued by the Director of Forests Sarawak.

This DF Circular stated that the chargeable Premium for both hill logs and logs of hill species from agri-conversion areas shall be increased to RM50.00 per m³ from the current rate of RM0.80 per m³ for hill logs and RM3.00 per m³ for logs of hill species from agri-conversion areas starting **1 July 2017**. The proceeds collected will be dedicated for the Sarawak Foundation Fund to provide education funding to the needy in the state of Sarawak. STA is in full support of this very noble objective of the Government. However, this sudden hike of premium is of real concern for the industry, particularly the downstream operators.



Photo: Meeting in progress

STA members, in particular those who are in downstream operations, know that the increase of premium to RM50 per m³ will affect their operations very badly as they cannot absorb and/or transfer this sudden increase of costs to the buyers due to the very competitive market and fierce pricing competition amongst the producing countries globally. Assuming that the increase is from RM3.00 per m³ to RM50.00 per m³ then there will be an additional of RM47 per m³ to their cost of production and base on 70% Log Reservation Quota (LRQ), which is the volume of logs reserved for local downstream processing, of the estimated production of 6.5 million m³ of hill timber from July 2017 to June 2018, the total increase in costs shall be an exorbitant sum of RM213.85 million. Under this scenario, STA downstream members will suffer huge losses and eventually may have to stop their operations. If this happens, it will be very detrimental to the entire timber industry in the State as it will trigger a chain reaction on the entire timber industry, halting not only the downstream sector, but may also adversely impacting the upstream sector. This will indirectly lead to other social and economic problems which the State strives to look after, such as loss of employment opportunities and reduction of educational funding to the needy.

Taking into the seriousness of the direct consequences to the whole timber industry and indirect consequences to the State, STA has made an appeal to the State Government to re-consider the increase in the Hill Timber Premium to RM20.00 per m³. With this increase and based on an estimated production of 6.5 million m³ of hill timber from July 2017 to June 2018, it will bring in an amount of RM130 million, to the Sarawak Foundation Fund for the education purpose.

Nonetheless on 10 May 2017, the Chief Minister reaffirmed his decision for the increased chargeable Premium for both hill logs and logs of hill species from agri-conversion areas to remain at RM50.00 per m³ starting 1 July 2017 as announced via DF Circular dated 12 April 2017.

Persatuan Kayu Kayan Sarawak (STA) telah dimaklumkan dengan kadar baru *Hill Timber Premium* yang dikenakan ke atas balak yang dituai dari hutan bukit dan balak spesies bukit dari kawasan penukaran pertanian melalui Pekeliling DF Bil. 2/2017 ref. DF.681.76 (VII) - 44 bertarikh 12 April 2017 yang dikeluarkan oleh Pengarah Hutan Sarawak.

Pekeliling DF ini menyatakan bahawa premium yang dikenakan untuk kedua-dua balak bukit dan balak spesies bukit dari kawasan penukaran pertanian akan meningkat kepada RM50.00 per m³ dari kadar semasa RM0.80 per m³ untuk balak bukit dan RM3.00 per m³ untuk balak spesies bukit dari kawasan penukaran pertanian bermula **1 Julai 2017**. Premium yang dikutip akan dikhususkan untuk Tabung Yayasan Sarawak bagi menyediakan dana pendidikan kepada golongan yang memerlukan di Negeri Sarawak. STA menyokong penuh objektif mulia ini oleh Kerajaan. Walau bagaimanapun, kenaikan premium secara tiba-tiba amat membimbangkan industri, terutamanya pengusaha hiliran.

Mereka tidak boleh menyerap dan / atau memindahkan kenaikan kos ini secara tiba-tiba kepada pembeli disebabkan oleh persaingan sengit pasaran dan harga yang kompetitif dalam kalangan negara pengeluar di peringkat global.

STA telah membuat rayuan kepada Kerajaan Negeri untuk mempertimbangkan semula kenaikan Hill Timber Premium kepada RM20.00 per m³.

