

STA REVIEW

Monthly Magazine of Sarawak Timber Association



pg. **03**

Joint Meeting of STA Hill Logging Committee and Certification Committee

pg. **04**

Dialogue Session between YAB Minister of Plantation and Commodities & Agricommodity Industry 2023

pg. **08**

National Training Week 2023

TABLE OF CONTENT

03	Joint Meeting of STA Hill Logging Committee & Certification Committee
04	Dialogue Session between YAB Minister of Plantation and Commodities and Agricommodity Industry 2023
05	DF Circular No.2/2023 on Planting of Non-Timber Species Within Licence for Planted Forests Area
06	Mini-Seminar on <i>Falcataria moluccana</i> Research Project
06	Engagement Session with Marubeni Malaysia Sdn Bhd
07	Malaysian Timber Association Executive Committee Meeting No.1/2023
07	STA Mutual Sdn Bhd Sponsors Run To Save Lives 3.0
08	National Training Week 2023
09	Courtesy Call by Sarawak Regional Director of Employees Provident Fund
10	International Conference on Engineered Wood Sarawak 2023
10	ecoGreenPlanet Tree Planting Programme
12	Follow up on Stakeholder Engagement for Port Services Requirement Study for Miri Port
12	Going Net Zero in the Palm Oil Industry: <i>The Role of GHG Footprint Assurance and Carbon Project Certifications</i>
12	SwinTalk Series #1 - New Normal Opportunities and Challenges for businesses and entrepreneurs in Sarawak
14	State Sales Tax on Prescribed Timber Products
14	Meeting of MEF East Malaysia Region Members No. 5/2023
16	Statistics
28	Skills Training for Workmen

CONTACT US



++ (60 82) 332 222 (Phone)
++ (60 82) 487 888 (Fax)



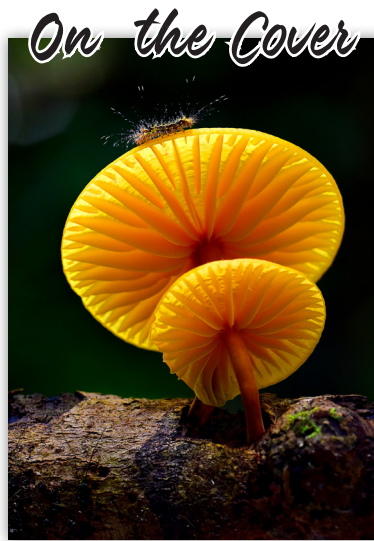
sta@sta.org.my



www.sta.org.my



11 Floor Wisma STA, 26, Jalan Datuk Abang Abdul Rahim,
93450 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia



Cover photo by
Mak Sen Fatt.

STA REVIEW

is a monthly magazine published by Sarawak Timber Association (STA) for its members. While every effort has been made to ensure that the information printed in this magazine is accurate and correct, neither STA nor its Council Members, Officers or Employees shall assume any responsibility or be made liable for any inaccuracies and errors printed; nor is such publication, unless otherwise stated, necessarily the views of STA, its Council Members, Officers or Employees. The contents of the STA Review may be reprinted with prior written permission from STA.



STA Review is mailed free of charge to all STA Members. Paid subscription is also available to non-members. An annual subscription fee of RM200.00 is charged to organisations within Malaysia, and US\$300.00 to foreign organisations in other Asian countries, Australia and New Zealand, and US\$500.00 to foreign organisations in American and European countries respectively. The subscription fee is inclusive of courier charges.

STA reserves the right to change the subscription fees from time to time to reflect currency fluctuations. Paid subscription is non-refundable.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor

Annie Ting

Members

Flora Eliza Saban
Freda Emmanuel
Jaime Chan
Miriam Hong
Tchin Boon Ling
Wong How Chu
Yii Yien Yien

Printed by

Lee Ming Press Sdn Bhd
Lot 2050, Jalan Swasta,
Pending Industrial Estate,
93450 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia

Tel : ++ (60 82) 253 303
Fax : ++ (60 82) 426 382
Email : sales@leeming.com.my

Joint Meeting of STA Hill Logging Committee and Certification Committee

The members of STA Hill Logging Committee and STA Certification Committee met in a joint meeting held on 25 May 2023 at Wisma STA Kuching to deliberate matters affecting both Committees. Mr Wong Ting Chung, the Chairman of these Committees, presided over the meeting.

In his opening remarks, the Chairman acknowledged the considerable difficulties and hurdles encountered by the committee members. These obstacles encompassed a range of factors, such as limited technical expertise, insufficient skilled workforce, economic viability concerns, and related issues. The Chairman expressed his optimism that all committee members would join forces to confront these challenges and strive towards advancing the timber industry in Sarawak. The meeting agreed for the Association to have more engagements with the Forest Department Sarawak, with the aim of addressing the issues and challenges faced by the members.

本会丘陵地伐木委员会和认证委员会的会员于2023年5月25日在古晋STA大厦召开联席会议，讨论影响两个委员会的事项。会议由该两个委员会的主席黄祯俊先生主持。会议同意由本会主动安排与砂拉越森林局进行对话，以解决会员面临的问题和挑战。这些挑战包含一系列因素，例如技术专长有限、熟练劳工不足、经济可行性问题和其它相关问题。



(1) Group photo; (2) Meeting in progress

Prior to the joint meeting, the STA Hill Logging Category convened its first meeting to elect the Committee members for year 2022 & 2023. The elected Committee members are as follows:

Chairman	Mr Wong Ting Chung, Solid Hartabina Sdn Bhd
Vice Chairman	Mr Tsen Teck Fen, Sertama Sdn Bhd
Secretary	Mr Ling Tiing Tchin, Pasin Sdn Bhd
Treasurer	Mr Ting Jack Hui, Teleng Logging Sdn Bhd
Committee Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dato Henry Lau Lee Kong, Kastima Trading Sdn Bhd Alternate: Ms Adeline Lau Kor See • Tan Sri Datuk Ling Chiong Ho, Shin Yang Sdn Bhd Alternate: Mr Andy Wong Ko Hock • Ms Happy Wong Fei Fei, Interglobal Empire Sdn Bhd Alternate: Ms Teresa Ling Lay Kiong • Ms Clara Tiong Siew Ee, Jaya Tiasa Holdings Bhd Alternate: Mr Ling Kuok Phiew • Mr Kenny Law Hui Kong, Polymore Timber Sdn Bhd Alternate: Mr Collin Goh Tee Kiang • Mr Roland Lau Tee Mei, Perkayuan Sukma Sdn Bhd Alternate: Mr Joseph Lau Ching Hoo • Mr Tiong Hoo Chiong, Teleng Trading Sdn Bhd • Mr Ling Uong Chong, GT Timber Trading Sdn Bhd • Mr Peter Lau Hui Sing, Baya Lumber Sdn Bhd • Mr Wong Ing Yung, Zedtee Sdn Bhd
Co-Opted Member	Mr Desmond Kang Dai Yiing, JPH Logging Sdn Bhd

Ahli-ahli Jawatankuasa Pembalakan Bukit STA dan Jawatankuasa Pensijilan STA telah bertemu dalam mesyuarat bersama pada 25 Mei 2023 di Wisma STA Kuching untuk membincangkan perkara yang melibatkan kedua-dua Jawatankuasa tersebut. Mesyuarat yang dipengerusikan oleh pengerusi Jawatankuasa, Encik Wong Ting Chung telah bersetuju untuk STA mengadakan dialog dengan Jabatan Hutan Sarawak bagi menangani isu dan cabaran yang diketengahkan oleh ahli-ahli Jawatankuasa. Cabaran ini merangkumi pelbagai faktor seperti kepakaran teknikal yang terhad, kekurangan tenaga kerja mahir, kebimbangan mengenai kebolehdanaan ekonomi dan isu-isu berkaitan yang lain.

Dialogue Session between YAB Minister of Plantation and Commodities & Agricommodity Industry 2023

Ministry of Plantation and Commodities (MPC) hosted a dialogue session with representatives from the agricommodity industry on 18 May 2023 at Le Meridien Putrajaya Hotel, Putrajaya. Deputy Prime Minister cum Minister of Plantation and Commodities, Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah Bin Haji Yusof chaired the dialogue session alongside the recently appointed Secretary General of MPC, Dato' Haji Mad Zaidi Bin Mohd Karli.

In his opening remarks, Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah shared that the primary objective of the session was to gather feedbacks and suggestions from the industry regarding prevailing issues and challenges faced in the industry. Additionally, the Ministry sought input on priority areas to be considered when preparing the budget for 2024 under the 12th Malaysia Plan.

The participants were divided into four (4) sessions focusing on distinct agricommodity sectors. STA actively participated in the second session, which specifically addressed the timber and kenaf sector. Alongside STA, representatives from pertinent government agencies, private companies, and non-governmental organisations from Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, and Sarawak were also present at the session.

Participants in this session emphasised various issues and challenges which included trade barriers resulting from international regulations like the European Union (EU) regulations on forced labour and the EU Deforestation-free Regulation (EUDR). They mentioned the high costs associated with complying with national and

international regulation as well as with the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme, scarcity of raw materials, manpower shortages and unfair trade practices such as excessive anti-dumping duties on Malaysian plywood.

Considering the potential adverse impacts of the EUDR, the agricommodity industry in Malaysia hoped for unity between Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, and Sarawak to collectively present a strong voice and protect the rights of producing countries when engaging with the EU. Industry players from Sabah and Sarawak also expressed their desire to actively participate in future engagement sessions organised by the federal government regarding this matter.

In solving the shortage of raw material, the industry players suggested to the government to:

- Identify and allocate more degraded and vacant areas for forest plantation development;
- Intensify the research and development on forest plantation as well as;
- Provide incentive to encourage the development of community farming.

Industry players also sought government support in promoting the use of alternative raw material sources such as bamboo and oil



Industry Players Requested Government's Help In:

- 1 Sourcing and recruiting of foreign worker
- 2 Safeguarding the local investors from anti-dumping issue
- 3 Establishing more programmes to encourage the involvement of Bumiputera (indigenous) individuals in the timber industry
- 4 Providing incentives to companies who have demonstrate compliance with the national and international regulations.

palm trunk, including their product development and marketing.

There was also an appeal for an update on the matter of carrying forward unabsorbed business losses for industries with long gestation periods, particularly the forest plantation industry. Industry players urged the government to provide clarity on this issue.

种植与原产业部(MPC)于2023年5月18日在吉隆坡艾美布城酒店举办一场与产业代表的对话会议,以收集业者对该业普遍存在的问题和面临的挑战的反馈和建议。此外,该部门也征求在预备第12大马计划下2024年预算案时优先考虑的领域的意见。

Kementerian Perladangan dan Komoditi (MPC) menganjurkan sesi dialog bersama wakil-wakil industri agrikomoditi pada 18 Mei 2023 di Hotel Le Meridien Putrajaya, Putrajaya untuk mengumpul maklum balas dan cadangan daripada industri berhubung isu dan cabaran semasa yang dihadapi oleh industri. Kementerian turut mendapatkan input mengenai bidang keutamaan yang perlu dipertimbangkan apabila menyediakan bajet 2024 di bawah Rancangan Malaysia Ke-12.

Planting of Non-Timber Species Within Licence for Planted Forests Area

The Forest Department Sarawak issued a DF Circular No 2/2023 with reference number (82) JHS/100-1/8/104/Jld.1 dated 15 May 2023 addressed to all holders of licence for planted forests, and copied to STA on planting of non-timber species (bamboo, rattan & etc.) within licence for planted forests area.

