

STA Review

Volume 171 PPK 174/4/2008 Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association

November 2007

62nd STA Council Meeting

Majlis STA telah mengadakan mesyuarat di luar Kuching buat kali pertama. Mesyuarat ke-62 ini diadakan di Miri, Sarawak pada 23 November 2007 yang dipengerusikan oleh Datuk Leo Chai dan dihadiri oleh 17 Ahli Majlis.

Mesyuarat memutuskan agar mengadakan Mesyuarat Luarbiasa Umum Persatuan pada 15 Januari 2008 untuk menimbang pindaan ke atas Memorandum dan Artikel Persatuan.

Majlis juga membincang hal-hal pentadbiran dan kewangan Persatuan dan tiga buah anak syarikatnya.

■ The Council for the first time in November held its Meeting outside Kuching. The 62nd Meeting was held in Miri, Sarawak on 23 November 2007. It presided by Datuk Leo Chai, the Chairman, and was attended by 17 Council Members.

The Meeting approved the proposed amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association (M&A) of the Association. The Meeting resolved to call an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the Association on 15 January 2008 for this effect.

The Council approved a budget of about RM18 million for the recurrent work of the Association and its three wholly-owned companies, namely STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) and STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd (STAE) for the year 2008. The Association through STAT will implement a new training skills set on Planted Forests Establishment.

The Council also deliberated on administrative and financial matters of the Association and its three wholly-own companies.

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Picture: Group photo of STA Council Members at the 62nd Council Meeting

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11 new applications for membership were approved by the Council. ❁

Right: Meeting in progress



New Members

■ STA extends a warm welcome to the following new Associate Members. ❁

Company Name	Official Category	Representative
Kelana Logging Sdn Bhd (691047 T)	Hill Logging	Mr. Ling Chii Huo
Solid Hartabina Sdn Bhd (733852 K)	Hill Logging	Mr. Ho Kian Sin, Philip
GT Plantation Sdn Bhd (751042 K)	Forest Plantation	Mr. Ling Chii Huo
Limba Jaya Timber Sdn Bhd (647799 A)	Forest Plantation	Mr. Tiang Chiin Yew
KTS Agriculture Management Sdn Bhd (68237 X)	Forest Plantation	Ms. Tang Hie Lee, Teresa
Prisma Juta Sdn Bhd (270043 X)	Forest Plantation	YBhg Dato Lau Lee Kong, Henry
Samantulang Sdn Bhd (46603 D)	Forest Plantation	Mr. Lau Lee Kiong
Fuchance Sdn Bhd (48455 T)	Forest Plantation	Ms. Lau Kor See, Adeline
Sunny Crops Sdn Bhd (49623 T)	Forest Plantation	Ms. Tang Hie Lee, Teresa
Golden Fruit Plantation Sdn Bhd (47926 U)	Forest Plantation	Ms. Lau Kor See, Adeline
Permata Ramah Sdn Bhd (736620 T)	Forest Plantation	Mr. Ling Chii Huo

STA mengalu-alukan penyertaan 11 Ahli Persekutuan baru seperti dijadual.

19th STA Management Committee Meeting

Jawatankuasa Pengurusan STA telah mengadakan Mesyuarat ke-19nya pada 20 November 2007 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Jawatankuasa membincangkan hal-hal kewangan Persatuan dan tiga buah anak syarikatnya.

■ The STA Management Committee had its 19th Meeting on 20 November 2007 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Meeting was presided by Datuk Leo Chai, the Chairman of STA. The Committee considered and

deliberated on the financial matters of the Association and its three wholly-owned companies, STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) and STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd (STAE) . ❁



Picture: Meeting in progress

Mesyuarat Luarbiasa Umum STA akan diadakan pada pukul 10.30 pagi hari Selasa, 15 Januari 2008 pada di Wisma STA, Kuching untuk mempertimbangkan pindaan ke atas Memorandum dan Artikel Persatuan.

NOTICE

STA Extraordinary General Meeting

Date: Tuesday, 15 January 2008

Time: 10.30 am

Venue: Level 4, Wisma STA, Kuching

Official Notice of the Extraordinary General Meeting of Members of the Sarawak Timber Association (EGM) will be issued in December 2007. This EGM is called for the purpose of voting on the proposed amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Association. Details of the amendments will be sent to Members together with the Official Notice of Meeting.

STA Panel Products Committee Meeting

■ The Panel Products Committee met on 9 November 2007 at Wisma STA, Kuching presided by Mr. Stephen Lau, the Committee Chairman.