Namun demikian, pada 10 Mei 2017, Ketua Menteri mengesahkan keputusan beliau untuk meningkatkan Premium yang dikenakan untuk kedua-dua balak bukit dan balak spesies bukit dari kawasan penukaran pertanian kekal pada RM50.00 per m³ bermula 1 Julai 2017.

本会收到由森林局局长于2017年4月12日所发出的局长通告编号DF.681.76 (VII) – 44，通知有关高山林所伐的原木以及农业转型区的高山品种原木的木材新税率。

局长通告指出自2017年7月1日起，高山木和农业转型区的高山品种原木税将从原本的每立方米马币80仙和马币3令吉调高至每立方米马币50令吉。所收到的税款将纳入砂拉越基金会，充作教育经费提供给砂州贫穷生。本会全力支持政府这项非常崇高的目标。然而，这突如其来的大幅上涨让木材业者极为关注，特别是木材下游业者。

基于市场竞争和全球生产国之间的激烈定价让业者不能承担和转嫁予买家这些突增成本。本会已向州政府提出上诉，重新考虑调高高山木材税至每立方米马币20令吉。

尽管如此，州首长于2017年5月10日重申他的决定，即今年7月1日起，高山木和农业转型区的高山品种原木税将维持在每立方米马币50令吉。

Concept Paper on Proposed Industrial Forests and Strategy and Action Plan for Forest and Landscape Restoration in Sarawak

A meeting on a *Concept Paper on Proposed Industrial Forests and Strategy and Action Plan for Forest and Landscape Restoration in Sarawak* was called by Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) on 9 May 2017 at Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. The Meeting was chaired by Mr Jack Liam, Acting Deputy Director of Forests I of FDS and was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources (MUDNR) (formerly known as the Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment), State Forestry Agencies and Sarawak Timber Association (STA).

The delegation from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) led by Dato' Dr Nik Muhamad Bin Nik Abdul Majid presented the *Concept Paper on Proposed Industrial Forests* to the participants of the Meeting. They explained the concept of industrial forest model including its outputs and impacts to Sarawak. Generally, the goal of the industrial forest model is to develop an industrial forest showcase that takes into account, the environmental, the social-economics and bio-forest products that can benefit the communities, industry partners and State Government.

Dr Riina Jalonen of Bioversity International presented the *Strategy and Action Plan for Forest and Landscape Restoration in Sarawak*. She shared with the participants of the Meeting the Strategy and Action Plan which were inputs collated from the Expert Workshop conducted in March 2017. The delegation from UPM also presented their *Concept Paper on Proposed Industrial Forests* to Datu Len Talif Salleh, Assistant Minister of Environment on 23 May 2017.

Mesyuarat mengenai *Kertas Konsep Cadangan Hutan Industri, Pelan Strategi dan Tindakan untuk Pemulihan Landskap dan Hutan di Sarawak* telah diadakan oleh Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) pada 9 Mei 2017 di Wisma Sumber Alam, Kuching. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Encik Jack Liam, Pemangku Timbalan Pengarah I (Perancangan dan Operasi) FDS.

Delegasi dari Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) yang diketuai oleh Dato' Dr Nik Muhamad Bin Nik Abdul Majid. Beliau menyampaikan *Kertas Konsep mengenai Cadangan Hutan Industri*, matlamat model hutan industri adalah untuk membangunkan hutan industri yang mengambil kira alam sekitar, sosial-ekonomi dan produk bio-hutan yang boleh memberi manfaat kepada masyarakat, rakan industri dan Kerajaan Negeri.

Dr Riina Jalonen daripada Bioversity International membentangkan *Pelan Strategi dan Tindakan untuk Pemulihan Landskap dan Hutan di Sarawak*.

砂拉越森林局（FDS）于2017年5月9日在古晋资源大厦召开相关“工业森林概念文章”和“砂拉越森林和景观修复策略与行动计划”会议。会议由FDS代第一副局长杰克利亚姆先生主持。

由拿督尼莫哈莫德博士为首的马来西亚博特拉大学（UPM）代表团在会议中发表工业森林的概念文章。工业森林的目标是发展可以让社区、工业合作伙伴和州政府受益并包涵环境、社会经济和森林产品的工业森林模式。

来自Bioversity International的莉娜扎罗妮博士也在会议中发表砂拉越森林和景观修复策略与行动计划文章。

GST Appeal Tribunal Workshop

Deloitte Tax Services Sdn Bhd organised a *Goods and Services Tax (GST) Appeal Tribunal Workshop* on 19 May 2017 at Hilton Hotel, Kuching. The half-day Workshop was attended by approximately thirty (30) participants.