The circular was circulated to STA Forest Plantation members on 19 May 2023.

An excerpt of the above-mentioned circular is appended for your information.

砂州森林局于2023年5月15日发布编号为(82) JHS/100-1/8/104/Jld.1的通告。该通告致函于所有森林木材许可证和人工林许可证持有者,并提供本会有关在人工林区许可证范围内种植非木材物种(竹子、藤条等)事项的复本。

该通告已经于2023年5月19日转发给本会人工造林会员。

以上通告的摘录如英文版所列。

Jabatan Hutan Sarawak mengeluarkan Pekeliling DF Bil. 2/2023 dengan nombor rujukan (82) JHS/100-1/8/104/Jld.1 bertarikh 15 Mei 2023 yang ditujukan kepada semua pemegang lesen ladang hutan dan disalinkan kepada STA mengenai penanaman spesies bukan kayu (buluh, rotan & dll.) dalam kawasan lesen ladang hutan. Pekeliling ini telah diedarkan kepada ahli-ahli ladang hutan STA pada 19 Mei 2023.

Petikan pekeliling yang disebutkan di atas adalah seperti yang dinyatakan dalam artikel ini.

Pursuant to the Revised Policy Direction on Industrial Forest Plantation in Sarawak wherein on 22nd January 2020, the Minister of Natural Resources and Urban Development has agreed and approved the proposal to encourage inter-planting of non-timber species such as bamboo, rattan, pharmaceutical or medicinal species, etc. as one of the mechanisms to achieve one (1) million hectares of planted forests by 2025.

2. In light of the foregoing, any holder of the licence for Planted Forests who carries out or intends to carry out such planting of non-timber species shall obtain a written permission from the Director of Forests by submitting a written application together with the proposed amendment to the Tree Planting Plan (TPP) of such licence to the Forest Department Sarawak.
3. Please ensure that –
 - a) Only licensed area that is already covered with Industrial Tree Plantation (ITP) for more than 40% of its plantable area will be considered for such written permission;
 - b) Such written permission may only be granted for planting of non-timber species up to a maximum of 10% of the plantable area; and
 - c) Any planting of non-timber species shall not be carried out within any Permanent Forests or Forest Reserves area.

Update on *Falcataria moluccana* Research Project

An update session on the generic improvement project involving *Falcataria moluccana* was held at Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) office located at Wisma Baitul Makmur II on 3 May 2023. The purpose of the session was to update Haji Happysupina Bin Sait, Deputy Director of Forests (Forest Conservation and Development) on the progress of this project. This research project, which commenced in 2017, is financially supported by STA.

During the session, Mr Joseph Lau Ching Hoo, the

General Manager of GPP, provided an overview of the project's background and discussed the distribution of *Falcataria moluccana* seeds from the designated seed production areas to STA members for experimental planting.

Dr. Arno Brune, a Senior Forest Geneticist at GPP, subsequently presented the progress and research findings of the project's third phase. The discussion covered various topics, including the suitable cloning method for *Falcataria moluccana*, requirements and challenges related to



cross-pollination, ensuring land tenure security in the seed production areas, and conducting trial planting across different regions in Sarawak.

Also present at the seminar were Ms Zarina Binti Haji Shebli, Assistant Director of Forests, Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA as well as senior officers from FDS and STA.

Satu sesi untuk mengemaskini Haji Happysupina Bin Sait, Timbalan Pengarah Hutan (Pemeliharaan dan Pembangunan Hutan) mengenai perkembangan projek penambahbaikan genetik Falcataria moluccana telah diadakan pada 3 Mei 2023 di pejabat FDS yang terletak di Wisma Baitul Makmur II, Kuching. Projek penyelidikan ini dimulakan pada 2017 dengan sokongan kewangan oleh STA. Gambaran keseluruhan latar belakang projek, kemajuan dan penemuan penyelidikan fasa ketiga projek antara beberapa perkara yang dikongsi dan dibincangkan di sesi tersebut.

向砂拉越森林局(FDS)副局长(森林保护和发育)哈芝哈披苏比那先生报告关于南洋楹基因改良项目的进展的会议于2023年5月3日在位于柏特拉再也Baitul Makmur II大厦的FDS办公室举行。该研究项目于2017年在STA的资助下启动。项目背景的概述、项目第三阶段的进展和研究成果是在会议中分享和讨论的一些内容。

Engagement Session with Marubeni Malaysia Sdn Bhd

On 3 May 2023, the Chairman of STA Forest Plantation Committee, Mr Joseph Lau Ching Hoo, received Mr Yasuya Isogai and Ms Lorraine Jin of Marubeni Malaysia Sdn Bhd at Wisma STA, Kuching for an engagement session.

Mr Isogai, the General Manager of the Lifestyle and Forest Products Department, discussed their company's green strategies and business operations. These included the establishment of forest plantations in Indonesia and Australia, as well as the entire value chain from upstream to downstream. In response, Mr Joseph Lau expressed the committee's interest in organising a study visit to their forest plantation in Indonesia.

本会人工林委员会主席刘晋福先生于2023年5月3日在古晋STA大厦会见丸红马来西亚有限公司生活方式和林产品部总经理矶贝育也先生。在育也先生分享其公司的绿色策略和业务运营后,刘先生表示委员会有兴趣前往考察其位于印尼的人工林。



2nd from left: Mr Joseph Lau, Chairman of STA Forest Plantation Committee; Mr Yasuya Isogai, General Manager of Lifestyle & Forest Products Department at Marubeni Malaysia Sdn Bhd; and Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA.

Pada 3 Mei 2023, Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Ladang Hutan STA, Encik Joseph Lau Ching Hoo telah menerima Encik Yasuya Isogai dan Cik Lorraine Jin daripada Marubeni Malaysia Sdn Bhd di Wisma STA, Kuching unuk sesi pertemuan. Selepas perkongsian oleh Encik Isogai mengenai strategi hijau dan operasi perniagaan syarikat mereka, Encik Lau menyatakan minat jawatankuasa itu untuk menganjurkan lawatan sambil belajar ke ladang hutan mereka di Indonesia.

