

# STA Review

Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association  
VOLUME 351 PPK 174/05/2013 (032756)



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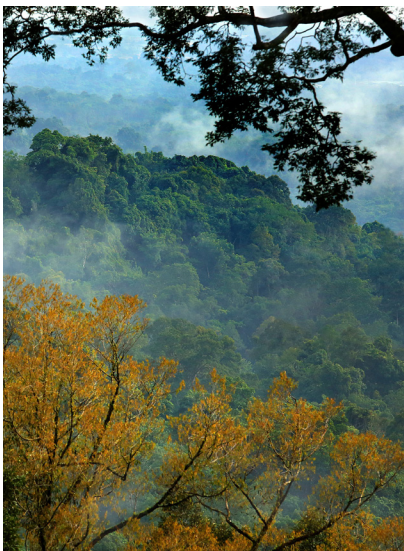


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# STA Council Meeting No.6/2022

The STA Council held its Meeting No. 6/2022 on 15 December 2022 via video conferencing. The meeting was presided over by Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong, STA Chairman and attended by Vice Chairman Dato' Sri Patrick Wong Haw Yeong, Honorary Secretary Mr Wong Ting Chung, Honorary Treasurer Mr Philip Choo and twenty six members of the Council.

The Council in this meeting resolved to close the voting process for the amendment to Clause 8(1)(a)(i) of STA Constitution as required by the Registry of Societies which requires Unanimous Assenting Vote of all categories at a General Meeting, upon obtaining the requisite consent from two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) of all members in the Furniture & Other Woodworking, Log Marketing, Panel Products, Sawmilling and Timber Products Marketing categories respectively to approve and ratify the amendment.



Meeting in progress

Voting for the amendment were kept open and Member's Postal Ballots were made available to the members in these five (5) categories who were absent at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 30 September 2022 (AGM 2022), to allow collection of their votes to continue after AGM 2022 in accordance with the resolution made by STA members at the AGM 2022. All other amendments had achieved the requisite approvals in accordance with the STA Constitution at the AGM 2022.

The Council received reports from the various Category Committees and Working Committees and discussed activities and direction to be undertaken by STA in the coming years. Besides that, the Council also approved the budget for STA to facilitate and carry out the activities and work for year 2023.

The Council had approved financial contributions totaling RM200,000.00 to the following two (2) members for achieving forest management certification under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme in their respective Forest Management Units:

Company	Certified FMU	Size (Ha)	Date Certified
Perkayuan Sukma Sdn Bhd	Taman FMU	34,317	28 October 2022
Timberplus Sdn Bhd	Patah-Tutoh FMU	38,687	

The Council also approved one (1) application from Polima Forest Bintulu Sdn Bhd under the Forest Plantation Category for the conversion of Associate Member to Member.

The Council resolved to call the next Annual General Meeting of the Association on 29 March 2023 in accordance with Clause 7(1)(a) of the STA Constitution.

STA理事会在2022年12月15日在线上召开年度第六次理事会议。理事会决定在会员大会上获得所有小组的一致赞成后，根据社团注册处的要求结束对本会章程第8(1)(a)(i)条修正案的投票程序。理事会也讨论本会在未来几年将开展的活动和方向，以及批准向两名会员提供财政资助以获得森林管理认证，以及一份附属会员转换为会员的申请。

Mesyuarat Majlis STA Bil. 6/2022 yang bersidang melalui video pada 15 Disember 2022 telah memutuskan untuk menutup proses pengundian bagi pindaan Fasal 8(1)(a)(i) Perlembagaan STA seperti yang dikehendaki oleh Pejabat Pendaftaran Pertubuhan selepas memastikan Undi Sebulat suara bagi semua kategori telah diperolehi pada Mesyuarat Agung. Perkara lain yang turut dibincangkan adalah aktiviti dan hala tuju STA pada tahun-tahun akan datang. Majlis turut meluluskan sumbangan kewangan kepada 2 ahli yang mencapai pensijilan pengurusan hutan.



# Visit to RT-Paulownia Plantation and Tissue Culture Laboratory

Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) and STA visited the R-T Paulownia Plantation and Tissue Culture Laboratory under the TSG Green Sdn Bhd on 9 December 2022.

The group, led by Mr Jack Ak Liam, Deputy Director of Forest was received by Dato Chris Chung Soon Nam, Founder and Group Chief Executive Officer of TSG Green Sdn Bhd.

The group visited the TSG Green Nursery and Research and Development (R&D) Centre at Kota Samarahan as well as the TSG Green R-T Paulownia tissue culture laboratory at Titanium Tower, Kuching. During the visit, Dato Chung briefed the group members on the operation of the nursery and tissue culture laboratory as well as the R-T Paulownia tree planting programme. He also shared findings obtained from various R&D trials conducted on R-T Paulownia and the market potential of this species.

砂拉越森林局 (FDS) 副局长杰克先生于2022年12月9日率领一组来自FDS和本会的职员前往参观TSG Green有限公司旗下的泡桐树人工林和组织培养实验室。参观期间，他们了解到苗圃和组织培养实验室的操作以及泡桐树的种植计划。



Dato Chung, Founder and Group Chief Executive Officer of TSG Green (6<sup>th</sup> from left) took the group to visit RT-Paulownia research plot.



Dato Chung showing logs and products of RT-Paulownia.

Encik Jack Ak Liam, Timbalan Pengarah Hutan, FDS mengetuai sekumpulan pegawai daripada FDS dan STA ke Ladang R-T Paulownia dan Makmal Kultur Tisu milik TSG Green Sdn Bhd pada 9 Disember 2022. Semasa lawatan itu, mereka dimaklumkan tentang operasi makmal sediaan dan kultur tisu serta program penanaman pokok R-T Paulownia.

## Engagement Session with Training Coordinators

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), the appointed Training Provider under the *Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015* held a virtual engagement session with training coordinators, administrators and managers on 14 December 2022.

Ms Suzie Adee, Training Officer (Administration) shared that STAT is registered as a Training Provider with Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp).

With that, training costs such as course fees and travelling expenses for skills sets offered by STAT are now claimable by the registered employers from the Human Resource Development levy contributions

upon completion of training under the HRD Corp Claimable Course Scheme.

Hence, with effect from 1 January 2023, STAT will start charging course fee of RM500 per day per skills set for STA members and RM1,000 for non-members along with travelling expenses specifically air tickets, transportation, accommodation and allowance of the trainers/assessors.