The speakers for this Workshop, Mr Abdul Ghafar bin Abdul Latif, GST Tribunal Deputy Chairman, Mr Indrasathi Muniandy, GST Tribunal Member and Mr Chandran TS Ramasamy, GST & Customs Director at Deloitte Malaysia, discussed the intricacies of the GST dispute resolution process of the GST Tribunal as well as shared their experiences and insights on the GST appeal and dispute resolution process.

The GST Appeal Tribunal was established on 1 April 2015 as an independent quasi-judicial body to hear appeals against the decisions of the Director General of Customs and to resolve any GST issues in an amicable and effective manner. The Tribunal consists of a Chairman, a Deputy Chairman and not less than five (5) members who hold office for a term not exceeding three (3) years and are eligible for reappointment for not more than 3 consecutive terms.

Businesses may lodge an appeal with the Tribunal on all matters relating to GST, except for the seventeen (17) matters specified in the Fourth Schedule of the Goods and Services Tax Act 2014, by filing Form B and paying a fee of RM200.00. The 17 matters specified in the Fourth Schedule include items such as compound offences, instalments, penalty, voluntary and group registration as well as special refund.

The speakers advised that businesses may apply to the Director General of Customs for a review of the decisions of the officers before lodging an appeal with the Tribunal, as they will lose the right to apply for review once an appeal is lodged with the Tribunal. Both parties may also opt to reach amicable settlement or agreement through Case Management Conference chaired by the Chairman of the Tribunal prior to the hearing.

The hearing of the cases shall be presided by a member of the Tribunal or a panel of up to 3 members. The appellant may conduct the case himself or he may appoint another person to do so on his behalf. The decision of the Tribunal shall be binding on all parties and deemed to be an order of a Session Court.

The speakers also shared with the participants of the Workshop some recent case decisions made by the Tribunal, some of which were ruled in favour of the appellants.

Deloitte Tax Services Sdn Bhd menganjurkan *Bengkel Tribunal Rayuan Cukai Barang dan Perkhidmatan (GST)* pada 19 Mei 2017 di Hotel Hilton, Kuching.

Tribunal Rayuan GST telah ditubuhkan pada 1 April 2015 sebagai badan separa kehakiman bebas untuk mendengar rayuan terhadap keputusan Ketua Pengarah Kastam serta untuk menyelesaikan apa-apa isu GST secara baik dan berkesan.

Perniagaan boleh mengemukakan rayuan dengan Tribunal merangkumi semua perkara yang berkaitan dengan GST, kecuali untuk 17 perkara yang dinyatakan dalam Jadual Ke-4 Akta Cukai Barang dan Perkhidmatan 2014.

Penceramah memberi nasihat bahawa perniagaan boleh memohon kepada Ketua Pengarah Kastam untuk semakan semula keputusan pegawai sebelum membuat rayuan kepada Tribunal, kerana mereka akan kehilangan hak untuk memohon kajian semula apabila suatu rayuan dikemukakan kepada Tribunal. Kedua-dua pihak boleh memilih untuk mencapai penyelesaian secara baik atau perjanjian melalui Persidangan Pengurusan Kes yang dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusi Tribunal sebelum perbincangan.

