



PRESS RELEASE **(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)**

Presentation Ceremony of Sarawak Timber Association's Financial Contributions to Social & Welfare Organisations in Conjunction with the 81st Birthday Celebration of His Excellency The Governor of Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud

Sarawak Timber Association (STA), in collaboration with Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) organised a "*Presentation Ceremony of Sarawak Timber Association's Financial Contributions to Social & Welfare Organisations*" in conjunction with the 81st Birthday Celebration of His Excellency The Governor of Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud at Pullman Hotel, Kuching on 14 September 2017.

Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong, Honorary Secretary of STA in his welcoming speech highlighted that His Excellency's farsighted vision and support in the last three (3) decades had enabled the industry to steer and chart not only progresses but also overcome many challenges such as rising costs, volatility of markets and non-governmental organisation (NGO) attacks.

Datuk Patinggi Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Chief Minister of Sarawak, in his speech read by Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, Deputy Chief Minister also acknowledged contributions and strong foundation laid by His Excellency as significant contributors to the development of timber industry in the State. He also urged the timber industry players to take up the challenge set forth by the State Government to adopt latest high technology in running their operation. This will help expedite the digital economy embarked by the State Government and at the same time ensuring that the timber industry remains relevant.

The auspicious occasion, attended by approximately 300 representatives from the selected Social and Welfare Organisations, universities, members of STA as well as State's forestry agencies witnessed the distribution of funds allocated by STA, amounting to RM1.07 million to 19 selected Social and Welfare Organisations in the State, as follows:

1. Kuching Autistic Association,
2. Sarawak Heart Foundation Kuching,
3. Sarawak Dayak Iban Association (SADIA),
4. Amanah Khairat Yayasan Budaya Melayu Sarawak (AKYBMS),
5. Persekutuan Persatuan Melanau Sarawak,

6. Pusat Perkhidmatan Warga Tua Kuching,
7. Rumah Seri Kenangan Kuching,
8. Sarawak Society for Deaf,
9. Sarawak Cheshire Home,
10. Diabetes Malaysia Cawangan Negeri Sarawak,
11. Sarawak Children's Cancer Society,
12. Sarawak Society for the Blind,
13. Kelab Rekreasi dan Sosial, Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FORESSA),
14. Persatuan Kebajikan Islam, Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (PERKIJAB),
15. Kelab Peminat P. Ramlee Kuching,
16. Pertubuhan Sahabat Pencinta Ilmu Kuching,
17. Dayak Bidayuh National Association (DBNA),
18. Federation of Orang Ulu Associations of Sarawak Malaysia (FORUM), and
19. The Federation of the Chinese Associations, Sarawak.

The funds allocated to these Social and Welfare Organisations are part of STA's belief and continuous efforts, through its subsidiary company, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) in giving back to the society, which is in line with the State Government's aim to improve the overall quality of life and wellbeing of its people. It is hoped that the fund allocated will be able to assist these organisations in financing and implementing projects and activities that will further enhance their range of activities and efforts to improve the social and welfare lives of the needy.



*Council Members of STA welcoming the arrival of His Excellency
The Governor of Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud*



Dato Henry Lau, Honorary Secretary of STA delivering his welcoming speech



Group Photo of His Excellency The Governor of Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud, Deputy Chief Minister, Executive Chairman of Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd, Assistant Ministers and Permanent Council Members of STA with 19 selected Social and Welfare Organisations



Dato Henry Lau, Honorary Secretary of STA presenting a souvenir to His Excellency The Governor of Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud



His Excellency The Governor of Sarawak, Tun Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud cutting his birthday cake



Lunch in process