Participants were also briefed on the steps involved in utilising the levy for providing training which included nomination of training, grant application and approval, confirmation of training schedule, as well as claim application and submission.

STA培训有限公司(STAT) 和全员公司培训协调员、行政人员及经理于2022年12月14日举办线上交流会，告知他们自2023年1月1日起，STAT将开始征收培训课程费用以及培训师和评估员进行培训的差旅费。在人力资源发展机构可索赔课程计划下，有缴纳该基金的注册雇主可申请索取这些费用。





Some of the participants who attended the briefing by Ms Suzie Adee, Training Officer (Administration) of STAT.

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT) mengadakan sesi penglibatan maya dengan penyelar latihan, pentadbir dan pengurus pada 14 Disember 2022 untuk memaklumkan bahawa berkuat kuasa 1 Januari 2023, STAT akan mula mengenakan yuran kursus dan perbelanjaan perjalanan untuk jurulatih dan penilai yang melaksanakan latihan. Yuran dan caj ini boleh dituntut oleh majikan berdaftar yang mencarum kepada dana HRD Corp di bawah Skim Kursus Boleh Dituntut.

## STA Panel Products Category Meeting 2022 and STA Panel Products Committee Meeting No.1/2022

The STA Panel Products Category Meeting, presided over by its newly elected Category Chairman, Datuk James Ling, convened on 13 December 2022 at Wisma STA, Kuching. The Category meeting elected its Office Bearers, Committee members as well as alternate representatives for the term of 2022 & 2023 as follows:-

<b>Chairman</b>	Datuk James Ling Lu Kiong
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	Dato' Sri Patrick Wong Haw Yeong (Alternate: Mr Tjhang Djie Fui)
<b>Hon. Secretary</b>	Mr Vincent Chieng Ai Ung (Alternate: Mr Eric Kang Kun Wee)
<b>Hon. Treasurer</b>	Mr Stephen Lau Lee Kiong (Alternate: Mr Kenny Law Hui Kong)
<b>Committee Members</b>	Mr Ling Chiong Sing (Alternate: Mr Alvin Yii Heng Kee) Mr Desmond Kang Dai Yiing Mr Wong Suk Chiew (co-opt) Mr Charlie Tan Ming Nguong (co-opt)

The newly elected Committee members then held its first Committee Meeting and received updates on the plywood industry.

Members acknowledged that the plywood production and export has decreased significantly over the years, in tandem with reducing volume of log production and



Datuk James Ling (4<sup>th</sup> from left) chairing the meeting

members are looking at other alternatives to sustain their plywood production. They also hoped that the Government could provide the industry with clearer direction on Sarawak forest plantation so that they could gauge the volume of planted timber available for the plywood industry.

STA members endeavor to strategise and maintain closer trading relationship with Japan, Sarawak's largest plywood importer. In addition to that, Committee members also discussed compliance to Clean Air Regulations 2014, received latest update of European Union Deforestation-free Regulation (EUDR).

STA人造板小组会议于2022年12月13日假古晋STA大厦召开，由新任的小组主席拿督林如健主持，以选出任期2022年和2023年的委员会成员。新任的委员会成员随后召开其首次会议并讨论胶合板行业的当今情况，以及收到有关该行业事项的最新资讯。

Mesyuarat Kategori Produk Panel STA, yang dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusi Kategori yang baru dilantik, Datuk James Ling, bersidang pada 13 Disember 2022 di Wisma STA, Kuching untuk memilih ahli jawatankuasa bagi penggal 2022 & 2023. Ahli jawatankuasa yang baru dilantik kemudiannya membincangkan situasi semasa industri papan lapis dalam mesyuarat pertamanya. Mesyuarat tersebut turut menerima maklumat terkini mengenai perkara berkaitan industri.



# User Requirements Study Lab for Trained Workmen

The Forest Department (FDS) and Sarawak Information Systems Sdn Bhd (SAINS) jointly organised the second lab on user requirements study for trained workmen on 1 December 2022 at Imperial Hotel, Kuching.

16 officers from FDS, SAINS, STA and STA Training Sdn Bhd who attended the 1-day lab discussed As-Is processes, Licensee Portal's Eco-Systems and To-Be Processes for the purpose of integrating STAT's internal database with FDS systems i.e. Sarawak Logs Tracking and Forest Revenue System (REVLOG) and Licensee Portal.

16名来自砂森林局、砂拉越资讯系统有限公司、本会以及STA培训有限公司的职员于2022年12月1日在古晋帝宫酒店举办的有关受训员工用户需求研究的一日研讨会中讨论原样流程，许可证持有者网站的生态系统和未来流程。

16 pegawai daripada Jabatan Hutan Sarawak, Sarawak Information Systems Sdn Bhd, STA and STA Training Sdn Bhd membincangkan proses As-Is, Eko-Sistem Portal Pemegang Lesen dan Proses To-Be dalam makmal 1 hari kajian keperluan pengguna untuk pekerja terlatih, bertempat di Hotel Imperial, Kuching pada 1 Disember 2022.

## National Timber Industry Strategic Plan Monitoring Workshop (NTISP)

Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) launched the National Timber Industry Strategic Plan (NTISP) 2021-2025 on 13 June 2022. Following that, MTIB organised an NTISP Monitoring Workshop on 12 December 2022 at Bangi Resort Hotel, Kuala Lumpur to obtain information and input from agencies, institutes, non-government organisations and industry pertaining to the implementation of activities planned under the strategic objectives of NTISP.

In his opening speech, Mr Haji Kamaruzaman Othman, Director General of MTIB informed that the NTISP was developed in line with the National Agricommodity Policy 2021-2030 (DAKN2030) to provide continuous support to the timber industry and ensure that the timber industry remains competitive in the challenging global market. This is imperative in order for the industry to achieve the targets set out in the national Shared Prosperity Vision 2030 which centred on maximising economic potential through value-added industry, advanced technology and equitable distribution of income.

Dr Hajah Emelia Fantoza Saraih, Deputy Secretary, Strategic Planning and International Division, Ministry of Plantation and Commodities (MPC) briefed on the five (5) core thrusts of the DAKN2030, namely sustainability, productivity, value creation, market development and inclusivity, as well as the fourteen (14) strategic and eleven (11) flagship programmes formulated across the eight (8) sub-sectors of



Group photo of the workshop

agricommodity.