德勤税务服务有限公司于2017年5月19日假古晋希尔顿酒店举办消费税(GST)上诉审裁工作坊。

GST上诉审裁庭在2015年成立。它是独立的准司法机构，审理对关税局局长的决定提出上诉和以友好和有效方式解决任何GST问题。

商业者可在GST相关课题向审裁庭提出上诉，除了在2014年消费税法令第四附表规定的十七（17）个事项。

讲员劝勉商业者在还未向审裁庭提出上诉前，可以向关税局局长申请审查官员的决定。一旦向审裁庭提出上诉，商业者将失去申请审查决定的权利。双方也可在听证之前，通过由审裁主席主持的案件管理会议达成和解或协议。

Engagement Session on Issues Related to Employment of Expatriates and Foreign Workers

The Workforce Development Unit (WDU) in the Chief Minister's Department, Sarawak organised an engagement session with industry representatives and associations to identify issues related to the employment of expatriates and foreign workers on 8 May 2017 at M Hotel, Kuching. About fifty eight (58) representatives from Government agencies and employers' associations attended the Session. The session was chaired by Dr Abdul Rahman Deen, the Director of WDU.

Dr Abdul Rahman Deen informed the participants at the Session that the State Government is currently undertaking a review of the policies, procedures and processes related to the employment of expatriates and foreign workers by companies in Sarawak. The objective of the Session is to obtain inputs from participants which will be used later in a comprehensive lab session to revise the policies, procedures and processes.

The following were some of the issues presented by participants of the Session:

- a. Shortage of workers in various sectors, especially the oil palm and plantation industries;
- b. Delay in processing approval for the recruitment of foreign workers;
- c. Tedious procedures in recruitment of foreign workers such as application for labour licence, etc.;
- d. Age limit of foreign workers restricted to not more 45 years old;
- e. High visa levy for foreign workers;
- f. Delay and difficulties in the application and renewal of Employment Pass/Dependent Pass/Professional Pass for Expatriates; and
- g. Oil and Gas contract opportunities should be given to locals.

Participants at the Session had been requested to submit all inputs to Mr Kho Chiong Pun, WDU, Level 9 Wisma Bapa Malaysia, Petra Jaya, 93502 Kuching before **31 May 2017**.

Dr Abdul Rahman Deen also updated participants of the Session on the following information:

1. Importance of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET). The State Government is serious in promoting TVET.
2. Sarawak Skills Development Centre (PPKS) is currently working with the State Government to advance human capital development. PPKS offers many programmes to train the workforce and improve their competency level.
3. The State Government, together with partners from the industry have developed a special programme named

Graduate Enhancement Training Sarawak (GETS). GETS is an employability enhancement programme offered as part of the State Government's initiative to train unemployed diploma and degree holders to enhance their employability. The details of GETS are as follows:

- 12 months on-the-job internship for graduates to acquire industry-relevant skills and enhance employability
 - Incorporates 4 - 8 weeks of structured training
 - Participants of GETS will receive a minimum monthly training allowance of RM 1,000 (Degree holder) and RM 800 (Diploma holder) from companies that they are placed at,
 - Participating companies can claim the monthly allowance paid from the State Government upon furnishing the required reports, and
 - Participants of GETS may exit the programme earlier upon getting full-time employment
4. GETS Open Day is scheduled to be held on 10 June 2017. The State Government will inform the industries on this matter accordingly.

砂拉越首席部长属下劳工发展部 (WDU) 于2017年5月8日假古晋M酒店与业界和公会代表进行会议以商讨就业外籍职员和外劳课题。

会议旨在索取各方代表的建议。随后的综合考察会议将使用相关建议于修订政策, 程序和进程。会议代表须在2017年5月31日之前提交建议予相关部门。

Unit Pembangunan Tenaga Kerja (WDU) di Jabatan Ketua Menteri Sarawak telah mengadakan sesi pertemuan dengan wakil-wakil industri dan persatuan untuk mengenal pasti isu-isu yang berkaitan dengan pengambilan ekspatriat dan pekerja asing pada 8 Mei 2017 di M Hotel, Kuching.

Objektif Sesi adalah untuk mendapatkan input daripada peserta yang akan digunakan kemudian dalam sesi makmal yang komprehensif untuk mengkaji semula dasar, prosedur dan proses.

Peserta Sesi telah diminta untuk mengemukakan semua input sebelum **31 Mei 2017**.