Malaysian Timber Association Executive Committee Meeting No.1/2023



Mr Goh Chee Yew, President of Malaysian Timber Association (MTA) chaired the MTA Executive Committee (EXCO) Meeting No 1/2023 on 5 May 2023 at Menara PGRM Kuala Lumpur.

All EXCO members or their representatives present at the meeting approved and endorsed MTA's Audited Financial Statements for the period ending on 31 December 2022. The statements

shall be presented for adoption at the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM) scheduled to take place on 23 June 2023 at Pulau Redang, Terengganu.

Mr Goh put forth a proposal to organise programmes beneficial for MTA members and emphasized the importance of close collaboration among the three (3) regions of Malaysia. The EXCO members discussed a range of agenda

items, including proposal to revisit regulations and bureaucratic processes within government agencies in Malaysia, the Malaysia Green Procurement Policy (MyHIJAU Mark), the Industrial Tree Planting Programme in Malaysia, the Creative Technology Research & Development Project, Sarawak State Sales Tax and updates provided by EXCO members.

Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Eksekutif Persatuan Kayu-Kayan Malaysia (MTA) Bil. 1/2023 telah diadakan pada 5 Mei 2023 dan dipengerusikan oleh Pengerusinya, Encik Goh Chee Yew. Antara perkara yang dibincangkan adalah cadangan untuk menyemak semula peraturan dan proses birokrasi di antara agensi kerajaan di Malaysia dan Program Penanaman Pokok Industri di Malaysia. Mesyuarat turut menerima kemaskini daripada ahli-ahli EXCO.

马来西亚木材公会(MTA)主席吴志耀先生于2023年5月5日主持本年度首次执行委员会会议。执行委员会会议讨论的事项包括重新审视马来西亚政府机构内的法规和官僚程序的建议、马来西亚的工业植树计划以及执行委员们提供的最新资讯。

STA Mutual Sdn Bhd Sponsors Run To Save Lives 3.0

The Run To Save Lives 3.0, organised by the Kuching Branch of the Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS), is scheduled to take place on 18 June 2023. This charity run is a collaborative effort involving the Kuching Book Lovers Association and 38 Love Foundation, with support from various donors and sponsors, including STA Mutual Sdn Bhd. Both the 3km and 5km runs, with approximately 1,000 registered participants, will start and finish at the Kuching City South Council.

During a presentation ceremony held on 12 May 2023 to hand over donations from the sponsors and donors, Dr Chou Chii Ming, Deputy

Chairman of MRCS, Kuching Branch, expressed gratitude to the donors, sponsors, and volunteers for their continuous support of MRCS's three (3) core services. These services include conducting first aid training courses, providing first aid and ambulance services, organising blood donation recruitment drives, and offering assistance during natural disasters. The funds raised from the charity run will contribute to sustaining the Society's humanitarian efforts.

The donation handover ceremony was attended by Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri George Chan, Chairman of MRCS, Sarawak Chapter, who praised the commendable work carried out by MRCS, Kuching Branch, which has garnered strong support from the local communities.

The Run To Save Lives 3.0, anjuran Persatuan Bulan Sabit Merah (MRCS) Cawangan Kuching akan diadakan pada 18 Jun 2023 dengan sokongan daripada pelbagai penderma dan penaja termasuk STA Mutual Sdn Bhd. Sumbangan daripada penaja dan penderma telah diserahkan kepada penganjur acara dalam majlis penyampaian yang diadakan pada 12 Mei 2023.



Mr John Jong, Organising Chairperson (centre) receiving the contribution from Ms Yii Yien Yien of STA Mutual Sdn Bhd, witnessed by Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri George Chan (2nd from right) and Dr Chou Chii Ming (far right).

马来西亚红新月(MRCS)古晋分会将于2023年6月18日举办的“拯救生命义跑活动3.0”，并获得各方捐助者和赞助商包括本会的支持。在2023年5月12日的典礼上，这些赞助商和捐助者的捐款移交予主办方。

National Training Week 2023

The Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp) has steadfastly dedicated itself to enhancing the learning and development ecosystem of the nation by effectively bridging the skills gap in Malaysia with concrete and significant measures.

In line with this commitment, HRD Corp, in partnership with the Ministry of Human Resources and other collaborators, organised the National Training Week (NTW) from 22 to 28 May 2023. The week-long event which was offered for free to Malaysians comprises a multitude of training events and activities held nationwide, uniting organisations and individuals from diverse backgrounds and industries.

The launching ceremony of NTW 2023 Sarawak Region took place on 22 May 2023 at DeTar Putra, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), in close collaboration with the university. During the inaugural ceremony, both Cik Wan Yon Shahima Wan Othman, Chief Customer Officer HRD Corp and Prof Datuk Dr Mohamad Kadim bin Suaidi, Vice Chancellor UNIMAS, commended the initiative aimed at instilling a lifelong learning mindset among all Malaysians, spanning from preschoolers to senior citizens. Attendees present at the launching also had the opportunity to witness the exchange of a Memorandum of Understanding between HRD Corp and UNIMAS, symbolising their collaborative efforts in the domains of continuing education and transfer of knowledge.

With the aim of drawing more than 5,000 trainers and collaborators in delivering over 5,000 training courses to train up to 125,000 participants, NTW 2023 aspires

to accumulate over 500,000 training hours and achieve a training value exceeding RM250 million. STA Training Sdn Bhd, a subsidiary company of STA responsible for conducting courses related to forestry activities participated in NTW 2023 in working with HRD Corp to accomplish these ambitious goals.

The following training sessions were delivered online by esteemed trainers of STAT, a certified training provider under HRD Corp:



A glimpse behind the scenes with Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA as she records a short video lending her support to National Training Week 2023.