Participants of the workshop were then divided into five (5) groups based on the five core strategics of NTISP, namely (i) raw materials and industrial sustainability; (ii) technology, innovation and industry support; (iii) human capital and productivity; (iv) market development and trade; and (v) increased Bumiputera involvement to discuss on the activities and programs planned for the timber industry.

马来西亚木材工业局 (MTIB) 于 2022 年 12 月 12 日在吉隆坡万宜度假酒店举办国家木材工业战略计划 (NTISP) 监督工作坊，以从机构、研究所、非政府组织和行业获取有关实施战略目标规划活动的资讯和意见。

MTIB telah menganjurkan Bengkel Pemantauan Pelan Strategik Industri Perakayuan Negara (NTISP) pada 12 Disember 2022 di Hotel Bangi Resort, Kuala Lumpur untuk mendapatkan maklumat dan input daripada agensi, institut, pertubuhan bukan kerajaan dan industri berkaitan pelaksanaan aktiviti yang dirancang selaras dengan objektif strategik NTISP.



# Meeting on National Timber Industry Strategy Plan 2021 – 2025

STA, represented by its Chief Executive Officer, Ms Annie Ting, together with Mr Chua Yeong Perng, Vice President of Sabah Timber Industries Association (STIA) and Ms Pang Suet Kum of Malaysia Wood Industries Association (MWIA) in a meeting with Ms Roslina Idris, Acting Director General of Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) on 20 December 2022 at MTIB's office, Menara PGRM Kuala Lumpur to discuss on the National Timber Industry Strategy Plan 2021 – 2025 (NTISP).



Mr Chua Yeong Perng, Vice President of STIA (2<sup>nd</sup> from right), Ms Roslina Idris Acting Director General of MTIB (3<sup>rd</sup> from right), and Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA (4<sup>th</sup> from right) joined others for a group photo after the meeting.

The industry voiced their eagerness to learn about the achievements accomplished through the NTISP and explore ways for the timber industry to contribute and play their part in meeting targets set for NTISP. The meeting ended with all parties agreeing to work together to ensure that the targets set in NTISP are feasible and realistic.

本会、沙巴木材工业协会和马来西亚木材工业协会的代表于 2022 年 12 月 20 日假吉隆坡民政大厦的马来西亚木材工业委员会(MTIB)办事处与其代总监罗斯丽娜女士会面，以了解通过国家木材产业策略计划(NTISP)所取得的成就。会议也探讨木材业为 NTISP 设定的目标做出贡献和发挥作用的方式。

Wakil STA, Persatuan Perusahaan Kayu-Kayan Sabah dan Persatuan Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia mengetahui tentang pencapaian yang dicapai melalui Pelan Strategik Industri Perakayuan Negara (NTISP) dalam perbincangan yang diadakan bersama Cik Roslina Idris, Pemangku Ketua Pengarah Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia pada 20 Disember 2022 di pejabat MTIB, Menara PGRM Kuala Lumpur. Mesyuarat tersebut turut meneroka cara bagaimana industri perakayuan dapat menyumbang dan memainkan peranan dalam mencapai sasaran yang ditetapkan dalam NTISP.

## Malaysian Timber Association (MTA) Executive Committee Meeting No.4/2022

Mr Goh Chew Yew, President of Malaysian Timber Association (MTA) chaired its Executive Committee (EXCO) Meeting No 4/2022 on 19 December 2022 at Aloft Hotel, KL Sentral to deliberate the draft report on Malaysia Timber Industry Roadmap (MTIR).

The appointed consultant, Mr Yong Teng Kong presented the draft report to the EXCO members who then agreed to rearrange the vision statement as “Towards a Sustainable, Innovative and High Value Industry by 2030”. EXCO members also reviewed the draft report and made several recommendations for actions by the Government. These inputs will be incorporated into the final draft report and reviewed again in the next EXCO meeting.



Meeting in progress

马来西亚木材公会 (MTA) 主席吴志耀先生于 2022 年 12 月 19 日在吉隆坡中环广场雅乐轩酒店主持本年度第四次执行委员会 (EXCO) 会议，以审议马来西亚木材工业路线图 (MTIR) 的报告草案。

Encik Goh Chew Yew, Presiden Persatuan Kayu-Kayan Malaysia (MTA) mempengerusikan Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Eksekutif (EXCO) Bil. 4/2022 pada 19 Disember 2022 di Hotel Aloft, KL Sentral untuk membincangkan draf laporan Pelan Hala Tuju Industri Perakayuan Malaysia (MTIR).



## Seminar on Compliance with Timber Industry Regulations (Formaldehyde Emission Level from Panel-based Products)

The Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) organised a seminar to gather feedback and comments from relevant stakeholders on its draft Guidelines on Compliance with Timber Industry Regulations (Formaldehyde Emission Level from Panel-based Products). The Seminar took place at MTIB Conference Hall, Menara PGRM Kuala Lumpur on 6 December 2022.

In the speech by Mr Haji Kamaruzaman Othman, Director General of MTIB, read by Ms Roslina binti Idris, Deputy Director General (Development & Commercial), he shared that the Regulation is not meant to burden any parties but rather to protect the health of Malaysian consumers from exposure to high level of formaldehyde in various products especially timber products.

Mr Mohd Zamakhsyary Bin Mustapa, Senior Assistant Director (Industry Development Section), MTIB informed participants that manufacturer of panel-based products such as plywood, particleboard and fibreboard from Sabah and Sarawak would also need to adhere to this Guideline when exporting to Peninsular Malaysia and Labuan Territory.

Mr Wan Suhaimi Bin Wan Chek, Assistant Senior Officer (Economic Affairs) introduced MTIB Certification Body Unit. The Unit, accredited by Malaysian Standard Department, is tasked to develop and implement the Product Certification System as well as carry out audit assessment and issue certificates to companies that comply to the standards' need.



Seminar in progress

Ms Nor Liza Mat Yasok, Director of Fibre and Biocomposite Center (FITEC) also took the opportunity to introduce the role that FITEC plays in the development of fibre and bio-composite industry in Malaysia as well as few types of laboratory testing facilities including types of formaldehyde emission testing.

In concluding the seminar, MTIB acknowledged that panel-based products manufactured in Sarawak and Sabah either produce no formaldehyde or low formaldehyde emission level.