Heart of Borneo Scientific Expedition, Long Banga Seminar 2017

Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), with the support from the Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources Sarawak (formerly known as the Ministry of Resource Planning and Environment Sarawak) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Malaysia organised the *Sarawak Heart of Borneo (HoB) Scientific Expedition, Long Banga Seminar 2017* from 3 to 4 May 2017 at the Imperial Hotel, Kuching.

Tuan Haji Sapuan Ahmad, the Director of Forests Sarawak in his welcoming speech informed participants of the Seminar that the 14-day scientific expedition, involving more than 100 botanists, zoologists, geologists and sociologists were conducted in August 2016, with the objectives to evaluate the biodiversity, tourism potential and threats to the area. He further mentioned that the theme of the Seminar, "*Where The Beat Goes On*" is intended to put emphasis on the importance of continuing the conservation efforts in HoB, nine (9) years after the conservation agreement was signed by the governments of Brunei, Indonesia and Malaysia on 12 February 2007 to demonstrate their commitments.

Datuk Amar Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, the Chief Minister of Sarawak, in his opening speech, read by Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, Deputy Chief Minister of Sarawak, Second Minister of Urban Development and Natural Resources Sarawak cum Minister of Industrial and Entrepreneur Development, shared with participants of the Seminar several of the State's commitments and policies

as part of the State's strategy to achieve sustainable land use and forest management goals. These comprise the extension of the current 942,000 hectares (ha) of Totally Protected Areas (TPAs), including water bodies to 1 million ha by the year 2020; the mandatory requirement of Forest Management Certification (FMC) for all timber concession areas located within the HoB by July 2017; open door policy for scientific studies to be carried out in the State's bio-rich areas and no more issuance of new timber licenses except for areas earmarked for development.

The three (3) sessions of the Seminar saw a total of twenty two (22) presentations of findings from the scientific expedition which includes among many others the sighting of a species of moss which was thought to have gone extinct.



Photo: Participants at the seminar

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak dengan sokongan daripada Kementerian Pembangunan Bandar dan Sumber Asli (dahulunya dikenali sebagai Kementerian Perancangan Sumber dan Alam Sekitar Sarawak) dan Kementerian Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar Malaysia telah menganjurkan *Seminar Ekspedisi Saintifik Long Banga, Heart of Borneo (HoB)* dari 3 hingga 4 Mei 2017 di Hotel Imperial, Kuching.

Tuan Haji Sapuan Ahmad, Pengarah Hutan Sarawak dalam ucapan alu-aluannya memaklumkan peserta Seminar bahawa ekspedisi saintifik selama 14 hari tersebut yang melibatkan lebih 100 ahli botani, zoology, geologi dan sosiologi telah dijalankan pada Ogos 2016 dengan objektif untuk menilai biodiversiti dan potensi sebagai pusat pelancongan di samping mengenalpasti ancaman yang dihadapi kawasan tersebut. Beliau turut mengetengahkan bahawa tema Seminar, "*Where the Beat Goes On*" adalah bertujuan untuk memberi penekanan terhadap kepentingan usaha pemuliharaan di HoB diteruskan, 9 tahun selepas perjanjian pemuliharaan ditandatangani oleh kerajaan Brunei, Indonesia dan Malaysia pada 12 Februari 2007 untuk menunjukkan komitmen kerajaan masing-masing.

砂拉越森林局 (FDS) 在城市发展和自然资源部 (旧称砂资源规划和环境部) 和马来西亚自然资源和环境部的支持下于2017年5月3日至4日假古晋帝国酒店举办婆罗洲之心隆邦加科学考察研讨会。

砂森林局长沙布安阿末先生在致辞时告知参与者, 这14天科学考察活动涉及100多位植物学家, 动物学家, 地质学家和社会学家。这于2016年8月进行和旨在评估生物多样性, 该地区的旅游潜力和其威胁。局长进一步提及研讨会主题“持续继承”, 旨在强调汶莱, 印尼和马来西亚在2007年2月12日签署保护协议9年之后, 乃继续婆罗洲之心保护工作的重要承诺。

National Consultation on REDD+ Strategy



Photo: Participants of the National Consultation

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) Malaysia conducted the *National Stakeholders Consultation on REDD+ Strategy* from 25 to 26 May 2017 at Bayview Hotel, Pulau Langkawi, Kedah. The two-day event was attended by participants from various government agencies and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). REDD is an acronym for “Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation of Forests” and the “+” in REDD+ refers to the comprehensive approach which includes the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.

