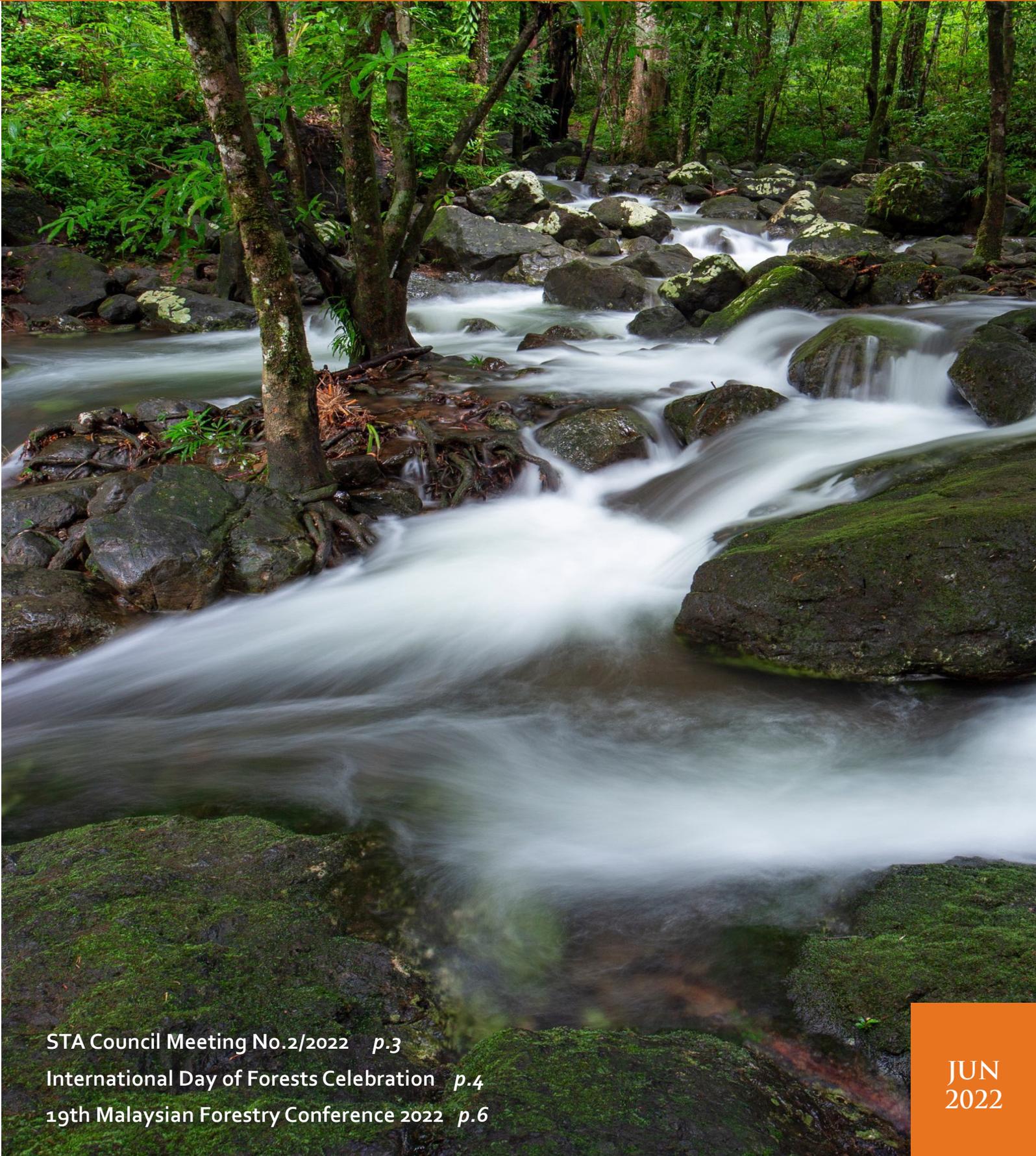


# STA Review

Monthly Magazine of the Sarawak Timber Association  
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2022

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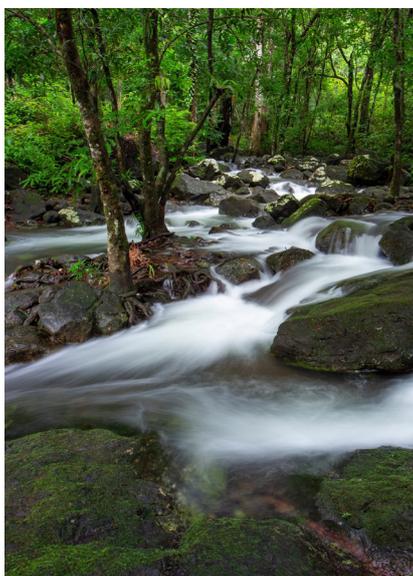


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# STA Council Meeting No.2/2022

Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik, Chairman presided over the STA Council Meeting No. 2/2022 on 9 June 2022. The meeting was attended by Vice Chairman Mr David Tiong, Honorary Secretary Dato Henry Lau, Honorary Treasurer Mr Philip Choo and twenty two (22) members of the Council.

The Council in this meeting deliberated on the amendments to the STA Constitution which were recommended and successfully approved by the Registry of Societies Malaysia (ROS) on 8 April 2022. The Council decided that the voting for Clause 8(1)(a)(i) of STA Constitution shall remain open to allow the absent member of the Council to cast their votes in order to achieve the requisite Unanimous Assenting Vote of a Council meeting.



Council meeting in progress

In addition to the above, the Council decided to further defer the Annual General Meeting for year 2022 (AGM 2022) from 15 June 2022 to 30 September 2022.

Reports from the several Category Committees and Working Committees as well as updates on the progress of the forest plantation research projects funded by STA were also presented to the Council. Forest Department Sarawak and STA are planning to organise a *Workshop to Identify Gaps and Opportunities in Implementing Forest Management Certification in Sarawak 2.0* with the objectives to identify main challenges faced by forest / forest plantation management units in Sarawak in implementing and maintaining certification as well as opportunities and necessary key resources in overcoming these challenges. The Council deliberated extensively on the issues to be highlighted at the Workshop, one of which is the Sarawak Government's promise to give 60-year tenure for certified long term forest timber licences.

The Council also took note on the passing of The Forests (Amendment) Bill, 2022 by the Sarawak State Legislative Assembly on 19 May 2022 to make way for carbon trading as well as the Occupational Safety and Health (Amendment) Bill 2020 by the House of Representatives and the Senate on 27 October 2021 and 13 December 2021 respectively to cover all places of work with the exception of employers, domestic servants, armed forces and work on board ships. The European Commission had also proposed the European Union Regulation on Deforestation-Free Products which will prohibit products produced on land deforested or degraded after 31 December 2020 from entering the European Union market.