LOG EXTRACTION - TRACTOR

NTW NATIONAL TRAINING WEEK

Speaker: Denis Aman
STA Training Sdn. Bhd.

Date: 22 - 25 May 2023 | Time: 9 a.m - 12 p.m

Language: Bahasa Melayu

REGISTER NOW VIRTUAL

TREE FELLING - CHAINSAW

NTW NATIONAL TRAINING WEEK

Speaker: Kutok Bayang
STA Training Sdn. Bhd.

Date: 23 - 26 May 2023 | Time: 1 p.m - 2 p.m

Language: Bahasa Melayu

REGISTER NOW VIRTUAL

MECHANICAL SITE PREPARATION - EXCAVATOR

NTW NATIONAL TRAINING WEEK

Speaker: Ngumbang Bayang
STA Training Sdn. Bhd.

Date: 26 May 2023 | Time: 9 a.m - 11.30 a.m

Language: Bahasa Melayu

REGISTER NOW VIRTUAL

LOADING LOG ONTO LOGGING TRUCK USING FRONT-END LOADER & CONSTRUCTION OF SKID TRAIL

NTW NATIONAL TRAINING WEEK

Speaker: Sang Sanjan
STA Training Sdn. Bhd.

Date: 22 - 25 May 2023 | Time: 2 p.m - 4 p.m

Language: Bahasa Melayu

REGISTER NOW VIRTUAL

人力资源发展机构(HRD Corp)与多个合作伙伴于2023年5月22日至28日联办全国培训周(NTW 2023), 以符合其通过有效弥合马来西亚技能差距来增强国家学习和生态系统发展的承诺。本会子公司STA Training有限公司作为合作伙伴之一也加入NTW 2023并在线提供培训课程。STA Training有限公司专门从事与林业活动相关的培训课程, 也是HRD Corp旗下的认证培训公司之一。

TREE & LOG IDENTIFICATION

NTW NATIONAL TRAINING WEEK

Speaker: Sumbang Rani
STA Training Sdn. Bhd.

Date: 28 May 2023 | Time: 2 p.m - 4 p.m

Language: Bahasa Melayu

REGISTER NOW VIRTUAL

Selaras dengan komitmen untuk meningkatkan ekosistem pembelajaran dan pembangunan negara dengan merapatkan jurang kemahiran secara berkesan di Malaysia, HRD Corp menganjurkan Minggu Latihan Kebangsaan dari 22 hingga 28 Mei 2023 dengan kerjasama beberapa rakan kongsi. STA Training Sdn Bhd, anak syarikat STA yang menawarkan kursus latihan berkaitan aktiviti perhutanan dan penyedia latihan yang diiktiraf di bawah HRD Corp menyertai NTW 2023 sebagai rakan kerjasama dan menyampaikan sesi latihan dalam talian.

Courtesy Call by Sarawak Regional Director of Employees Provident Fund

Mr Halim Bin Boweng, Sarawak Regional Director of Employees Provident Fund (EPF), led a 4-member delegation for a courtesy call to STA on 30 May 2023. The delegation included Mr Aminuddin Bin Abdul Aziz, Deputy Director, and three (3) officers. At STA, they were received by Mr Wong Ting Chung, STA Honorary Secretary, Mr Ting Jack Hui, Council Member, and Ms Annie Ting, Chief Executive Officer of STA and two (2) officers.

During the courtesy call, Mr Halim shared information about the products and facilities introduced by EPF over the past decade. These initiatives were designed to assist members in attaining a better future while safeguarding and growing their retirement savings. Presently, EPF serves its members through seven (7) branches throughout Sarawak. In order to extend their reach and improve service provision, EPF intends to deploy three (3) mobile trucks equipped with VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) and generator sets this year. This strategic move aims to expand their coverage and enhance the delivery of services.

Both parties found the information provided during the courtesy call to be highly informative and agreed to organise an online briefing for STA members on 16 June 2023. During the discussion, Mr Halim took the opportunity to announce his upcoming retirement at the end of June 2023. He introduced Mr Aminuddin Bin Abdul Aziz, Deputy Director who will be assuming the role of Director for the Sarawak region.



Mr Wong Ting Chung, STA Honorary Secretary (5th from left) flanked by Mr Halim Bin Boweng, EPF Sarawak Regional Director on his right and Mr Aminuddin Bin Abdul Aziz, EPF Deputy Director on his left.

EPF PRODUCTS & FACILITIES

FASILITI SOKONGAN AKAUN 2 (FSA2)

- Kemudahan yang bertujuan untuk membantu ahli KWSP mendapatkan pembiayaan peribadi daripada institusi perbankan
- Simpanan dalam Akaun 2 boleh digunakan untuk membayar pembiayaan peribadi ini menerusi permohonan awal Pengeluaran Bersyarat Umur 50 Tahun atau 55 Tahun.

*Previously known as SPIM

砂拉越雇员公积金局(EPF)于2023年5月30日礼节性拜访本会并分享有关当局所推出的产品和设施的资讯。双方皆同意将于2023年6月16日为本会会员举办线上简报会。

Kumpulan Wang Simpanan Pekerja (KWSP) Sarawak telah membuat kunjungan hormat ke STA pada 30 Mei 2023 dan berkongsi maklumat mengenai produk dan kemudahan yang diperkenalkan oleh KWSP. Kedua-dua pihak turut setuju menganjurkan taklimat dalam talian untuk ahli-ahli STA pada 16 Jun 2023.

International Conference on Engineered Wood Sarawak 2023

The Sarawak Government has formulated the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy 2030 (PCDS 2030) to ensure that Sarawak is able to embark on a full-fledged transformation capitalising on mega-trends around the world, in line with the aspiration to position Sarawak as a developed State by 2030. One of the key strategies within the PCDS 2030 is to increase earnings from the export of timber and non-wood forest products, with a target annual export value of RM8 billion by 2030. In order to accelerate earnings growth through value-added processing activities, the promotion of engineered wood has been identified as a priority.