The objective of this National Consultation is to share and fine-tune the National REDD+ Strategy that has been prepared after the three (3) stakeholders’ Consultations in the 3 regions of Malaysia. This Session also served as one of the capacity building activities for the key stakeholders to implement REDD+ in Malaysia.

马来西亚天然资源与环境部(NRE)于2017年5月25日至26日假吉打婆罗交怡岛湾景酒店举办REDD +策略国家利益相关者磋商会。

这全国磋商会旨在分享和微调经过国家3个区域个别的利益相关者磋商会所预备的国家REDD +策略。同时，也是主要利益相关者能力建设活动之一，以实践在我国的REDD +机制。

NRE之REDD单位主任，伊丽莎白菲力博士呈报我国所履行的REDD+。她告知参与者各州森林局在国家REDD +策略发展规划和政策或州REDD+政策的指导下将实践REDD+活动。

Dr Elizabeth Philip, Head of REDD Unit in the Ministry of NRE presented on the REDD+ implementation in Malaysia. She informed the participants of the Session that REDD+ activities will be implemented by the respective State Forestry Departments, guided by the National REDD+ Strategy, State’s Development Plan and Policies or State REDD+ Policy. The result-based actions from the State’s Development Plan and Policies will be accounted for, at the national level. She also mentioned that the National REDD+ Strategy and Action Plans are built upon existing relevant policies and based upon the best practices related to forest management systems used in the country. This Strategy is updated in line with Malaysia’s Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement. Implementing the Strategy will contribute to the following national targets:

- a. maintaining 50% forest cover;
- b. achieving the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) pledge made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Paris Agreement for the period 2020-2030;
- c. achieving National Policy on Biological Diversity (2016-2025); and
- d. fulfilling forest policies.

There are five (5) chapters in the *Draft National REDD+ Strategy*; namely Introduction, Implementation Framework, Actions and Targets, REDD+ Safeguards and Sustainable Financing. The participants of the Session actively discussed and went through the document thoroughly.

Kementerian Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar Malaysia telah menjalankan *Perundingan Kebangsaan Pihak Berkepentingan berkaitan Strategi REDD+* dari 25 hingga 26 Mei 2017 di Hotel Bayview, Pulau Langkawi, Kedah.

Objektif Perundingan Nasional tersebut adalah untuk berkongsi dan menala halus Strategi Kebangsaan REDD+ yang terhasil dari 3 perundingan pihak berkepentingan di 3 rantau di Malaysia. Sesi tersebut juga bertindak sebagai salah satu aktiviti membina kapasiti pihak berkepentingan dalam usaha melaksanakan REDD+ di Malaysia.

Dr Elizabeth Philip, Ketua Unit REDD di Kementerian Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar Malaysia, membentangkan pelaksanaan REDD+ di Malaysia. Beliau memaklumkan peserta sesi bahawa aktiviti REDD+ akan dilaksanakan oleh Jabatan Perhutanan Negeri masing-masing berpandukan Pelan dan Polisi Pembangunan Strategi Kebangsaan REDD+, Pelan Pembangunan Negeri dan Dasar atau Polisi Negeri REDD+.

Meeting on the Implementation of Section 60A Labour Ordinance (Sarawak Cap 76)

The Labour Department Sarawak (LDS) called a meeting to discuss matters relating to the implementation of *Section 60A Labour Ordinance (Sarawak Cap 76)* on 23 May 2017 at LDS office in Kuching. Approximately twenty eight (28) representatives from Government agencies and employers' association attended the Meeting. The Meeting was chaired by Mr Jack Meredu Anak Ko, Director of Labour Department Sarawak.

Mr Jack Meredu Anak Ko informed participants of the Meeting that LDS wants all employers to comply with the requirements of Section 60A as LDS faces problem of identifying the employer whenever there is a need to contact them. LDS is currently carrying out an awareness campaign on this Section through the distribution of pamphlets/ brochures, media releases and specially-organised workshops/briefings.