马来西亚木材工业局 (MTIB) 近期举办一项研讨会，以收集利益相关者对其木材工业法则合规指南草案（合板产品的甲醛排放水平）的反馈和评论。研讨会分享该法则旨在保护马来西亚消费者的健康，以免受到各种产品尤其是木材产品中高浓度甲醛的影响。

Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia (MTIB) telah menganjurkan seminar untuk mengumpul maklum balas dan komen daripada pihak berkepentingan berkaitan draf Garis Panduan Pematuhan Peraturan Industri Kayu (Tahap Pelepasan Formaldehid daripada Produk Berasaskan Panel). Dalam Seminar tersebut, telah dikongsikan bahawa Peraturan itu bertujuan untuk melindungi kesihatan pengguna Malaysia daripada pendedahan kepada paras formaldehid yang tinggi dalam pelbagai produk terutamanya produk kayu.

## SayD'SignersSarawak Closing Ceremony

Saradec Management Sdn Bhd (SARADec), a wholly-owned subsidiary company of Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) has been mandated to operate and manage Sarawak Young Designers Programme, also known as *SayD'SignersSarawak*.

*SayD'SignersSarawak* is a two-year skill design training programme developed in a collaborative effort between STIDC, Saradec, and Institut Teknologi Bandung ITB. The fully customized design training programme aims to equip young talented designers with all necessary skills and knowledge in furniture design. The programme requires the designers to undertake their final year at the Faculty of Art and Design (FSRD) ITB in Bandung, Indonesia, where they would refine their knowledge and skills in furniture design through hands-on experiences.

To date, four (4) batches of *SayD'SignersSarawak* participants have undergone furniture design training programme at Faculty of Fine Arts and Design, ITB and a closing ceremony for the programme was held at Pullman Hotel, Bandung, Indonesia on 6 December 2022.

Deputy Premier of Sarawak cum Minister of International Trade, Industry and Investment, Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan attended the event on behalf of Premier of Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg and handed over training completion certificates to 26 participants from the second, third and fourth batch of the programme.



Group picture of 20 graduates with the Deputy Premier and invited guests.

The Premier of Sarawak, in his speech read by Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan highlighted Sarawak's plans to develop furniture parks in Kuching and Tanjung Manis in line with the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030 of advancing the downstream industries of the forestry sector through high value-added products such as engineered wood products and furniture. Therefore, investors from Indonesia are welcomed to explore investment opportunities in Sarawak's furniture industry or any other timber related industries.

Consul-General of the Republic of Indonesia in Kuching, Mr Raden Sigit Witjaksono shared that the furniture design training programme at ITB was implemented as a result of a memorandum of understanding signed between STIDC and ITB since 2018. The first group of *SayD'SignersSarawak* participants began training in 2019 and SARADEC has prepared more young designers from Sarawak to undergo training in 2023, in line with the vision and mission of the Sarawak Government to produce 100 trained young designers by 2030.



Deputy Premier of Sarawak testing the easy chair designed by Mr Muhammad Afiq Izaan Bin Zaiden (standing in far left).

The ceremony ended with a tour to a mini exhibition displaying the prototypes of easy chairs and life-sized products designed by the graduates.

由Saradec 管理有限公司(SARADEC) 于2022年12月6日在印尼万隆举办的典礼上, 共有26名来自第二, 第三和第四届家具设计培训课程的*SayD'SignersSarawak*参与者获取他们的培训结业证书。2023 年将有更多来自砂拉越的年轻设计师参加该计划, 以符合砂拉越政府欲在2030年培训100名受训年轻设计师的愿景和使命。

Seramai 26 peserta *SayD'SignersSarawak* daripada kumpulan kedua, ketiga dan keempat program latihan reka bentuk perabot menerima sijil tamat latihan di dalam majlis yang diadakan oleh Pengurusan Saradec Sdn Bhd (SARADEC) di Bandung, Indonesia pada 6 Disember 2022. Lebih ramai pereka muda daripada Sarawak akan menjalani program ini pada 2023, selaras dengan visi dan misi Kerajaan Sarawak untuk menghasilkan 100 orang pereka muda menjelang 2030.



# Global Timber Index Platform Report Press Conference and International Workshop on Global Timber Market Trend

The International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO) has been promoting the Legal and Sustainable Supply Chains (LSSC) Programme to enhance tropical timber supply chains to meet increasing demand for sustainability and assurance that products are from legal source.

In an effort to implement the LSSC Programme, ITTO, in collaboration with the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) carried out an activity on “*Supporting the Establishment and Operation of the Global Timber Index (GTI) Platform for Building Legal and Sustainable Forest Products Supply Chains*”.



*Participants at the release event of the first monthly GTI report in China, Macao SAR. (photo courtesy of ITTO)*

The activity was designed to establish and operate a GTI platform to facilitate business information, data exchange and collaboration among stakeholders, with a view of building legal and sustainable forest products green supply chains and increasing the trade in legally and sustainably produced forest products within a stable, transparent and predictable business environment.

Malaysia has been identified as one of the six (6) pilot producing countries with the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities (MPC) as its focal point. The other five (5) pilot producing countries are Indonesia (Asia), Gabon and Congo (Africa) and Brazil and Mexico (Latin America). China participated in the GTI platform as consuming country, with the participation of approximately 150 enterprises/companies.

A hybrid press conference on GTI Platform was jointly organised by ITTO and IPIM and hosted by the Secretariat of Global Green Supply Chain Initiative (GGSC) on 8 December 2022 at the Venetian, Macao SAR China. Ms Sheam Satkuru, Executive Director of ITTO commended all stakeholders on the release of the pilot countries’ first monthly GTI index report.

The International Workshop on Global Timber Market Trends was held immediately following the release of the GTI report, with the participation of timber enterprises and associations, organisations, experts and scholars. In the Workshop, participants discussed opportunities and challenges for the global timber industry in the post-epidemic era and trends in global timber markets.

Ms Annie Ting Chief, Chief Executive Officer of STA was one of the presenters at the workshop. She presented a paper on “*Brief Introduction to STA and Sarawak timber Industry*” during the Workshop.