To facilitate this objective, the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC) organised a two-day International Conference on Engineered Wood Sarawak 2023 at the Borneo Convention Centre Kuching on 16 and 17 May 2023.

The event served as a platform to share best practices information, know-how and requirements in engineered wood industry; develop market for engineered wood



STA delegation at the conference

products for export and domestic demand; gathered inputs for developing engineered wood industry in Sarawak. With the theme “Driving Sustainability”, planted forest, biomass and bamboo have also been identified as sources of raw material, aside from natural forest.

In his keynote paper, Datu Haji Hashim Haji Bojet, General Manager STIDC shared that the way forward for the timber industry in Sarawak is pursuing sustainability in alignment with the global efforts to combat climate change. Datu Haji Hashim highlighted that products derived from planted forests, including solid wood, engineered wood, fibre-based, composites-based and value-added products hold immense potential for the



ecoGreenPlanet Tree Planting Programme

Rainforest World Music Festival (RWMF) and Borneo Jazz Festival (BJF) 2022 advanced Sarawak Tourism Board’s agenda on Responsible Tourism through its ecoGreenPlanet Programme whereby a portion of proceeds from sponsorships and virtual tickets were dedicated to tree-planting activities, resulting in the planting of a total of 1,706 trees

(1) MoU exchange between Mr Haji Zolkipli Mohamad Aton, Director of STB cum CEO of SFC (3rd from left) and Mdm Sharzede Datu Hj Salleh Askor, CEO of Sarawak Tourism Board (5th from left), witnessed by Mr Dennis Ngau, Chairman of STB (4th from left);

(2) Gaharu tree planted by Mr Dennis Ngau, witnessed by Directors of STB and Ms Annie Ting, CEO of STA (2nd from right)



Mr Wong Ting Chung, Honorary Secretary (right) and Mr Joseph Lau, Chairman of STA Forest Plantation Committee (2nd from right) with STA Secretariat prior to the start of the conference

of the subject matter. The four (4) plenary sessions served as significant platforms for engagement, enabling participants to actively interact with the speakers and delve into discussions pertaining to the application, utilisation, and potential of engineered wood in Sarawak.

The 2-day International Conference concluded with the honorable presence of Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak on 17 May 2023. The Premier emphasised the importance of developing the timber industry in a sustainable manner. Enhancing the productivity of planted forests to achieve higher yields and increasing the production of timber products from cultivated timber sources were identified as vital objectives.

砂拉越木材工业发展机构(STIDC)于2023年5月16日至17日在古晋婆罗洲会展中心举办为期两天的2023年砂拉越工程木材国际研讨会,以促进工程木材的使用和进步,并通过增值加工活动以加速收益增长。据了解,工程木材具有优化种植木材种类使用的优势,并使木材产品多样化以符合全球的需求。

Perbadanan Kemajuan Perusahaan Kayu Sarawak (STIDC) menganjurkan Persidangan Antarabangsa mengenai Kayu Kejuruteraan Sarawak 2023 di Pusat Konvensyen Borneo Kuching pada 16 dan 17 Mei 2023 untuk menggalakkan penggunaan dan kemajuan kayu kejuruteraan bagi meningkatkan pertumbuhan pendapatan melalui pemprosesan produk bernilai tambah. Kayu kejuruteraan menawarkan kelebihan dengan mengoptimalkan penggunaan spesies kayu ladang hutan dan menghasilkan pelbagai produk kayu sejajar dengan permintaan global.

industry's growth and development.

He added that engineered wood offer the advantage of optimising the utilisation of planted timber species. It enables the diversification of timber products to align with global demand and enhances the value of timber products through its versatility in various applications and forms.

Throughout the event, attendees had the privilege of gaining valuable insights from presentations delivered by experts from diverse fields. These knowledgeable individuals shared their expertise, insights, and experiences, enriching the participants' understanding

As one of the sponsors for the RWMF 2022 and BJB 2022, STA was invited to witness the planting of the first batch of tree seedlings on 27 May 2023 at Samunsam Wildlife Sanctuary Telok Melano. Additionally, they were present for the formal exchange of a five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between STB and Sarawak Forestry Corporation (SFC). This MoU signifies a collaborative effort for a tree planting initiative that will span the next five (5) years, demonstrating the shared commitment of both entities to sustainability, environmental conservation, and the reinforcement, promotion, as well as the development of academic and research cooperation and collaboration.

In his welcoming address, Mr Dennis Ngau, Chairman of STB expressed his admiration for the "Planting for Future" ecoGreenPlanet Programme conducted by STB. He emphasized the positive outcomes brought about by employment opportunities in the tourism industry, including the promotion of inclusive social integration, heritage preservation, biodiversity conservation, and support for sustainable livelihoods and well-being within the local community. Furthermore, STB's affiliation with the United Nations World Tourism Organisation enables Sarawak to acquire knowledge and practices in sustainable and responsible tourism.

Sarawak has established an ambitious greening aspiration of planting 35 million trees within a span of five (5) years, aligning with Malaysia's broader target of planting 100 million trees. This joint effort aims to address local climate change and biodiversity concerns, working towards the preservation of our environment.

2022年热带雨林世界音乐节(RWMF)和婆罗洲爵士音乐节(BJB)推进砂拉越旅游局关于负责任旅游的议程。通过其生态绿色地球计划,其中赞助和虚拟门票的部分收益专用于植树活动。作为音乐节的赞助商之一,本会受邀于2023年5月27日在三马丹梅拉诺湾的Samunsam 野生动物保护区见证第一批树苗的种植。

Rainforest World Music Festival (RWMF) dan Borneo Jazz Festival (BJF) 2022 mempergiatkan agenda Lembaga Pelancongan Sarawak mengenai Pelancongan Bertanggungjawab melalui Program ecoGreenPlanet di mana sebahagian daripada hasil tajaan dan tiket maya yang dikutip daripada kedua-dua acara tersebut didedikasikan untuk aktiviti penanaman pokok. Sebagai salah satu penaja, STA telah dijemput untuk menyaksikan penanaman anak pokok kumpulan pertama pada 27 Mei 2023 di Samunsam Wildlife Sanctuary Telok Melano.