The Committee discussed the current log situation in Sarawak where there is sufficient supply of logs but at higher prices. Members also exchanged market reports especially on the Japan market with

respect to production volume, pricing, market stability and compensation. Also discussed was the Middle East market. At the meeting, the Committee were informed that the next Tri-Nation's Meeting will be held on 21 April 2008 at a venue to be announced later.

The Committee also deliberated on the Committee's Annual Budget for 2008. ❁



Left: Members of the Committee exchanging market information

Jawatankuasa Hasil-Hasil Panel bermesyuarat pada 9 November 2007 di Wisma STA dipengerusikan oleh Encik Stephen Lau selaku Pengerusi Jawatankuasa.

Ahli-ahli Jawatankuasa membincangkan keadaan bekalan balak di Sarawak dan bertukar maklumat tentang pasaran Jepun dan Timur Tengah.

Jawatankuasa diberitahu bahawa Mesyuarat Tiga Negara akan diadakan pada 21 April 2008 di suatu tempat yang akan ditetapkan kelak. Jawatankuasa juga telah meluluskan Belanjawan Tahunan Jawatankuasa bagi 2008.

STA Membership Renewal

Members are reminded that all STA Membership will expire on **31 December 2007**. Notices for renewal of STA Memberships had been sent out to all Members on 31 October 2007.

All payments for renewal of membership are due on **1 January 2008**. However, in accordance to Article 4(d) of STA Memorandum and Articles of Association [page 22 of Tenth Printing, September 2003], members are given a grace period of up to **31 January 2008** to effect the payment.

STA Membership will only be renewed once all the required supporting document(s) and the correct subscription payment are received. Payment should be by a crossed cheque made payable to "Sarawak Timber Association".

Semua keahlian STA akan tamat pada 31 Disember 2007. Notis pemberitahuan pembaruan telah dihantar kepada semua ahli pada 31 Oktober 2007. Semua bayaran yuran perlu dibuat selewat-lewatnya pada 1 Januari 2008.

STA Tea Talk - Kuching Wetlands National Park

STA telah menganjurkan 'Tea Talk' pada 3 November 2007 di Wisma STA, Kuching. Penceramah jemputan adalah Encik Sia Puon Chiew, Penolong Pengurus, Kawasan Tadahan Air dan Hidrologi, Unit Perniagaan Sains Perhutanan Gunaan & Pembangunan Industri Sarawak Forestry Corporation yang bertemakan Taman Negara "Kuching Wetlands". Ceramah dihadiri oleh lebih kurang 60 orang peserta. Taman Negara ini terletak di 1°36' - 1°44' N, 110°11' - 110°20' E, lebih kurang 15km NNW dari Kuching, muara Sungai Sarawak, dikelilingi oleh Gunung Santubong di timur laut dan Gunung Serapi di barat daya.

Taman seluas 6,610 hektar mengandungi hutan bakau pada paras laut dan hutan kerangas seluas 980 hektar di kawasan yang lebih tinggi dan kawasan air dan lumpur seluas 1,060 hektar. Terdapat rangkaian saluran air dan anak sungai pasang surut yang luas yang bergabung dengan Sungai Sibu Laut, Sungai Semariang dan Batang Salak, menghasilkan ekosistem yang mempunyai nilai ekologi dan sosio-ekonomi yang tinggi.

■ STA organised a STA Tea Talk on 3 November 2007 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The invited speaker was Mr. Sia Puon Chiew, Assistant Manager, Watershed and Hydrology, Applied Forest Science and Industry Development Business Unit of Sarawak Forestry Corporation. He talked on the Kuching Wetlands National Park. The talk was attended by approximately 60 people.

Kuching Wetlands National Park is located at 1°36' - 1°44'N, 110°11' - 110°20' E, about 15 km NNW of Kuching, at the estuary of the Sarawak River, flanked by the majestic Mount Santubong on the northeast and Mount Serapi on the southwest.

The Park is a 6,610-hectare deltaic ecosystem, most of which is covered by Mangrove Forests near to the sea level with 980 hectares of Kerangas Forest at the higher elevated ground in the interior, and 1,060 hectares of water bodies and mudflats. There is an extensive network of marine waterways and tidal creeks interconnecting the rivers of Sungai Sibu Laut, Sungai

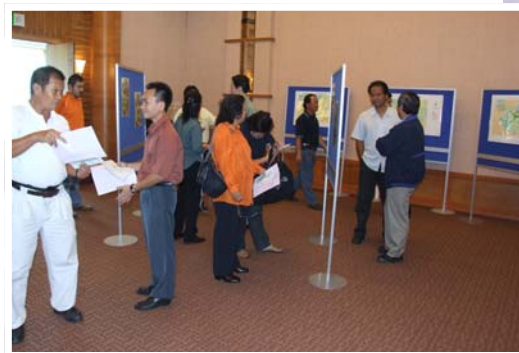
Semariang and Batang Salak, resulting in a balanced ecosystem of high ecological and socio-economic values.