Administrative matters of STA as well as its three (3) subsidiary companies, namely STA Training Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd and STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd were also addressed during the meeting.

本年度第二次砂拉越木材公会理事会会议于2022年6月9日在线上召开，由主席拿督黄启暉爵士主持。会议批准本会章程的内务修改，并接纳多份各个小组委员会和工作委员会的报告以及由本会资助的人工林研究项目的进展报告。

Mesyuarat Majlis STA Bil. 2/2022 telah diadakan secara dalam talian pada 9 Jun 2022 dan dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusinya, Datuk Sir Wong Kie Yik. Mesyuarat membincangkan pindaan Perlembagaan STA, menerima laporan daripada beberapa Jawatankuasa Kategori dan Jawatankuasa Kerja, maklumat terkini mengenai kemajuan projek penyelidikan ladang hutan yang dibiayai oleh STA.

# International Day of

In 2012, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 21 March of each year is to be observed as the International Day of Forests (IDF) around the world. The day celebrates and raises awareness of the importance of all types of forests for the good of current and future generations. Every year, countries are encouraged to undertake local, national and international efforts to organise activities involving forests and trees, such as tree planting campaigns.

In the Sarawak level celebration this year, the theme selected was “Environmental Sustainability Agenda for the State Prosperity” to portray the latest development in Sarawak forestry sector. Sarawak is expected to gain a new source of revenue from forest carbon activity while improving the management of its forests and natural resources. This is in line with the strategic thrusts in the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2030) and the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 on environmental sustainability.

The official launching ceremony for IDF was held on 28 June 2022 at Industrial Forest Research Center, Kuching. The event was attended by approximately 300 participants including representatives from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development (MUDeNR), Forest Department Sarawak (FDS), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd (HTSB), Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC), Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), STA, Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia (FDPM), Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), World Wide Fund for Nature Malaysia (WWF), local government officers and members of the media. STA was represented by Dato Hii King Chiong, Council member, Mr Ting Jack Hui, Council member, Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer as well as Secretariat staff.

The Director of Forests, Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad in his welcoming speech reiterated that the Sarawak Government is committed in managing its forests and natural resources sustainably through various efforts. As of May 2022, Sarawak in collaboration with non-governmental organizations and private sectors has successfully planted 12.35 million trees throughout Sarawak under the Greening Malaysia Programme to restore and improve degraded forested areas. FDS has leveraged on the latest technology such as satellite imaging and reconnaissance, airborne hyperspectral sensing and drone in managing, monitoring and safeguarding Sarawak’s forest resources. Datu Hamden expressed his gratitude to all agencies and stakeholders for their cooperation and support following the successful



Official launching of IDF 2022 by the Premier of Sarawak (centre)



The Premier of Sarawak (3<sup>rd</sup> from left) posing for picture with Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad, Director of Forests (2<sup>nd</sup> from left), Dato Hii King Chiong, STA Council Member (far right) and other distinguished guests

registration of Sarawak Delta Geopark as the country’s sixth national geopark on 20 June 2022.

In the opening speech by Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak, he mentioned that it was challenging to govern and manage forest resources during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many countries across regions exhibit a slowdown in their economy while trying their best to cope with the pandemic and balance economic activities. In order to ensure Sarawak is able to embark on the full-fledged transformation capitalising on mega-trends around the world, the Sarawak government had formulated the PCDS 2030. Under the PCDS 2030, Sarawak aims to develop forestry sector as globally recognized in sustainable management and biodiversity conservation while enhancing rapid growth of the timber industry. During his speech, he also announced that the Sarawak government has approved RM5 million for FDS to set up a model orchid garden equipped with digital facilities. FDS would carry out research and

# Forests Celebration 2022



Golf tournament organised by STA on 15 May 2022 at KGS Kuching



Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA (right) visited booth set up by Sarawak Design Centre (SARADEC) and took a group photo with Mr Alexandri Legawa, Assistant Consul, Consulate General of Indonesia in Kuching, Dr Imam Santosa, SARADEC Design Advisor and Puan Dayang Nena Abang Bruce, CEO of SARADEC (from left to right)

calculate the economic viability of forming the orchid garden in view of the unique Borneo orchid species which would be marketed.

After his speech, the Premier was invited to officially launch Sarawak's IDF 2022 celebration by inserting a mock belian seed to kick start a short video presentation showcasing the activities taken by FDS in restoring degraded forested areas and innovative ways of planting with application of drone technology and seed balls. The Premier also witnessed the signing and exchange of several Memoranda of Understandings (MoU) between various agencies such as FDPM, FRIM, WWF and Japan Malaysia Association.

In conjunction with the IDF celebration, a number of friendly sports tournaments were also carried out as an opportunity for forestry agencies and STA to foster a closer and positive rapport. The inter-agency games including badminton, bowling, blowpipe, futsal, and golf were organised throughout the month of May and June.

The results of each tournament are as follows:

Tournament	Date	Organiser	Venue	Winners
Badminton	14 May 2022	HTSB	CSL Sport, Bintulu	1 <sup>st</sup> - FDS
				2 <sup>nd</sup> - HTSB
				3 <sup>rd</sup> - STIDC
Golf	15 May 2022	STA	Kelab Golf Sarawak, Kuching	1 <sup>st</sup> - FDS
				2 <sup>nd</sup> - NREB
				3 <sup>rd</sup> - HTSB
Bowling	21 May 2022	STIDC	Megalanes Superbowl, Kuching	1 <sup>st</sup> - FDS
				2 <sup>nd</sup> - HTSB
				3 <sup>rd</sup> - STIDC
Futsal	22 May 2022	FDS	Arena Sukan, Kuching	1 <sup>st</sup> SFC (M) STIDC (W)
				2 <sup>nd</sup> STIDC (M) FDS (W)
				3 <sup>rd</sup> FDS (M) HTSB (W)
Blowpipe	18 June 2022	SFC	SFC Corporate Office, Kuching	1 <sup>st</sup> - FDS
				2 <sup>nd</sup> - SFC
				3 <sup>rd</sup> - STIDC

配合2022年国际森林日(IDF 2022), 林业机构与本会在2022年5月和6月期间展开了几项友好的体育活动比赛。随后, 砂拉越级IDF 2022于2022年6月28日由砂拉越总理拿督丹斯里阿邦佐哈里正式推展。

Sepanjang bulan Mei dan Jun 2022, beberapa kejohanan sukan persahabatan telah diadakan dalam kalangan agensi perhutanan dan STA, bersempena dengan Hari Hutan Antarabangsa 2022 (IDF 2022). Seterusnya, pada 28 Jun 2022, IDF 2022 peringkat Sarawak telah dirasmikan oleh Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier Sarawak.