Follow up on Stakeholder Engagement for Port Services Requirement Study for Miri Port

As a follow-up to the stakeholder engagement session with STA on 14 February 2023, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), the appointed principal consultant by Miri Port Authority, presented the results of their study to STA on 29 May 2023, at the PwC office in Kuching.

Ms. Annie Ting, the Chief Executive Officer of STA, provided feedback on the data and findings presented in the study report. Additionally, she highlighted members' concerns on and limitations of the existing location of Miri Port.

作为2023年2月与本会的利益相关者会议的后续工作，美里港务局委任的首席顾问普华永道(PwC)团队再次于2023年5月29日在PwC古晋办事处会见本会，分享他们的研究成果。

Susulan daripada sesi penglibatan pihak berkepentingan dengan STA pada 14 Februari 2023, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), perunding utama yang dilantik oleh Lembaga Pelabuhan Miri membentangkan hasil kajian mereka kepada STA pada 29 Mei 2023, di pejabat PwC di Kuching.

Going Net Zero in the Palm Oil Industry

The Role of GHG Footprint Assurance and Carbon Project Certifications

Bursa Carbon Exchange, in collaboration with Control Union Malaysia and Macquarie Bank Limited organised a webinar on 16 May 2023 to provide insights to companies on enhancing their environmental aspect within the framework of environment, social and governance practices, with the ultimate goal of attaining net zero emissions.

Although the webinar primarily focussed on the closely



Mr Supun Nigamuni of Control Union Malaysia

monitored palm oil industry, it also proved advantageous and offered valuable insights to companies across various sectors such as forestry. This is important as the attainment of net zero targets relies heavily on the collaborative endeavours of all industries in embracing sustainable practices and reducing carbon emissions.

In his sharing, Mr Supun Nigamuni, Managing Director of Control Union Malaysia shared

SwinTalk Series #1 New Normal Opportunities and Challenges for Businesses and Entrepreneurs in Sarawak

Faculty of Business, Design and Arts of Swinburne University of Technology (Sarawak Campus) (SUTS) organised its SwinTalk entitled *New Normal Opportunities and Challenges for businesses and entrepreneurs in Sarawak* at its campus on 24 May 2023. The talk was organised in collaboration with the Sarawak Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) and featured a keynote presentation on *“Reclaiming Sarawak’s Rights under Malaysia Agreement*

1963: Towards Greater Financial Autonomy and Better Business Opportunities for Sarawakian” by Dato Sri Fong Joo Chung. Additionally, a panel of experts discussed business value creation and sustainability.

In his opening address, the Pro Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer of SUTS Ir. Professor Lau Hieng Ho mentioned that the technologically driven new norms have posed greater challenges to businesses and entrepreneurs in Sarawak. This necessitates the upskilling of workforce and invention of new systems and processes to overcome the challenges.

Datuk Dr Philip Ting, Deputy President of SCCI expressed his hope that the participants would gain insights into the lesser-discussed issues on the Malaysia Agreement 1963, which may present entrepreneurial opportunities for Sarawakians in achieving high



Mr Suraj Vanniarachchy from Macquarie Bank Limited

about carbon credits and the growing trends in carbon market. He informed of the takeaways from the 27th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Climate Change Conference, better known as COP27, where the need to establish a dedicated fund for loss and damage, holding businesses and institutions to account and mobilising more financial support for developing countries were discussed.

Mr Supun also briefed on the processes involved in verifying carbon offset projects, highlighting the importance of rigorous standards and reliable methodologies to ensure the credibility and effectiveness of such projects in achieving emission reductions.

Mr Suraj Vanniarachchy, Vice President of Global Carbon at Macquarie Bank Limited talked about the role that Macquarie plays in the global transition to net zero. With vast market expertise, featuring a team of experts spanning continents, proficient in carbon offset project designs and execution, environmental products trading across compliance and voluntary markets, Macquarie is well positioned to offer valuable assistance to companies seeking to navigate the complexities of carbon management and achieve their sustainability goals.

He also explained how carbon offsetting work, from sourcing of carbon offsets from projects designed to either avoid or remove carbon emissions through to retirement of these carbon offsets against their identified set of emissions to demonstrate that they have been compensated for and can never be traded again.

碳信用交易所与马来西亚管制联盟以及麦格理银行于2023年5月16日联合举办了线上研讨会，向公司提供有关在环境、社会和治理实践框架中加强环境方面的见解，以实现净零排放排放量为最终目标。

Bursa Carbon Exchange, dengan kerjasama Control Union Malaysia and Macquarie Bank Limited menganjurkan webinar pada 16 Mei 2023 untuk berkongsi pandangan mereka dengan syarikat berhubung peningkatan aspek alam sekitar dalam rangka kerja persekitaran, sosial dan amalan tadbir urus, dengan matlamat utama untuk mencapai pelepasan sifar bersih.



Panel discussion in progress

income economy as envisioned in the Post COVID-19 Development Strategy.

In his presentation, Dato Sri Fong highlighted that Sarawak agreed to join in the formation of Malaysia, on condition that there would be safeguards to protect its special interest within the Federal Constitution. These safeguards include special revenue sources,

the power to impose State Sales Tax for taxation purposes, and greater legislative and executive authorities that are not enjoyed by the Malaysian States. Sarawak is seeking greater financial autonomy and preservation of its revenue sources through the ongoing discussion on the Malaysia Agreement 1963. These efforts aim to enable Sarawak to implement its own development plans and move

towards a high-income economy that offers opportunities for all Sarawakians, ultimately leading to the eradication of poverty and the upliftment of the hard-core poor.