2022年12月8日，国际热带木材组织和澳门投资促进机构在全球木材指数平台联合举办一项线上线下混合发布会，旨在促进利益相关者之间的商业信息、数据交换与合作，随后举办了关于全球木材市场趋势的国际研讨会，以提高生产性森林在众多其他森林中的知名度及其对减缓气候变化和可持续发展的贡献，并鼓励合法和可持续性木材和木制品的国际贸易。

Pada 8 Disember 2022, Pertubuhan Kayu Tropika Antarabangsa dan Institut Penggalakan Perdagangan dan Pelaburan Macao bersama-sama menganjurkan sidang akhbar hibrid mengenai GTI Platform, bertujuan untuk menyebarkan maklumat perniagaan, pertukaran data dan kerjasama dalam kalangan pihak berkepentingan, diikuti dengan bengkel antarabangsa mengenai Arah Aliran Pasaran Kayu Global, antara lain, meningkatkan profil hutan pengeluaran dan sumbangannya kepada mitigasi perubahan iklim dan pembangunan mampan serta menggalakkan perdagangan antarabangsa dalam kayu dan produk kayu yang sah dan mampan.

# EU Deforestation-free Regulation (EUDR)

The European Commission (EC) published a proposal aimed at curbing deforestation and forest degradation driven by the expansion of agricultural land on 17 November 2021. This initiative is part of a set of European Union (EU) Green Deal legislative proposals to among others, stop deforestation.

Subsequently, on 6 December 2022, the EU Council, its Commission and the European Parliament reached an agreement on a new law, called the EU Deforestation-free Regulation (EUDR) that will ensure goods placed on the EU market will no longer contribute to deforestation and forest degradation in the EU and elsewhere in the world.

The EUDR has included seven (7) commodities within the scope of the EU Regulation i.e soy, beef, palm oil, wood, cocoa, coffee and rubber. It also covers some derived products such as leather, chocolate and furniture. It states that any of these commodities associated with lands deforested after 31 December 2020 will be prohibited in the EU market.

Like the EU Timber Regulation, the EU defines those obligated by the EUDR as 'operators' and 'traders'. Operators, namely companies who first place products in the single market, will be required to carry out due diligence on their supply chains to ensure that these products are deforestation and forest-degradation-free or have been produced in accordance with the relevant legislation of the country of production. Traders, on the other hand, will be responsible for storing and sharing information on their supply chain to operators.

The Regulation specifies requirements for each step of the due diligence process which encompasses an obligation to collect information on their supply chains, perform risk assessments and implement risk mitigation actions where necessary. This includes obtaining geo-localisation information on forest/farm production plots.

欧盟(EU)理事会,欧盟委员会和欧盟议会已于2022年12月6日就一项名为《欧盟无森林砍伐条例》(EUDR)的新法律达成协议。EUDR旨在确保投放在欧盟市场的商品将不再助长欧盟和世界其他地方的森林砍伐和森林退化。马来西亚并不看好EUDR。马来西亚副首相兼种植与原产部部长拿督斯里哈兹法迪拉尤索夫于2022年12月23日发表媒体声明,指出单方面倡议将对自由和公平贸易产生不利影响,并可能对全球供应链造成不利影响。

A central database of risk assessments or country benchmarks will be developed by the EC to help classify countries as presenting low, standard or high risk of producing commodities or products that are not deforestation-free or in accordance with the legislation of the producer country. Obligations for operators and authorities will vary according to the level of risk of the country or region of production, with simplified due diligence duties for products coming from low-risk and enhanced scrutiny for high-risk areas.

Malaysia does not view the EUDR in a favourable light. Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah Bin Haji Yusof, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Plantation and Commodities of Malaysia has issued a media statement on 23 December 2022 stating the unilateral initiative will have detrimental effect on free and fair trade, and potentially result in adverse impacts on global supply chain.

The Regulation places additional burdens on Malaysian palm oil exporters to the EU market, specifically additional traceability requirements and data that must be provided to end-customers based in the EU. He called for the EU to commit to genuine engagement with producing countries.

STA, along with other associations in the forestry and timber sector had previously raised their concerns on the Regulation through MTA in August 2022. The position paper from the Malaysian timber industry criticise, among many others, the absence of dialogue between the EU and producer countries and definitions used and the lack of respect on other countries' sovereignty.

The industry is also dismayed with the non-recognition of sustainable forest management practices and certification schemes as tools to comply with the Regulation.

Majlis Kesatuan Eropah (EU), Suruhanjaya dan Parlimen Eropah telah mencapai persetujuan mengenai undang-undang baru, yang dinamakan Peraturan Bebas-Penebangan Hutan EU (EUDR) pada 6 Disember 2022. EUDR menasaskan untuk memastikan barangan di pasaran EU tidak lagi menyumbang kepada penyahhutan dan degradasi hutan di EU dan lain-lain tempat di dunia. Malaysia melihat EUDR dari sudut yang sebaliknya. Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah Bin Haji Yusof, Timbalan Perdana Menteri dan Menteri Pertanian dan Komoditi Malaysia telah mengeluarkan kenyataan media pada 23 Disember 2022 menyatakan tentang inisiatif unilateral ini akan memberi kesan buruk kepada perdagangan bebas dan adil, dan berkemungkinan mengakibatkan kesan buruk kepada rantaian bekalan global.



# Asia Climate Summit 2022

International Emissions Trading Association, in collaboration with International Carbon Action Partnership and the International Energy Agency organised the Asia Climate Summit 2022 in Singapore from 7 to 8 December 2022.

With theme “Carbon Markets for Net Zero: An Era of Growth, Convergence, Innovation and Opportunity”, the Summit provided a forum for in-person and online participants to review progress across Asia in building new and expanded carbon markets as well as take stock of the evolving net zero landscape and clean growth opportunities in the region.

Among some of the key highlights from the 2-day event is that the Voluntary Carbon Market (VCM) is an important complementary and low-cost tool to help accelerate climate mitigation globally while contributing to economic growth. However, more work needs to be done to build quality and integrity into the VCM.

Additionally, the decisions to deploy finances to carbon offset projects are often influenced by uncertainties around carbon tenure and the presence of key elements such as permanence, economics and quality.

Therefore, with the global demand for carbon offsets estimated to grow forty-fold between now and 2050, to 5.2 billion tons of carbon dioxide equivalent, governments are urged to address barriers to investment so that finance can be leveraged to where it can have the most impact, particularly in advancing global climate action and ambition.