# 19<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Forestry Conference

The Malaysian Forestry Conference (MFC) started in 1966 and is held every three (3) years in rotation between the Forestry Department Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah Forestry Department and Sarawak Forest Department. The MFC is a platform to exchange thoughts and information as well as share experiences related to the administration, management, planning, and development of the forestry sector in Malaysia.

The 19<sup>th</sup> MFC was held at Zenith Hotel, Kuantan from 12 to 15 June 2022. The Sarawak delegation was led by Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad, the Director of Forests which includes several senior officials from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Urban Development, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), Harwood Timber Sdn Bhd, Sarawak Planted Forest, Sarawak Forestry Corporation and STA.

During the opening ceremony of Conference themed 'Adapting Forestry to New Reality', Datuk Seri Takiyuddin Hassan, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources mentioned that a total of 34 million trees comprising over 1,000 species have been planted nationwide as of June 2020 under the 'Greening Malaysia: Our Trees, Our Lives' campaign.

He urged community associations, non-governmental organisations, private firms and individuals to come forward to play a more active role as tax exemption incentives have been prepared for donations to the conservation and greening of Malaysia. He also advised all parties to reduce dependence on forest harvesting activities, and instead, continue to strengthen the implementation of the 'Forest Beyond Timber' concept through ecotourism, herbal and pharmaceutical industries.

The MFC was officiated by Datuk Seri Wan Rosdy Wan Ismail, Pahang Menteri Besar. Also present were Forestry Department Peninsular Malaysia (FDPM) Director-General Datuk Mohd Ridza Awang, Sabah Forestry Department Chief Conservator of Forests Datuk Frederick Kugan, Forest

今年的马来西亚林业大会(MFC)于2022年6月12日至15日假关丹捷尼酒店举行, 主题为“使林业适应新现实”。砂森林局在大会分享为改进其执法行动而采取的举措、森林管理单位在实施减少影响采伐以及砂拉越在实施森林景观恢复方面取得的进展。大会在结束时做出并通过多项根据论文提交和深入讨论的决议。

Persidangan Perhutanan Malaysia (MFC) pada tahun ini telah diadakan di Hotel Zenith, Kuantan dari 12 hingga 15 Jun 2022 dengan tema 'Mengadaptasi Perhutanan ke arah Realiti Baharu'. Inisiatif untuk memperkasakan operasi penguatkuasaan, pelaksanaan RIL dan FLR di Sarawak telah dikongsikan oleh FDS semasa Persidangan. Pada akhir Persidangan, sejumlah resolusi telah dibuat dan diterima berdasarkan pembentangan kertas kerja dan perbincangan yang menyeluruh.



Left to right: Ms Jaime Chan, Assistant Manager of STA; Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad, Director of Forests, FDS; Datuk Mohd Ridza Awang, Director-General, FDPM; Mr Jack Anak Liam, Deputy Director of Forests, FDS; Ms Annie Ting, CEO, STA.

Department Sarawak director Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad and Pahang Forestry Department Director Datuk Dr Mohd Hizamri Mohd Yasin.

At the ceremony, a book titled 'Thriving Our Green Heritage' in conjunction with the Peninsular Malaysia Forestry Department's 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration was launched.

Twenty four (24) papers were presented in the six sub-theme and a total of 35 posters were display throughout the Conference. Recognising the importance of the sub-themes, the Conference adopted resolutions made during a closed door session.

Some of the papers that were presented are as follows:

## Sub-theme 1 - Forest Governance: Policy, Legislation, Enforcement and Certification

Mr Peter Jack of SFD spoke on their establishment of a special enforcement unit called PROTECT Team. He shared on their achievements and concluded that establishing PROTECT Team with the empowerment of tactical capabilities is a successful outcome for SFD, especially in detecting illegal and criminal forest activities. Support in terms of financial, workforce, logistics and equipment from the higher level and other stakeholders is also necessary to enhance the quality of PROTECT Team in strengthening forest reserve protection.

Mr Suliman Jamahari from FDS disclosed that FDS has transformed the way it conducts its enforcement in 2019 by adopting Op Rengas-COMOS, which incorporates digitalisation and inter-agency collaboration. The Continuous Monitoring and Surveillance (COMOS) initiative leverages on geospatial-based technologies to effectively obtain, analyse and disseminate tactical information to its enforcement personnel, thus enabling them to make critical decisions during the various stages of the enforcement operation. The success of this approach has translated into the increase of cases involving forest offences in 2019 since the inception of this approach and the subsequent reduction of up to 50% in the following years.



Panelist at the Conference

## Sub-theme 2 - Sustainable Forest Management: Technology, Innovation and Practices

Mr Wira Azizi of FDS presented a paper on trials, tribulations and successes of Reduced Impact Logging – the Sarawak experience. He shared on the progress made by the forest management units (FMUs) in implementation of RIL. Some of the way forward that was mentioned include (i) intensified RIL training for forest workers, (ii) research, innovation and technology application in RIL implementation such as Unmanned Aerial Vehicle and light detection and ranging (LiDAR) sensor in pre-felling activities, etc and (iii) continuous assessment and improvement of RIL Guideline for practical use.

A paper on big data analytics (BDA) in forecasting forest fire in permanent reserved forest in Peninsula Malaysia was presented by Mr Helmy Tariq of FDPM. The FDPM in collaboration with Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources has developed a forest fire incident forecasting system in permanent reserved forest in Peninsular Malaysia using BDA. The system will enable FDPM to (a) forecast the areas of potential forest fires as early as seven days; (b) locate the relevant agencies to deal with forest fires close to the site of the fire incident that can be identified; (c) locate the nearest water resources; and (d) estimate the cost of the firefighting operations.

## Sub-theme 3 - Forest Ecosystem Services: Food, Water, Energy and Climate Change

Mr Jurimin Ebin of SFD presented a paper touching on the willingness of visitors to pay for forest recreation services at Mount Silam. He shared on his experience for the project which aimed to develop workable payment for ecosystem services (PES) mechanism on forest recreation services, which can be replicated and implemented throughout the forest reserves in Sabah. The project consists of four components, which are capacity building, estimating economic value of forest recreation services in Sapagaya Forest Reserve, multi-level collaboration on formulation of the PES mechanism, and documentation & reporting.

A paper on carbon sink in Peninsular Malaysia affected by extreme drought events was presented during the Conference. The speaker concluded that unlogged forests are vulnerable to extreme drought events. Although studies have shown that unlogged forests were able to recover after an El Niño-Southern Oscillation episode, future predictions of frequent extreme or even severe drought events will halt forest growth.