The mangrove vegetation of the Kuching Wetlands National Park is dominated by Bakau minyak (*Rhizophora apiculata*), Nyireh bunga (*Xylocarpus granatum*) and Berus lenggadai (*Bruguiera parviflora*), interspersed with small areas of Nipah (*Nypa fruticans*). Fringing the waterways is the *Avicennia alba* - *Sonneratia alba* association. Other common genera in the Park include *Ceriops*, *Excoecaria* and *Lumnitzera*.

The Mangrove Forest is an important constituent of the wetland marine ecosystem with ecological, social-economic and commercial influence on settlements around the Park. It is a nutrient-rich resource that doubles as a nursery ground for shrimps and many commercial fish species. Pure stands of Perepat (*Sonneratia alba*) face the seafront with Api-Api hitam (*Avicennia alba*) emerging above the shore. Occurring along the fringe of salinity influences is the palm *Nyipa fruticans*, locally

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Right and below: A mini poster exhibition and some specimens collected from the Park



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known as Nipah or Apong. The species is usually found in dense clumps and can grow to 19 metres in height. Some local communities process brown sugar from its inflorescences and salt from its leaves.

The Kerangas Forest is generally dominated by dense stand of slender poles and young saplings with very few trees of large girth. Some of the easily distinguished tree species are the Dipterocarps, Somah (*Ploiarium alternifolium*), Sempilor (*Dacrydium* spp.), Rhu (*Casuarina* spp.) and Geronggang (*Cratoxylum* spp.). Pitcher plants (*Nepenthes* spp.) and

Pandan Laut also occur in the park.

The Park is also home to troops of Long-nose or Proboscis monkey (*Nasalis larvatus*) and Silverleaf monkey (*Presbytis cristata*). Commonly seen along the riverbanks are estuarine crocodiles (*Crocodylus porosus*). 🌿

The Park is approximately 25 minutes drive from Kuching city centre to the nearest village, Semariang Batu, or 45 minutes drive to Telaga Air Village on the western side of the Park.

Note: The presentation is available for viewing at the STA Exhibition Centre.

Train-the-Trainers Workshop

■ The Association through its wholly-owned company, STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) conducted the first Train - the - Trainer Workshop for the Rubber Tyred Front End loader (Log Loader) skills set from 12 to 15 November 2007 in Sibu. The four-day course covered topics on "Effective Speaking" and "Delivering on-job Training to Adults". There were also group discussions on some of the problems expected to be encountered as a trainer and how best to manage these various unexpected training eventualities. The program also highlighted the need for keeping accurate training records, and how to complete the required training documentation.

The main thrust of the Train - the - Trainer Workshop was to help the trainers establish good "communication" between the trainee and the trainer. Understanding some of the dynamics when speaking to a group of people, and acquiring new skills will give them more confidence when delivering training to new and experienced operators.

With training, it is important to

have a clear understanding of the training material so that operators can be taught and trained on the correct procedures for professionally operating expensive machinery that will, in the long term, improve productivity, reduce maintenance costs, and enhance operator skills for a more profitable work force.

The major importance of Safety and Hazard Identification within the working environment was also highlighted. The workshop gave all candidates a reality check on how they will need to develop their own skills to be effective trainers.

Another key point that was explored was the level of experience they all possess, and how this experience will aid the potential trainers in carrying out training.

This workshop is intended to give the Trainers an insight into being prepared for the unexpected when carrying out training and how we can best use our own experience, to handle any situation. Overall it was a good start to a training career for the trainers, who were enthusiastic and

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STA Training Sdn Bhd telah mengadakan Bengkel Pertama Melatih Jurulatih untuk Jentera Pemuat dari 12-15 November 2007 di Sibu.

Intisari utama Bengkel ini adalah untuk membantu pelatih mendapat kemahiran komunikasi antara jurulatih pelatih. Bengkel ini bertujuan memberikan gambaran kepada jurulatih supaya sentiasa siapsedia untuk perkara yang tidak diduga semasa menjalankan latihan dan bagaimana menggunakan pengalaman yang sedia ada untuk mengatasi sebarang keadaan.

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excited with all of them deriving positive outcome.