国际排放贸易协会与国际碳行动伙伴组织和国际能源署联合于2022年12月7日至8日在新加坡举办2022年亚洲气候峰会，目的是审查亚洲在建立新的和扩大碳市场方面所取得的进展，并盘点该地区不断发展的净零环境和净化增长机会。



Mr Simon Henry, Director of Carbon Markets Development, International Emissions Trading Association (IETA) moderated one of the many deep-dive sessions featured in the summit.

Persatuan Perdagangan Emisi  
Antarabangsa, dengan kerjasama  
Perkongsian Tindakan Karbon  
Antarabangsa dan Agensi Tenaga  
Antarabangsa menganjurkan Sidang  
Kemuncak Iklim Asia 2022 di Singapura  
dari 7 hingga 8 Disember 2022 bertujuan  
untuk mengkaji kemajuan di seluruh Asia  
dalam membangunkan pasaran karbon  
baru dan diperluaskan serta mengambil  
kira stok landskap sifar bersih yang  
berkembang dan peluang pertumbuhan  
bersih di rantau ini.

## MEF Webinar on Occupational Safety & Health (Amendment) Act 2022 and Cases of Unfair Dismissal Claims

The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) organised a webinar on 6 December 2022 to keep its members in the Sabah and Sarawak region abreast on matters pertaining to Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) and cases of unfair dismissal claims.

A briefing on newly gazetted Occupational Safety and Health (Amendment) Act 2022 (OSHA 2022) was delivered by Mr Haji Anis Fahmy Bin Pauzi, OSH Senior Consultant of MEF who also shared that OSHA 2022 would be enforced in June 2023 and is applicable to all places of work in Malaysia except domestic employment, armed forces and work onboard ships. OSHA 2022 imposes new duty on employers to develop and implement procedures to deal with emergencies and formulate OSH policy. An OSH coordinator is to be appointed if there are five (5) or more employees at place of work.

Dr Dzulzalani Bin Eden, Senior Consultant – Industrial Relations of MEF highlighted in his presentation that with effect from January 2021, the Industrial Relations (Amendment) Act 2020 accorded the Director-General of Industrial Relations (DGIR) the power to refer dismissal cases straight to the Industrial Court if the DGIR is satisfied that there is no likelihood of a conciliation settlement. Referral by the Minister of Human Resource is no longer required.

This amendment has shortened the time taken to finalise unfair dismissal cases and enables both the employer and the employee to appoint any other person, except an advocate or solicitor, to represent them at conciliation meetings.

Dr. Dzulzalani also reminded participants that employers are prohibited from prematurely retiring employee before he or she attains the minimum retirement age of 60 years old under the Minimum Retirement Age Act 2012 (Act 753).

马来西亚雇主联合会(MEF)于2022年12月6日举办线上研讨会,让沙巴和砂拉越区域的会员了解有关职场安全与健康(OSH)和不公平解雇索赔案件的最新资讯。

Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) telah menganjurkan webinar pada 6 Disember 2022 untuk memastikan ahli-ahlinya di wilayah Sabah dan Sarawak mengetahui tentang perkara-perkara yang berkaitan dengan Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan (OSH) dan kes-kes tuntutan pemecatan yang tidak adil.

## Meeting of MEF East Malaysia Region Members

The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) organised a hybrid meeting on 5 December 2022 which was attended by 20 members of MEF East Malaysia Region. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Dzulzalani Bin Eden, Senior Consultant – Industrial Relations of MEF, aimed at sharing information on the Industrial Relations Act 1967 (Amendment 2020) (Act A1615) and changes in the work process by the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) Sarawak.

P.U.(B) 695/2020 dated 21 December 2020 appointed Act A1615 to come into operation on 1 January 2021.

She highlighted some key areas of amendments, such as repealing the discretionary powers of the Minister under Sections 9 and 20(3) to filter cases to be referred to Industrial Court. Such power was instead given to the Director General of Industrial Relations (DGIR).

DIR Sarawak was represented by its Chief Assistant Director, Ms Chong Chun Nee. She briefed on the amendments to the Industrial Relations Act 1967 (Act 177) and informed that the Minister of Human Resources (Minister) has made amendments to Act 177 vide Act A1615 and has, vide Gazette Notification

Another salient change is the DGIR is now empowered under Section 20(3) to refer representations on dismissal by a workman to the Industrial Court for an award, when he is satisfied that there is no likelihood of settlement under Section 20(2).

马来西亚雇主联盟 (MEF) 于 2022 年 12 月 5 日为其东马地区成员举办线上与线下混合会议,分享有关 1967 年劳资关系法 (2020 年修正案) (A1615 法案) 和砂拉越劳资关系部(DIR)的工作流程更改的资讯。

Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) menganjurkan mesyuarat hibrid pada 5 Disember 2022 untuk ahli-ahlinya di wilayah Timur Malaysia bagi berkongsi maklumat mengenai Akta Perhubungan Perusahaan 1967 (Pindaan 2020) (Akta A1615) dan perubahan dalam proses kerja oleh Jabatan Perhubungan Perusahaan (DIR) Sarawak.





# 2022 *in Review*

January



Courtesy call by Malaysian Furniture Council on 8 January.



STA and the rest of the Sarawak delegation, headed by Forest Department Sarawak posed for a group photo with the Australian Counsellor (Agriculture) to Malaysia, Mr Sanjay Boothalingam (first row, centre) after discussing areas for collaboration on forest plantation management in Sarawak.



Briefing by Forest Department Sarawak on the salvage logging guideline for areas that will be inundated by Baleh Hydroelectric Power Project on 24 January.



# February



Courtesy call by Control Union Malaysia on 4 February.



STA attended the 21<sup>st</sup> Asia Pacific Economic Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade virtual meeting from 14 - 15 February.

STA received visit from Malaysian Timber Certification Council on 18 February.



Webinar on Future-Proofing Sarawak Forestry through Sustainability on 15 February. Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA spoke on the journey of Sarawak's forestry industry towards sustainability.



Meetings of STA Subsidiary Companies on 22 February.



Briefing session to newly appointed forest officers on STA Training's training activities, in compliance with the Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015, 9-10 February.



# 2022 in Review

## MEETINGS



STA Council Meeting No.1/2022 on 3 March.



Meeting No.1/2022 of the Technical Committee on Timber.



STA organised briefing to its members on pilot project on the employment of Bangladeshi workers on 28 March.