## Sub-theme 4 - Forest Biodiversity: Conservation, Restoration and Protection

Ms Rabi'atul Adawiyah from FDPM spoke on the Central Forest Spine (CFS) which is Peninsular Malaysia's green lung that connects four major forest complexes and spread across eight states. This paper highlighted efforts that had been taken by FDPM with the help from State Forestry Department and other agencies as well as challenges faced by FDPM in conducting CFS in Peninsular Malaysia.

Ms Zarina Shebli, FDS shared on the forest landscape restoration (FLR) in Sarawak. She highlighted the FLR initiatives and programmes that have been planned and implemented throughout Sarawak as well as the FLR strategy and action plan for the future. She disclosed that Sarawak is leading in the '100 Million Tree Planting Campaign' with 10,903,567 trees planted.

## Sub-theme 5 - Forest Economy and Commodity: Forest Economic, Forest Plantation, Wood Based Industry and Non-Timber Forest Products

Dr Robert Ong, SFD shared the 25-year projection of timber production for Sabah. This projection was based on inputs from the sustainable forest management licence holders in Sabah. He mentioned that the production over the next five years will continue to come from salvage logging of areas earmarked for forest plantation development. However, planted timber trees will become increasingly important thereafter. Production from plantation is expected to peak in year 2035 and sustained at a level of about 7 million m<sup>3</sup> per year from a fully regulated forest plantation-estate of 400,000 ha. In the long term, production from the natural forests will sustain at a yield of about 100,000 m<sup>3</sup> per year.

Mr Semilan Ripot, FDS presented on the outlook of wood based industry and forest management in Sarawak. The paper highlighted the initiatives planned and executed by both FDS and STIDC to further enhance the management of the forests and the development of the timber industry in Sarawak. He shared that the timber industry is expected to generate an annual export value of RM8 billion by 2030. This is to be achieved by developing more value-added products such as furniture, plywood-based products, bamboo-based products and engineered wood products. The industry will be restructured to not only process timber from natural forests but also planted timber species.

The industry needs to invest in technology upgrades to process small diameter log peelers (lathes), improve grading, transportation and storage of plantation logs, seasoning/water and heat treating of the *Acacia* plantation logs to improve the veneer quality and the recovery rates, develop efficient veneer drying schedules, proper glue formulations and pressing/drying schedules.

## Sub-theme 6 – Forest for Livelihood: Social Forestry, Ecotourism and Communication, Education and Public Awareness

Ms Elna Betrece, SFD presented a paper on socioeconomic evaluation on the permanent forest estate (PFE) in Sabah. This study shows that the socio economic contribution of the forest sector/PFE is undervalued because the existing GDP method measures only a narrow range of forest-based activities, focusing mainly on logging and production and processing of timber. Some of the socio-economic contribution such as forest based tourism, construction, fisheries, bird's nest, water supply, hydro power, funding from NGO and research organisation were excluded.

## Strategic Discussions for the “Impact of MTCS on Forest Management, Industry and Trade” Research Study

Institute of Environment and Development (LESTARI), the institute established to further the goal of Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) in sustainable development through research and capacity development, cooperated with Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) to carry out a research study on the “Impact of Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme on Forest Management, Industry and Trade”.

The study is conducted to identify the effectiveness and impact of implementing forest certification process in Malaysia among forest management units, government agencies and timber industry. A strategic discussion was held on 20 and 21 June 2022 at Imperial Hotel, Kuching to meet these objectives. The 2-day discussion, led by Associate Professor Dr Ahmad Fariz Hj Mohamed, Project Leader and Dato’ Shaharuddin Mohamad Ismail, Senior Research Fellow, UKM was divided into four (4) closed-door sessions, each for Forest Department Sarawak, Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation, Sarawak Forestry Corporation and STA.

The discussion began with a presentation by Dato’ Shaharuddin on “Assessment and Analysis of Corrective Action Requests of Certified FMUs in Sarawak” as well as a presentation on “Certification and Timber Industry in Sarawak” by Associate Professor Dr Ahmad Fariz. Dato’ Shaharuddin and Dr Ahmad Fariz, in acknowledging that implementation of forest management certification is not one without challenges, hoped to learn more about the challenges faced by industry players in Sarawak’s forestry.

During the session with STA, its Chief Executive Officer, Ms Annie Ting elaborated on some of these challenges. She highlighted that unlike in Peninsular Malaysia where the implementation of FMC are done by the Forest Department of Peninsular Malaysia, the responsibility in Sarawak are borne entirely by the forest management unit (FMU) holders within limited resources and financial support.

Another challenge that was brought up during the discussion was the unfulfilled promise of 60-year tenure from the Sarawak Government, as the security of tenure will allow the FMUs to carry out long term planning and implementation of sustainable forest management.

She added that the effort to maintain FMC is also plagued with genuine, non-genuine as well as claims made by peripheral communities on land, in addition to allegations by local and international non-governmental organisations (NGOs) over certified FMUs not in total compliance with the criteria and indicators of the certification schemes.



Associate Professor Dr Ahmad Fariz (seated, centre) and Dato’ Shaharuddin Mohamad Ismail (seated, 2<sup>nd</sup> from right) posed for a group picture with representatives from the timber industry and STA, led by its CEO, Ms Annie Ting (seated, 2<sup>nd</sup> from left).



Associate Professor Dr Ahmad Fariz handing over a token of appreciation to Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA in the presence of Ms Sabrina Mawasi, Manager (Chain of Custody) of MTCC (far left).

Ms Ting called upon Sarawak’s forestry authority, third party auditors and scheme regulators to work promptly with FMUs to respond to these allegations.

Ms Ting also shared some of STA’s targeted initiative to build capacity within the forestry and timber industry. One of such is the collaboration with the Department of Occupational Safety and Health to train personnel from the industry as in-house trainers on Occupational Safety and Health in Forest Industries, so they can train forest workers at their respective workplaces.

In the environment aspect, STA’s collaboration with Natural Resources and Environment Board to drive the transition from conventional regulatory compliance to self-regulated compliance through pilot projects on environmental compliance audit was also highlighted.

Through this endeavour, a number of trainings were carried out, namely the environmental compliance audit training and training on environmental quality monitoring.

Dato' Shaharuddin commended STA for being the only association in Malaysia representing companies in the timber industry that provides incentive to its members for achieving FMC. Notwithstanding that, Ms Ting hoped that the Government could help create conducive environment for companies in the forestry and timber industry to operate in.