The next step for these new trainers will be to train a minimum of two operators, with STAT carrying out the onsite assessments on the Trainer and Operators in 2008. Once

STAT received confirmation in writing from the Trainers that their operators are competent in Log loading and the relevant documentation has been completed, then STAT Assessors will proceed with the onsite assessment. ❁



Left: Group photo of trainers with the trainees

Persidangan Kebangsaan Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia 2007 telah diadakan dari 19-20 November 2007 di Kuala Lumpur dengan tema "Mempertingkatkan Saingan melalui Teknologi dan Pembaharuan Undang-undang - Untuk 50 Tahun Berikutnya." STA diwakili di Persidangan ini oleh satu rombongan merangkumi lima orang.

MEF National Conference 2007

■ The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) National Conference 2007 was held from 19 to 20 November in Kuala Lumpur with the theme "Enhancing Competitiveness through Technology and Law Reforms - The Next 50 Years". This conference was attended by a delegation of five people from the STA Labour (Industrial Relations) Committee.

The objectives of the conference were:

- To review current and proposed labour reforms while evaluating the influence of technology for the next 50 years.
- To evaluate key success factors for managing a successful business.
- An introduction to the advent of

technology in the Courts' system.

- To identify trends in relation to labour requirements to enhance competitiveness.

There were a number of presentations that were relevant which are aligned towards labour reforms.

The overall sentiment of the presenters and the participants was that there is a need for labour reforms in terms of promoting labour market flexibilities in the wake of increasing global competition. International investors find Malaysian laws too rigid in the IT and chemicals sector. ❁

Note: Copies of papers presented are available from the STA Secretariat at nominal printing cost. The papers are also available for viewing at the STA Exhibition Centre.

AFSID Seminar

■ Sarawak aims to establish one million hectares of planted forests by the year 2020 to cater for the long-term production of timber. When fully planted, the projected annual timber production is expected to be approximately 25 million cubic metres. This was disclosed by Mr. Nigel Lim, the General Manager of Applied Forest Science and Industry Development Unit of Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC) in his speech when officiating the Applied Forest Science Research Seminar 2007 held at Wisma STA, Kuching.

The two-day research seminar from 1 to 2 November 2007 organised by SFC, the third in the series, focused on 'Catalysing Planted Forest Development and Biodiversity Conservation'. Much awareness is needed among industry players, planters and the public at large to support its development. Mr.

Lim pointed out that at the end of 2006, the State government had issued 38 licences for planted forests covering an estimated plantable area of 1.2 million hectares.

Over the past few years, the planted forest programme in Sarawak has concentrated exclusively on the planting *Acacia mangium*. Lately with the advancement in Research and Development (R&D) for indigenous species, local species such as Kelampayan, Sawih, Meranti Sarang Punai and Kapur Bukit, have also generated a lot of interest among the licencees.

Mr. Lim said SFC placed very high emphasis on the value of knowledge-based training and its training centre caters for both its employees as well as for the timber and plantation industries. The courses are designed to meet the increasing demands of the industries

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Right: Mr. Nigel Lim, the General Manager of Applied Forest Science and Industry Development Unit officiating the seminar witnessed by Mr. Kandaou Jenang



Left: Participants at the seminar

Sarawak Forestry Corporation menganjurkan Seminar Penyelidikan Sains Perhutanan Gunaan dari 1 hingga 2 November 2007, siri ke-tiga, bertemakan 'Catalysing Planted Forest Development and Biodiversity Conservation' di Wisma STA, Kuching.

Seminar ini dihadiri oleh lebih kurang 100 orang penyelidik, ahli saintis, pendidik dan pegawai dari industri hutan dan perladangan. Seminar ini mempersembahkan maklumat terbaru berkaitan dengan pemuliharaan hutan, biodiversiti, alam sekitar dan pembangunan produk hutan. Ia juga memupuk kerjasama penyelidikan antara golongan penyelidik dan industri.

Dua puluh empat buah kertas kerja dibentangkan dalam lima sesi - Penggunaan Ladang Hutan, Teknik Pembiakan dan DNA, Perosak dan Penyakit, Silvikultur dan Pemuliharaan Biodiversiti. Selain dari itu, 26 buah kertas maklumat diedarkan dan satu sesi poster diadakan.

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on know-how to better manage their industries through R&D applications.

This research seminar was attended by over 100 researchers, scientists, academicians and officials from the related forestry and plantation industries. A total of twenty-four papers were presented over five sessions - Planted Forest Utilisation, Propagation Techniques and DNA, Pest and Diseases, Silviculture and Biodiversity Conservation. There were also presentations by higher learning institutions including UNIMAS, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and Universiti Putra Malaysia

(UPM) and other research organisations such as Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) and Grand Perfect Sdn Bhd from the plantation industry.