Mr Phang Pin, officer of LDS gave a presentation on *Section 60A Labour Ordinance (Sarawak Cap 76)*. He highlighted that Form JTKSWK 60A must be completed by any person or employer who proposes to operate any agricultural, forestry or industrial undertaking where any commerce, trade, profession or business is carried on. This form must be submitted to the nearest Labour Office within ninety (90) days of commencement of business or whenever there is any takeover of business or change of name or location of such undertaking. Failure to do so is an offence under *Section 130E of Labour Ordinance (Sarawak Cap 76)*. He also mentioned that employers who have business at different locations will have to fill in the form separately for each location.

Mr Jack Meredu Anak Ko further explained that employers who have employees earning below RM2,500.00 a month and are covered by the Sarawak Labour Ordinance must register with LDS. The grace period given by LDS for these companies to register is by the end of October 2017, otherwise, a penalty of not exceeding RM10,000.00 shall be imposed for non-compliance.

Form JTKSWK 60A can be downloaded at www.jtkswk.gov.my. Participants of the Meeting were requested to submit the form to Labour Department Sarawak, Ministry of Human Resource, Level 13, Bangunan Sultan Iskandar, Jalan Simpang Tiga, 93532 Kuching by hand or email to jtknsarawak@mohr.gov.my before 31 October 2017.

Jabatan Tenaga Kerja Sarawak (LDS) mengadakan mesyuarat untuk membincangkan perkara yang berkaitan dengan pelaksanaan *Seksyen 60A Ordinan Buruh (Sarawak Cap 76)* pada 23 Mei 2017 di pejabat LDS, Kuching. Mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh Encik Jack Meredu Anak Ko, Pengarah Jabatan Tenaga Kerja.

Encik Jack Meredu memaklumkan kepada peserta bahawa LDS mahu semua majikan mematuhi keperluan Seksyen 60A berikutan LDS menghadapi masalah untuk mengenal pasti majikan yang terdapat keperluan untuk menghubungi mereka.

Borang JTKSWK 60A lengkap hendaklah dikemukakan kepada Pejabat Tenaga Kerja yang terdekat dalam tempoh 90 hari dari tarikh permulaan perniagaan atau apabila terdapat sebarang pengambilalihan perniagaan atau pertukaran nama atau lokasi aku janji itu.

砂拉越劳工局(LDS)于2017年5月23日假古晋LDS办事处召开会议商讨有关执行劳工条例第60A条文（砂拉越第76章）课题。

LDS局长杰克莫勒杜先生主席该会议并告知参与者该局要所有的雇主执行第60A条文的要求。LDS在联络雇主方面面对问题。

雇主在开始营业或有任何接管业务或更改名字或地点的90天内，必须填妥JTKSWK 60A表格，并提交于邻近的劳工办事处。

Sarawak – Hungary Business Forum

The Ministry of Industrial and Entrepreneur Development, Trade and Investment (MIETI) Sarawak, in collaboration with the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) Sarawak organised the “*Sarawak – Hungary Business Forum*” on 2 May 2017 at the Pullman Hotel, Kuching. The Forum was attended by more than thirty (30) representatives from various government agencies, chambers of commerce, trade associations and private sectors.

The Forum, held in conjunction with the working visit of Mr Attila Káli, the Hungarian Ambassador to Malaysia to Kuching, was aimed at sharing information on the business and investment opportunities in Hungary to the Sarawak business community as well as for him to gain further insights on the business and investment opportunities in Sarawak.

In his welcoming remarks, Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, the Second Minister for Resource Planning and Environment as well as Minister of MIETI Sarawak, highlighted that Malaysia is one of Hungary’s largest trading partners in South East Asia, ranking 41st in 2015, with industry worth RM1.76 billion. The major exports from Malaysia to Hungary are machinery, electronic and electrical products and components, food as well as medical equipment worth RM1.76 billion, while another RM589 million came from the sale of machinery, aeroplane and helicopter parts, electronic and electrical products & components as well as minerals.