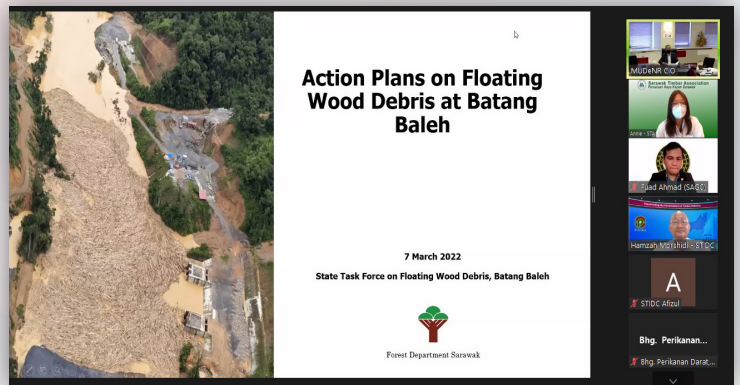


STA Constitution Committee Meeting No.1/2022 on 29 March.

## March



STA received honorary call from the Forest Plantation Development Sdn Bhd on 14 March.



Task force meeting on floating debris at Baleh River on 7 March.



STA Secretariat participated in the Training on Directional Tree Felling Techniques, 7-10 March.



STA Secretariat and members attended the Malaysian Conservation Conference from 29-31 March.





# April



STA Forest Plantation Committee held an engagement session with Deputy Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities on 1 April.



▲ STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 1/2022 on 1 April.



▲ STA received a courtesy call from the Malaysian Investment Development Authority on 4 April.



▲ STA Occupational Safety and Health Committee Meeting No 1/2022 on 19 April.

▲ STA and Sarawak forestry agencies organised working visit to Sarawak Plantation and Mills for the Australian High Commission and Ministry of Plantation and Commodities to on 2 April.



▲ Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA led a delegation of STA members to pay courtesy call to Deputy Minister in Department of the Premier of Sarawak on 13 April.

▲ STA and BIMPEAGA engaged in a dialogue on the employment of Bangladeshi workers on 27 April.



# 2022 in Review

May



▲ Staff from STA Training Sdn Bhd and STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd attended the basic first aid & CPR certificate renewal course on 10 and 11 May.



▲ Malaysia Timber Association Executive Committee Meeting No.1/2022 on 9 May.



▲ STA Mutual Sdn Bhd Board of Honorary Advisers and Board of Directors meetings No.2/2022 on 11 May.



▲ STA jointly organised a sharing session on Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System on 12 May.



▲ Malaysia Timber Council Industry Engagement Roadshow in Sarawak on 27 May.





Supporters  
STA recognised as one of the sponsors for Rainforest World Music Festival and Borneo Jazz Festival 2022 in an appreciation ceremony on 7 June.



STA attended the 19<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Forestry Conference on 12-15 June.



STA and its members consulted for inputs to the "Impact of Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme on Forest Management, Industry and Trade" Research Study on 20 June.

Events and activities around International Day of Forests 2022.

# 20<sup>th</sup> International Day of Forests



Futsal



Bowling



Futsal



Golf



STA participated in a webinar on overview of trade remedy measures jointly organised by Malaysian Timber Industry Board and Ministry of International Trade and Industry on 7 June.



STA Council Meeting No. 2/2022 on 9 June



# 2022 in Review

July



▲ STA received courtesy call from Malaysian Employers Federation on 4 July.



▲ Courtesy call from Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation on 13 July.



▲ Malaysian Nature Society briefed STA on its project on Helmeted Hornbill in Usun Apau National Park on 20 July.



▲ Symposium on Developing Resilient Industrial Tree Plantations in Sabah: Forestry Pests & Diseases on 7 July.



▲ Malaysian Timber Association Executive Meeting No.2/2022 on 8 July.



▲ STA, its members and Forest Department Sarawak discussed on mechanised tree planting system for forestry sector in Sarawak on 25 July.





▲ STA was part of the Malaysian delegation to the 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Asia Pacific Economic Corporation Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade in Chiang Mai, Thailand on 21 and 22 August.



▲ STA had a follow up meeting with Deputy Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities on the 10-year limitation to carry forward unabsorbed business losses at his office in Putrajaya on 4 August.



STA and Forest Department Sarawak jointly organised Training on Reduced Impact Logging Guidelines for Ground-Based Timber Harvesting in the State of Sarawak, version 2021 in Miri (26-27 July) and Sibu (10-11 August).



◀ STA, led by its Chairman on Occupational Safety and Health Committee, paid a visit to the Director of Occupational Safety and Health Sarawak at his office on 9 August.



▶ STA received delegates from Muar Furniture Association at Wisma STA on 25 August.







▲ STA supported Sarawak Forestry Corporation in its commitment towards green technology through the launching of Electric Buggy Service in a ceremony held at Semenggoh Wildlife Centre on 27 August.



## MEETINGS



STA engaged with Malaysian Wood Moulding and Joinery Council on 29 August.



▲ Meeting of STA subsidiary companies on 26 August.



▲ STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No.2/2022 on 16 August.



▲ STA Timber Products Marketing Committee No.3/2022 on 30 August.



# 2022 *in Review*

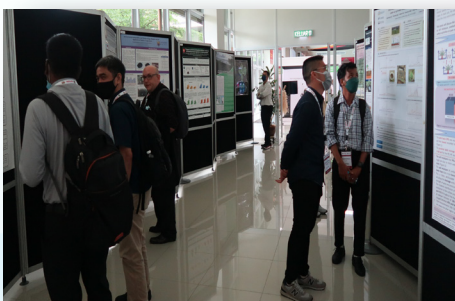
## September



▲ STA and its members participated in the “2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop to Identify Gaps and Opportunities in Implementing Forest Management Certification in Sarawak” at Imperial Hotel, Kuching from 6 to 7 September.



◀ STA was one of the stakeholders engaged in the “Workshop on Biomass Removal Plan for Baleh Hydroelectric Project” carried out Chemsain Konsultant Sdn Bhd on 13 September.



STA was one of the sponsors for the Asiaflux2022 Conference, 20-22 September.



Meeting with NREB on the implementation of pilot project for Environmental Compliance Audit on 9 September.



STA participated in the Santubong International Nature Trail Run 2022 on 18 September.