环境与发展研究所(LESTARI) 和马来西亚木材认证委员会(MTCC)合作展开一项关于“马来西亚木材认证计划对森林管理、工业和贸易的影响”的研究。在2022年6月20日与本会进行的策略讨论中, 本会首席执行官陈燕贞小姐强调其会员在砂拉越实施森林认证过程中所面临的挑战。

Institut Alam Sekitar dan Pembangunan (LESTARI) bekerjasama dengan Majlis Pensijilan Kayu Malaysia (MTCC) untuk menjalankan kajian penyelidikan mengenai “*Impak Skim Pensijilan Kayu Malaysia terhadap Pengurusan Hutan, Perindustrian dan Perdagangan*”. Dalam perbincangan strategik yang diadakan dengan STA pada 20 Jun 2022, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutifnya, Cik Annie Ting menekankan cabaran yang dihadapi oleh ahli-ahlinya dalam melaksanakan proses pensijilan hutan di Sarawak.

## Appreciation Ceremony for Sponsors & Supporters of the Rainforest World Music Festival and Borneo Jazz Festival 2022

Sarawak Tourism Board (STB), the organiser of the Rainforest World Music Festival and Borneo Jazz Festival 2022 held an appreciation ceremony for the sponsors and supporters of the events at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching (BCCK), Kuching on 7 June 2022.

The event was graced by Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah, Minister of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts. In his speech, he thanked the partners for their contributions to the festivals, adding that their contributions will help in fulfilling STB's vision of bringing the world together in Sarawak through music.

The Rainforest World Music Festival 2022 celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with theme “*The Legendary Rainforest Celebration*” throughout the 3-day festival from 17-19 June 2022 at Sarawak Cultural Village, Kuching. Meanwhile, the 17<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Borneo Jazz Festival 2022 with theme “*Jazz in the Jungle*” was held from 24 – 26 June 2022 at Coco Cabana, Miri. As one of the official financial supporters for both festivals, STA was represented by its CEO, Ms Annie Ting at the event.



Ms Annie Ting (6<sup>th</sup> from right) receiving the appreciation plaque from Dato Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah

2022年热带雨林世界音乐节和婆罗洲爵士音乐节的主办单位砂拉越旅游局(STB)于2022年6月7日在古晋婆罗洲会展中心(BCCK)为活动的赞助商和支持者举行感谢仪式。STA作为这两个音乐节的官方资助者之一, 由其首席执行官陈燕贞小姐代表出席了该活动。



Group photo with all the sponsors and supporters present at the event

Lembaga Pelancongan Sarawak (STB), selaku penganjur Rainforest World Music Festival dan Borneo Jazz Festival 2022 telah mengadakan majlis penghargaan kepada penaja dan penyokong sambutan tersebut di Pusat Konvensyen Borneo Kuching (BCCK), Kuching pada 7 Jun 2022. STA, salah satu penyumbang kewangan rasmi untuk kedua-dua sambutan itu diwakili oleh Ketua Pegawai Eksekutifnya, Cik Annie Ting pada majlis tersebut.

## The Forest Department Sarawak Integrity Day 2022

The Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) held its Integrity Day 2022 on 23 June 2022 at Dewan Suarah Kapit. The Integrity Day with the theme “*Integrity Catalyst for Forest Sustainability*” was attended by representatives from FDS, STA secretariat and timber licensees within the Kapit region. The Integrity Day aimed to promote, cultivate and strengthen integrity among staff of FDS as well as prepare FDS towards ISO 37001:2016 Anti-Bribery Management System (ABMS) certifications. The ISO 37001 ABMS published by International Organisation for Standardisation is designed to help organisations prevent, detect and respond to bribery incidents.

Datu Hamden Bin Haji Mohammad, Director of Forests in his welcoming remarks mentioned that this year’s integrity day is held in Kapit because it has the largest remaining forested area with active forestry activities. He pointed out that the forestry sector has contributed significant revenue to Sarawak’s economy since the beginning of forestry operations in Sarawak. In order to ensure that the forest resources are safeguarded and managed efficiently, the FDS employed latest technology such as satellite imaging and reconnaissance, airborne hyperspectral, light detection and ranging as well as drone application.

He also underscored the Department’s commitment in preventing bribery within its offices, with one of the initiatives being the establishment of Integrity and Internal Audit Unit in 2019. He hoped that through various initiatives conducted by the Department, all staff will continue to uphold high level of integrity when delivering their duties.

The FDS’ Integrity Day 2022 was officiated by Dato’ Murshid Diraja Dr. Juanda Jaya, Deputy Minister in the Premier of Sarawak’s Department (Integrity and Ombudsman). In the welcoming speech, he mentioned that the Premier of Sarawak wants Sarawak to become a developed State by 2030. In addition to revenue from oil and gas, Sarawak has explored new sources of revenue such as carbon storage, hydrogen economy and spectrum use in Sarawak’s airspace. In order to ensure all revenue are collected and channelled to support these developments, all parties need to uphold high standard of integrity to avoid any leakages. He also praised FDS for actively promoting integrity among its staff and for having the most Certified Integrity Officer (CeIO) in Sarawak.

Mr Abdul Wahab Bin Haji Ahmad, Head of Integrity and Internal Audit, FDS introduced the implementation of ISO 37001 ABMS by FDS as well as a number of policies established by the Department to support its implementation, such as whistleblower policy and anti-bribery policy. He informed that field audits to assess



Launching of FDS’ Integrity Day by Dato’ Murshid Diraja Dr. Juanda Jaya (2<sup>nd</sup> from left)



Participants at the FDS’ Integrity Day 2022

FDS’ compliance to ISO 37001 ABMS will be carried out in the Kapit region in August 2022. The scope of audit will cover approval process for issuance of Permit to Enter Coupe (PEC) and Royalty Assessment using Sarawak Logs Tracking and Forest Revenue (REVLOG) System at Mabong and Melatai Forest One Stop Compliance Centre.

Mr Among Anak Jengga, Senior Assistant Superintendent from Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Sibu Office presented a paper on the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 2010*. It is an act to promote disclosure of information about any wrongdoing that occurs in the public or private sectors, such as fraud, corruption and abuse of power. The Act provides protection to whistleblowers from any prejudicial effect of disclosure that has been made. He emphasised the responsibility of each individual to report any bribery to the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission and failure to do so result in a penalty up to a maximum RM100,000 or imprisonment up to 10 years or both.

Mr Shamsul Bin Bojeng from Integrity and Ombudsman Unit of the Premier of Sarawak's Department shared on the gift management guidelines for Sarawak civil service. The Sarawak Government has published guidelines on gift management aimed to enhanced integrity, professionalism and transparency among State civil servants. Under the *General Order 156* and *State Public Service General Orders 1996*, Sarawak civil servants are prohibited from receiving gifts except in certain situations and corresponding value as well as with approval, such as from the State Secretary for gift worth more than RM500.