Mr Attila Káli shared with participants of the Forum, the economic overview of Hungary as well as business opportunities between Sarawak and Hungary in green technology, water management and technology transfer in various industries.

This was followed by a dialogue and discussion session. Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan suggested that Malaysia and Hungary should strengthen the cooperation between both countries in tourism sector, oil and gas industry, hydropower etc.

Participants of the Forum also highlighted some potential industries for both Sarawak and Hungary to collaborate such as, those in the digital economy, Information Communication Technology (ICT) as well as timber and timber-based industry.

砂拉越工业和企业家发展与贸易投资部 (MIETI) 连同国际贸易与工业部 (MITI) 于2017年5月2日假古晋铂尔曼酒店举办“砂拉越 - 匈牙利商业论坛”。

该论坛是在匈牙利驻马来西亚大使阿提拉·卡利先生到古晋进行工作访问时进行。大使与砂拉越商业界分享在匈牙利的商业和投资机会同时也进一步了解砂拉越商业和投资机会。

大使讲解关于匈牙利的经济概况以及砂拉越和匈牙利之间在绿色技术，水原管理和各行业技术转让方面的商机。

Kementerian Perindustrian dan Pembangunan Usahawan, Perdagangan dan Pelaburan Sarawak, dengan kerjasama Kementerian Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri telah menganjurkan “*Forum Perniagaan Sarawak-Hungary*” pada 2 May 2017 di Hotel Pullman, Kuching.

Forum tersebut diadakan sempena lawatan kerja Duta Besar Hungary ke Malaysia, En Attila Káli ke Kuching untuk berkongsi peluang perniagaan dan pelaburan di Hungary kepada komuniti perniagaan Sarawak dan juga untuk beliau mendapatkan pandangan lanjut mengenai perniagaan dan peluang pelaburan di Sarawak.

Mr Attila Káli berkongsi gambaran ekonomi Hungary dengan peserta Forum, serta peluang perniagaan antara Sarawak dan Hungary dalam teknologi hijau, pengurusan air dan pemindahan teknologi dalam pelbagai industri.

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

Region	February '17	February '16	March '17	March '16	April '17	April '16	Jan - Apr '17	Jan - Apr '16
	Vol (m ³)	Vol (m ³)	Vol (m ³)	Vol (m ³)	Vol (m ³)	Vol (m ³)	Vol (m ³)	Vol (m ³)
Kuching (ACMG)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
(ALBZ)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Sibu (ACMG)	561	1,123	1,771	471	4,009	2,258	8,196	5,144
(ALBZ)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Bintulu (ACMG)	103,076	92,923	154,533	91,922	134,313	120,238	507,579	389,441
(ALBZ)	3,301	2,398	4,371	4,511	2,458	3,839	13,925	12,434
Miri (ACMG)	240	188	423	688	72	705	1,252	1,818
(ALBZ)	919	1,098	858	922	919	332	3,032	2,948
Subtotal (ACMG)	103,877	94,235	156,727	93,080	138,394	123,201	517,027	396,403
(ALBZ)	4,220	3,496	5,229	5,433	3,377	4,170	16,957	15,382
Total:	108,097	97,730	161,956	98,514	141,771	127,371	533,984	411,786

Source of data: Sarawak Forestry Corporation Sdn Bhd

* ACMG - *Acacia mangium*
 ALBZ - *Albizia*



Wishing all Members and Readers

*Selamat Gawai Dayak Gayu Guru, Gerai Nyamai
 &
 Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri*

From the Chairman, Council Members, Management and
 Staff of STA, STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd and STA Training Sdn Bhd

Pengerusi, Ahli-Ahli Majlis, pihak Pengurusan dan Kakitangan STA,
 STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd dan STA Training Sdn Bhd ingin mengucapkan
 Selamat Gawai Dayak Gayu Guru, Gerai Nyamai dan Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri
 kepada semua ahli STA dan para pembaca

本会主席, 理事会, 管理委员会, 秘书处,
 STA Enterprises有限公司, STA Mutual有限公司及STA Training有限公司
 全体职员在此祝愿所有会员和读者丰收节与开斋节愉快