# 2022 in Review

## September



▲ STA held its 2<sup>nd</sup> Photography Contest from 1 May to 30 June 2022. The Prize presentation ceremony was held at Wisma STA on 15 September.

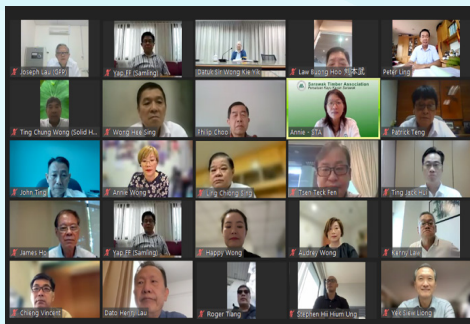


Outgoing Chairman, Dato Sri Wong Kie Yik, KBE handed over STA chairmanship to the new Chairman Dato Henry Lau.



◀ STA Council Meeting No. 4/2022 on 30 September.

▶ Trainers and officer of STA Training Sdn Bhd completed the Mastering Training Delivery Course on 12 and 13 September.



STA Council Meeting No 3/2022 on 5 September.



STA Training Sdn Bhd engaged with Training Coordinators from member companies on 22 September.



STA Forest Plantation Committee Meeting No 3/2022 on 14 September.





STA collaborated with Forest Department Sarawak to organise the “Workshop on Acacia mangium Plantations and Industries in Sarawak” on 13 October.



STA and its members joined Sarawak forestry agencies to a study visit to the Institute of Forest Tree Improvement and Biotechnology in Vietnam, 17-21 October.



STA Forest Plantation Category and Committee Meetings on 26 October.



STA took part in the Malaysia Wood Processing and Furniture Production Machinery Exhibition at Setia City Convention Centre, Shah Alam from 6-9 October.



STA Council Meeting No.5/2022 on 28 October.



# 2022 in Review

## Series of Trainings on Forest Licensee Portal



Sibu  
24-26 October



Bintulu  
8-9 November



Miri  
11 November



Kuching  
29 November

## November



Malaysian Timber Certification Council Stakeholder Dialogue 2022 on the 30 October- 1 November. Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA presenting at the Dialogue.



Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA joined the Malaysian delegation at the 58<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Tropical Timber.



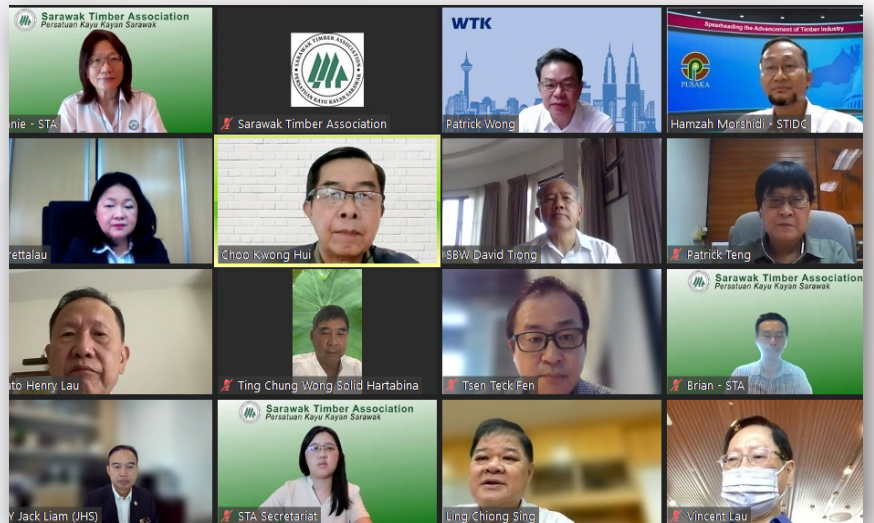
Discussion on Research & Development of Planted Forests with Plantation Industries on 17 November.





▲ STA and Forest Department Sarawak jointly organised field visit to Acacia plantations and mills for team of researchers from The Fibre and Biocomposite Development Centre of Malaysian Timber Industry Board from 28-30 November.

▲ Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA attended the closing ceremony for SayD'SignersSarawak-POLI design Furniture Course Workshop on 17 November.



Meetings of STA Subsidiary Companies on 21 November.



▲ STA Timber Product Marketing Category Meeting on 23 November.



▲ Visit from students from the Faculty of Resource Science and Technology, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak 25 November.





# December

## OPERATOR TRAINING PROGRAMME

Skills training in forestry activities have been designed to provide forest workmen with basic knowledge and practical skills required to work safely in the forests. It helps to create awareness on the environment, sustainable forest management as well as occupational safety and health.

STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), a subsidiary company of STA, offers training to workmen in the forestry and timber industry. Presently, there are twelve (12) skills sets offered by STAT.

For this month, STAT conducted ground operator training programmes as follows:

### Tree Felling- Chainsaw (Natural Forest), Log Extraction- Tractor (Natural Forest) & Log Loading- Front End Loader (Natural Forest)

Date: 5 - 10 December 2022  
 Location: Shin Fung Camp, Miri  
 STAT Trainer: Mr Ginda Uli & Mr Kutok Bayang  
 Company: Verstar Sdn Bhd

### Tree Felling- Chainsaw (Natural Forest), Log Extraction- Tractor (Natural Forest), Log and Timber Identification & Tree and Log Identification

Date: 6 – 13 December 2022  
 Location: Berkakap Camp, Kapit  
 STAT Trainer: Mr Sumbang Rani  
 Company: Solid Hartabina Sdn Bhd

### Tree Felling- Chainsaw (Natural Forest), Log Extraction- Tractor (Natural Forest) & Log Loading- Front End Loader (Natural Forest)

Date: 10 – 12 December 2022  
 Location: Kejin Camp, Baram  
 STAT Trainer: Mr Ginda Uli & Mr Kutok Bayang  
 Company: Shin Yang Sdn Bhd

### Tree and Log Identification

Date: 13 – 18 December 2022  
 Location: Engkeramuh Camp, Kapit  
 STAT Trainer: Mr Sumbang Rani & Mr Denis Aman  
 Company: Tanjong Manis Holdings Sdn Bhd

STAT is the appointed training provider by Forest Department Sarawak to provide skills training for the five (5) prescribed forestry activities (PFAs) as listed in Schedule 1 *The Forests (Trained Workmen) Rules, 2015*.