Ms Khartini Johari, Head of Integrity and Risk Management Unit of Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) shared the journey and actions taken towards integrity enhancement in SEDC as well as responsibilities of CeLO in promoting and enhancing integrity compliance.

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak (FDS) telah mengadakan Hari Integriti 2022 pada 23 Jun 2022 di Dewan Suarah Kapit. Hari Integriti yang bertemakan "*Pemangkin Integriti untuk Kelestarian Hutan*" telah dihadiri oleh wakil-wakil daripada FDS, sekretariat STA dan pemegang lesen perkayuan di Kapit. Kapit mempunyai kawasan hutan terbesar di Sarawak dengan aktiviti-aktiviti perhutanan yang aktif.

Beberapa dasar telah ditetapkan oleh FDS untuk menyokong pelaksanaan pensijilan Sistem Pengurusan Antirasuah ISO 37001:2016, seperti dasar pemberi maklumat dan dasar antirasuah telah dikongsi. Beberapa penceramah turut berkongsi undang-undang antirasuah dan mengetengahkan inisiatif yang diambil daslam meningkatkan integriti.

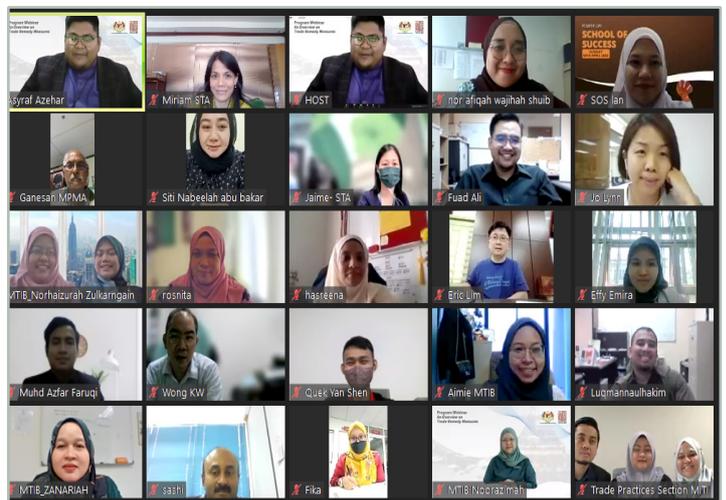
砂拉越森林局(FDS)于2022年 6月23日在加帛民众会堂举办2022 年诚信日。来自 FDS、本会秘书处和加帛区木材许可证持有者的代表参加题为“森林可持续发展的诚信催化剂”的诚信日，加帛区拥有最大的剩余森林面积与积极的林业活动。

FDS制定多项政策以实行 ISO 37001:2016 反贿赂管理体系认证，例如举报人政策和反贿赂政策。数位讲员介绍反贿赂法，并强调为加强诚信而采取的举措。

## An Overview on Trade Remedy Measures

Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) and Trade Practices Section of the Ministry of International Trade & Industry (MITI) jointly organised "*An Overview on Trade Remedy Measures*" webinar on 7 June 2022. The webinar, attended by 140 participants, was conducted to improve understanding among industry players on trade remedy and mitigating measures that can be taken to maintain competitiveness in international market.

In the welcoming remarks read by Puan Noorazimah Binti Sarkom @ Hj Othman, Director of Trade Development MTIB, Mr Mahpar Bin Atan, Director General of MTIB shared that the export of timber and timber products from Malaysia for year 2021 increased 30% compared to same corresponding period in 2020 and continued to increase in the first four (4) months of 2022. He added that MTIB will continue to play its role in assisting the timber industry to handle issues and challenges such as shortage of raw material, manpower, logistic arrangement, productivity, tariff and non-tariff barrier in international trade and etc.



Several of the Webinar's participants

The three (3) trade remedy measures that member country under World Trade Organisation (WTO) Agreement can undertake to ensure fair treatment of trade in international market and remain competitive are (i) anti-dumping, (ii) safeguard measures; and (iii) subsidy & countervailing duties. Generally, anti-dumping duty is imposed to treat unfair trade practices by removing injurious (dumping) price while countervailing duty is imposed to remove subsidised price. Safeguard measures is an emergency measure taken to remove excessive imports as a result of a surge in imports.

These trade remedy measures were introduced in breadth and depth by Mr Ahmad Zaidi Mohd Illias, Senior Assistant Director, Multilateral Policy & Negotiation Division of MITI as well as Ms Zuriana Ibrahim, Assistant Director General and Ms Nurul Syuhada Abdul Hamid, Senior Assistant Director from the Trade Practices Section of MITI.

The Trade Practices Section of MITI is the investigating authority tasked with conducting trade remedy investigations and defending trade remedy actions against Malaysia. In order to defend trade remedy actions against Malaysia, the Trade Practices Section will advise, assist and coordinate the responses from domestic industry for anti-dumping, countervailing or safeguard investigations initiated by other countries against Malaysia.

马来西亚木材工业局 (MTIB) 和国际贸易与工业部 (MITI) 贸易惯例组于 2022 年 6 月 7 日联合举办“贸易补救措施概述”线上研讨会，以提高行业参与者对世界贸易组织 (WTO) 协议下的成员国可采取的 3 项贸易补救措施的了解，以确保在国际市场上公平对待贸易并保持竞争力。

Lembaga Perindustrian Kayu Malaysia (MTIB) dan Bahagian Amalan Perdagangan di Kementerian Perdagangan Antarabangsa & Industri (MITI) telah menganjurkan webinar “Gambaran Keseluruhan Langkah Pemulihan Perdagangan” pada 7 Jun 2022 untuk meningkatkan pemahaman pemain-pemain industri mengenai 3 langkah-langkah pemulihan perdagangan yang boleh diambil oleh negara anggota di bawah Perjanjian Pertubuhan Perdagangan Dunia (WTO) bagi memastikan layanan perdagangan saksama dalam pasaran antarabangsa dan kekal berdaya saing.

## Meeting of Members of the East Malaysia Region Office MEF

The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) organised a virtual meeting on 21 June 2022 which was attended by 16 members of MEF East Malaysia Region. Chaired by Mr Bernard John Kanny, MEF’s Senior Consultant – Industrial Relations, the meeting aimed at sharing information on the topic “*Dealing with Sexual Harassment at the Workplace*”.

Ms R Usha Devi, General Manager – Industrial Relations of MEF highlighted that the Employment Act 1955 has been amended to incorporate laws governing sexual harassment which shall come into effect on 1 September 2022. Section 81 of the Employment Act 1955 makes it mandatory for employers to investigate complaints of sexual harassment at the workplace by an employee. If the employer fails to investigate, employer can be fined to a maximum of RM50,000.