There were nine poster presentations and six information papers. The seminar endeavoured to explore and update results and findings related to forest conservation, biodiversity, environment and forest products development. It also promoted and enhanced research co-operation and collaboration among the research fraternity, industry players and other stakeholders. ❁

International Conference on Natural Resources and Environmental Management and Environmental Safety and Health 2007

Persidangan Antarabangsa Pengurusan Sumber Asli dan Alam Sekitar dan Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Alam Sekitar 2007 telah diadakan dari 27 hingga 29 November 2007 di Kuching, Sarawak. Persidangan ini memberi peluang kepada peserta untuk berkongsi pengalaman dan pengetahuan teknikal tentang penggunaan sumber asli secara mampan melalui teknologi hijau dan prinsip keselamatan dan kesihatan alam sekitar.

■ The International Conference on Natural Resources and Environmental Management and Environmental Safety and Health 2007 (NREM & ESH 2007) was held in Kuching, Sarawak from 27 to 29 November 2007. The Conference was jointly organised by the Ministry of Environmental and Public Health, Sarawak, the Natural Resources and Environmental Board, Sarawak, the Institut Kimia Malaysia and the Universiti Malaysia Sarawak and sponsored by Gladioli Enterprise Sdn Bhd, Hock Peng Realty Sdn Bhd and RH Plantation Sdn Bhd.

The Conference officiated by YB Dato Sri Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hassan, the Second Minister of Planning and Resource Management and the Minister of Public Utilities was attended by approximately 160 participants, both local and international, comprising scientists, environmental managers and

personnel, municipal councillors, NGOs and students.

This Conference provided a forum for participants from the various disciplines all over the world to share their experiences and technical knowledge on promoting and exercising sustainable utilisation of natural resources through green technology and environmental safety and health.

A total of 77 papers were submitted. However, only around 50 papers were presented over four sessions with the themes; (i) Natural Resources and Environment Management, (ii) Water and Wastewater Management, (iii) Green Technology and (iv) Environmental Safety and Health. ❁

Note: Copies of papers presented are available from the STA Secretariat at nominal printing cost. The papers are also available for viewing at the STA Exhibition Centre.

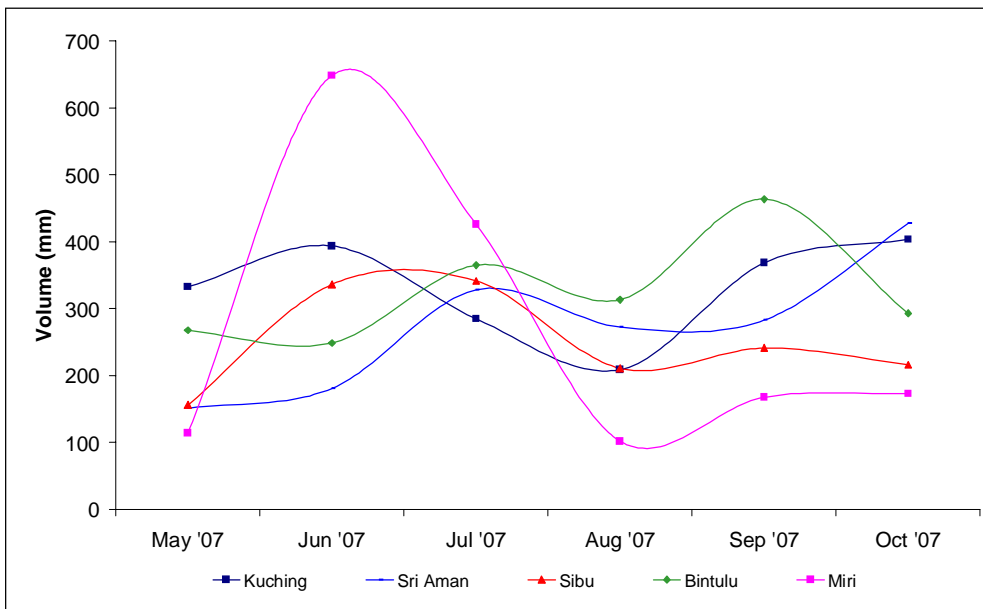


From Chairman, Council Members and Staff of STA

Pengerusi, Ahli-ahli Majlis serta kakitangan STA ingin mengucapkan Selamat Hari Natal dan Selamat Tahun Baru kepada semua ahli STA dan para pembaca



Rainfall : May - October '07 Kadar Hujan Bulanan



Source : Malaysian Meteorological Services.

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