According to her, the new amendment to the Employment Act also requires employers to put up a notice at the workplace to raise awareness on sexual harassment. She briefed the participants on the various forms of sexual harassment by drawing examples from case laws.

Ms R Usha Devi reminded members that sexual harassment is a serious misconduct and advised members to come up with a policy to educate employees on the subject matter. Although there is no such provision in the Labour Ordinance of Sarawak, the Code

of Practice on the Prevention and Eradication of Sexual Harassment in the Workplace introduced by the Ministry of Human Resources in 1999 contains guidelines on the establishment and implementation of in-house preventive and redress mechanism for dealing with sexual harassment at the enterprise level.

马来西亚雇主联合会 (MEF) 联合国际劳工组织 (ILO) 于 2022 年 6 月 15 日在古晋梅德卡宫套房酒店举行的“职场暴力和骚扰研讨会”中分享根据马来西亚法律和惯例拟定的资料，以帮助雇主消除职场暴力、骚扰和性骚扰。

Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) dengan kerjasama Pertubuhan Buruh Antarabangsa (ILO) berkongsi bahan-bahan rujukan yang dibangunkan berdasarkan undang-undang dan amalan Malaysia untuk membantu majikan dalam menghapuskan keganasan, gangguan dan gangguan seksual dalam dunia pekerjaan, dalam “Bengkel mengenai Keganasan dan Gangguan dalam Dunia Pekerjaan” di Hotel Merdeka Palace & Suites Kuching pada 15 Jun 2022.

# MEF-ILO Workshop on Violence and Harassment in the World of Work

The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) in collaboration with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) held a “*Workshop on Violence and Harassment in the World of Work*” at Merdeka Palace Hotel & Suites Kuching on 15 June 2022. Approximately 34 representatives from various organisations attended the Workshop which aimed to disseminate and provide training to members using the ILO tools as well as incorporate the ILO templates and investigation guidelines as part of company’s policies.

Dato’ Hj Jalaldin Hussain, Senior Consultant – Industrial Relations of MEF in his opening remarks, highlighted that Datuk Seri M. Saravanan A/L Murugan, Minister of Human Resources announced on 15 June 2022 that the Employment (Amendment) Act 2022 (Act 265) will come into force on 1 September 2022. Although Act 265 is not applicable to Sarawak yet, he stressed the importance of having a policy on sexual harassment in the workplace as the Act requires employers to conspicuously exhibit a notice to raise awareness of sexual harassment in the workplace. He presented the following papers in the workshop:

## **MEF-ILO Template company policy on violence in the world of work**

A company policy on violence is aimed at eliminating violence at the workplace as well as creating and fostering a conducive work place environment. The policy is to be reviewed at least on an annual basis and should include the scope and application, definition of workplace violence, non-tolerance of workplace violence, responsibilities and obligations of company, managers & supervisors as well as employees; reporting of incidents of workplace violence, investigation, no reprisal policy and disciplinary action.

## **MEF-ILO Template company policy on harassment in the world of work**

The importance of employers developing their own policies on harassment in workplace was raised and the contents of the policy reflected the basis and importance of the policy with introduction and reference to relevant ILO standards and conventions. The template policy must be easy to comprehend, adopted and accepted by employees where employees are given the opportunity to read, understand and acknowledge the contents of the policy before endorsing on the document with their signatures.

## **MEF-ILO Template company policy on sexual harassment in the world of work**

Under the Employment (Amendment) Act 2022 to be enforced on 1 September 2022, it is mandatory for employers to investigate any complaint of sexual harassment. Employers have to inform employees on the seriousness of sexual harassment. It was underlined that the best way to combat sexual harassment in the workplace is having company policy, trainings and team buildings.

## **Employers’ guideline for investigating complaints of violence and harassment and sexual harassment in the world of work**

The importance of conducting investigation on any complaints of violence, harassment and sexual harassment in the workplace was emphasised and a comprehensive investigation guideline will help protect the credibility, reputation and interest of the company. It is the employer’s duty to provide a safe and proper working condition for all local and foreign workers and conduct investigation based on Section 81A and 81F of Employment Act (Amendment) 2012 and Section 15 of OSH Act. An employer who commits an offence, shall on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding RM50,000.

马来西亚雇主联合会(MEF)联合国际劳工组织(ILO)于2022年6月15日在古晋梅德卡宫套房酒店举行的“职场暴力和骚扰研讨会”中分享根据马来西亚法律和惯例拟定的资料,以帮助雇主消除职场暴力、骚扰和性骚扰。

Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) dengan kerjasama Pertubuhan Buruh Antarabangsa (ILO) berkongsi bahan-bahan rujukan yang dibangunkan berdasarkan undang-undang dan amalan Malaysia untuk membantu majikan dalam menghapuskan keganasan, gangguan dan gangguan seksual dalam dunia pekerjaan, dalam “Bengkel mengenai Keganasan dan Gangguan dalam Dunia Pekerjaan” di Hotel Merdeka Palace & Suites Kuching pada 15 Jun 2022.

# The Forests (Amendment) Ordinance, 2022

The *Forests Ordinance, 2015 [Cap. 71]* was amended following the passing of *Forests (Amendment) Bill, 2022* during the 19<sup>th</sup> Sarawak State Legislative Assembly on 19 May 2022. The new *Forests (Amendment) Ordinance, 2022 [Amended Ordinance]* shall come into force on a date appointed by the Minister of Natural Resources and Urban Development, by notification in the Gazette.

The amendments intend to provide for a better management of forests in Sarawak including natural resources within the forests. The Amended Ordinance now covers Forest Carbon Activity (FCA), whereby the Director of Forests, with written approval from the Minister, is empowered to issue licence for FCA in any permanent forest, State land or alienated land, upon payment of necessary fees and charges.

The law protects the legitimate interests of licensee as well as those investing in FCA and makes it mandatory to obtain a licence before undertaking any FCA otherwise an offence would have been committed with penal consequences.

The licence holder shall be able to participate in carbon trading as the licence grants its holder full legal and beneficial title to the carbon stock or greenhouse gas (GHG) stock associated with a FCA as well as any carbon

credit units issued by a carbon standard in respect of the emission reductions achieved by such FCA.

Besides that, the Amended Ordinance also includes Amenity Forest into Permanent Forest Estate for research, educational and recreational purposes to enhance community participation in promoting the preservation and sustainable use of forests for studies and enjoyment by the people and visitors to Sarawak.

The Amended Ordinance also provides provisions for any person who has been arrested to be released (unless remanded), only if he provides a personal bond, with or without surety in an amount sufficient to secure his attendance, whenever required, to complete investigations by the forest officer.

In addition to that, it also makes provisions for the forfeiture by the state of any security, furnished for the temporary release of items seized, if the owner fails to surrender the items seized when required or if he fails to produce the items seized before the court, upon his conviction.

This information was circulated to STA members via STA Circular on 3 June 2022.

2015年森林法令[Cap. 71]在2022年5月19日举行的第19届砂拉越州立法议会通过2022年森林(修订)法案后进行修订。新的2022年森林(修订)法案[修订条例]的生效日期将交由天然资源与城市发展部部长通过宪报颁布。主要修订包括森林碳活动、重组永久性森林和执法。

Ordinan Hutan, 2015 [Cap.71] telah dipinda susulan kelulusan Undang-undang Hutan (Pindaan), 2022 semasa persidangan Dewan Undangan Negeri Sarawak ke-19 pada 19 Mei 2022. Tarikh penguatkuasaan Ordinan Hutan (Pindaan) baru, 2022 akan ditetapkan oleh Menteri Sumber Asli dan Pembangunan Bandar, melalui pemberitahuan dalam Warta. Pindaan utama termasuklah aktiviti karbon hutan, klasifikasi semula hutan kekal dan penguatkuasaan.

## Diploma in Forestry Programme by Universiti Putra Malaysia, Bintulu Campus

Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Bintulu Campus through the Faculty of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences had been offering a 2-year Diploma in Forestry programme since November 2001. The programme aims to produce semi-skilled graduates with solid foundation in forestry to meet the workforce demand of the forestry and timber industry in Malaysia as well as contribute in improving the sustainability of Malaysia's forestry and timber industry.

Dr Zamri Bin Rosli, Dean of Faculty of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences called a hybrid meeting on 20 June 2022 to review the Diploma of Forestry programme. The meeting was attended by forestry experts as well as representatives from the government agencies and industry including STA.

Participants of this meeting discussed the direction and objectives of the Diploma in Forestry. They also reviewed the curriculum of the Diploma in Forestry to ensure that the course content is appropriate, practical and up-

to-date in preparing the graduates for the current industry landscape. Some of the inputs provided for the curriculum include digitalisation in the forest management, international forestry issues as well as carbon sequestration and trading.

马来西亚博特拉大学 (UPM) 农林科学学院, 民都鲁分校于2022年6月20日召开混合会议, 审查其两年制林业文凭课程。与会者商讨该林业文凭的方向和目标并审查课程以确保内容适当、实用且与时俱进, 让毕业生为当前的行业环境做好准备。

Fakulti Sains Pertanian dan Perhutanan Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Kampus Bintulu telah mengkaji semula program 2-tahun Diploma Perhutanan semasa mesyuarat hibrid pada 20 Jun 2022. Mesyuarat membincangkan hala tuju dan objektif Program serta menyemak semula kurikulum Diploma Perhutanan, bagi memastikan kandungan kursus terus sesuai, praktikal dan terkini bagi melahirkan graduan yang memenuhi kehendak landskap industri semasa.

## STA Announcements

### Rescheduling of AGM 2022

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2022 which was originally scheduled to take place on 15 June 2022 has been rescheduled to Friday, 30 September 2022. For further information, please contact STA Secretariat at telephone number 082 – 332222 or email to [sta@sta.org.my](mailto:sta@sta.org.my).

原定于2022年6月15日所召开的本会2022年会员常年大会(AGM)已展期至2022年9月30日, 星期五。欲知详情, 请致电082 – 332222 或电邮至[sta@sta.org.my](mailto:sta@sta.org.my) 联系本会秘书处。

Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan (AGM) 2022 yang dijadualkan pada 15 Jun 2022 telah ditunda ke Jumaat, 30 September 2022. Untuk maklumat lanjut, sila hubungi Sekretariat STA di talian 082-332222 atau emel ke [sta@sta.org.my](mailto:sta@sta.org.my).



Sarawak Timber Association

# Annual General Meeting

has been rescheduled to

**30 September 2022 (Friday)**  
**Wisma STA, Kuching**

For further information, please contact Secretariat at 082-332222 or email at [sta@sta.org.my](mailto:sta@sta.org.my).

Wishing all Members and Readers

## Happy Sarawak Day

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 Hari Sarawak 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砂拉越日快乐。

# JUNE 2022

## 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 on ground operator training programmes as follows:

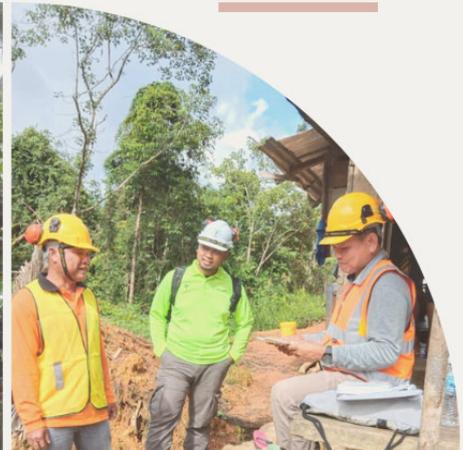


### Tree Felling- Chainsaw (Natural Forest); Log Extraction- Tractor (Natural Forest); Log Loading- Front End Loader (Natural Forest) & Mechanical Site Preparation- Excavator (Forest Plantation)

Date : 16 - 21 June 2022  
 Location : Engkeramuh Camp, Kapit  
 STAT Trainer : Mr Sang Sanjan & Mr Ngumbang Bayang  
 Company : Hariwood Sdn Bhd

### Tree Felling- Chainsaw (Natural Forest); Log Extraction- Tractor (Natural Forest); Log Loading- Front End Loader (Natural Forest); Tree and Log Identification & Log and Timber Identification

Date : 21 - 27 June 2022  
 Location : Entulu-Melatai FMU, Putai  
 STAT Trainer : Mr Kutok Bayang  
 Mr Sumbang Rani  
 Company : WTK Group of Companies



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

Date : 17 - 21 June 2022  
 Location : Song Logging Camp, Kapit  
 STAT Trainer : Mr Kutok Bayang  
 Mr Sumbang Rani  
 Company : WTK Group of Companies



### Tree Felling- Chainsaw (Natural Forest); Log Extraction- Tractor (Natural Forest) & Mechanical Site Preparation- Excavator (Forest Plantation)

Date : 21 - 27 June 2022  
 Location : Pasin Camp, Song  
 STAT Trainer : Mr Sang Sanjan  
 Mr Ngumbang Bayang  
 Company : Hariwood 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.