The panel of experts explored the present challenges faced by businesses and entrepreneurs in Sarawak, which include inadequate basic infrastructure, limited access to technology or digital infrastructure and a lack of awareness regarding government support programmes, funds and initiatives. Despite these obstacles, businesses and entrepreneurs who stay informed with the current dynamic situation and align themselves with the government visions and policies can capitalise on the opportunities presented to them, even during times of crises or disruptions.

砂拉越斯威本科技大学商业、设计与艺术学院于2023年5月24日假其校园举办题为砂拉越企业和企业家的新常态机遇和挑战的讲座会。参与者了解到1963年马来西亚协议中讨论较少的问题的见解，这些问题可能会为砂拉越人提供创业机会，以实现后冠病发展策略所设定的高收入经济。

Fakulti Perniagaan, Reka Bentuk dan Seni Universiti Teknologi Swinburne (Kampus Sarawak) menganjurkan SwinTalk bertajuk "Peluang dan Cabaran Normal Baharu untuk Perniagaan dan Usahawan di Sarawak" di kampusnya pada 24 Mei 2023. Penceramah memberi pandangan tentang isu-isu yang kurang dibincangkan seperti Perjanjian Malaysia 1963 yang menyediakan peluang keusahawanan kepada rakyat Sarawak untuk mencapai ekonomi berpendapatan tinggi selari dengan Strategi Pembangunan Pasca COVID-19 2030.

State Sales Tax on Prescribed Timber Products

In March 2023, the Sarawak State Treasury Department (STD) has announced the imposition of the State Sales Tax (SST) on the sale of selected timber products outside Sarawak with effect from 1 April 2023.

The implementation of SST was later deferred to 1 June 2023, following an appeal by STA for a grace period and phased approach on the implementation of SST.

Description	Tax Rate (%)	Customs HS Code
Sawn Timber	2.5	4407
Veneer	2.5	4408
Woodchips	2.5	4401
Fibreboard	1.5	4411
Particle board	1.5	4410
Plywood	1.0	4412

Selected timber products on which SST is imposed on.

To assist companies in understanding and navigating the relevant tax regulation, the STD has made available the State Sales Tax on Prescribed Timber Products - Frequently Asked Questions on its website, accessible by scanning the QR code.



砂拉越州财政部(STD)在其网站上提供了规定木材产品的州销售税一常见问题, 以协助会员公司了解将于2023年6月1日生效的州销售税(SST)。

Jabatan Perbendaharaan Negeri Sarawak telah menyediakan Soalan Lazim Cukai Jualan Negeri ke atas Produk Kayu Terpilih di laman webnya untuk membantu syarikat memahami dan mematuhi Cukai Jualan Negeri (SST) yang akan berkuat kuasa mulai 1 Jun 2023.



Meeting of MEF East Malaysia Region Mem

The Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) East Malaysia (Sarawak) Region convened its Meeting No. 5/2023 on 24 May 2023. Dr Dzulzalani bin Eden, Senior Consultant of MEF Sarawak presided over the hybrid meeting.

During the meeting, Mr Hafizul bin Mahmad @ Budin, Assistant Factory & Machinery Inspector of Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) was invited to brief MEF members on the role and functions of DOSH.

DOSH, which is a department under the Ministry of Human Resources, has the responsibility of ensuring the safety, health and welfare of people at work, while also safeguarding others from potential safety and health hazards associated with various sectors. He introduced the industry code of practice which serves as a guide for employers to comply with the Occupational Safety & Health (OSH) Act 1994. He also mentioned that DOSH conducts inspections for factory and machinery registration, accident investigation at the workplace, design approval and training place recognition. Additionally, DOSH also carries out promotional activities such as talks and training related to workplace safety and health. Mr Hafizul also highlighted that the accident rate in Sarawak is lower compared to Peninsular Malaysia.

Mr Mohd Irsyad Shafiq bin Razali, Mr Mohd Taufiq Abideen and Madam Normiza Binti Suhaili from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) talked about NIOSH and its primary role in providing comprehensive OSH training in Malaysia to ensure the effectiveness of OSH programmes at workplaces. The OSH Coordinator course is gaining traction for the small and medium enterprises (SMEs), as the Section



Wishing all Members & Readers

Selamat Gawai Dayak

gayu guru gerai nyamai

FROM THE CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL MEMBERS, MANAGEMENT & STAFF OF STA; BOARD OF DIRECTORS, MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF STA ENTERPRISES SDN BHD, STA MUTUAL SDN BHD & STA TRAINING SDN BHD

Pengerusi, Ahli-Ahli Majlis, Pihak Pengurusan dan Kakitangan STA serta Lembaga Pengarah, Pihak Pengurusan dan Kakitangan STA Enterprises Sdn Bhd, STA Mutual Sdn Bhd dan STA Training Sdn Bhd ingin mengucapkan Selamat Hari Gawai Dayak 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 有限公司全体职员全体职员在此祝愿所有达雅会员和读者丰收节愉快



Members No. 5/2023

29A of the OSH (Amendment) Act 2022 requires workplace with more than 5 employees and without a Safety and Health Officer to appoint an OSH Coordinator.

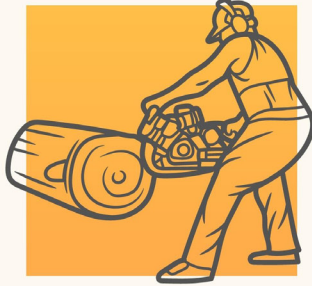
NIOSH is currently offering free Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Walkthrough Survey and Workplace Improvement Need Analysis (WINA) for SMEs. The primary objective of these free services is to enhance ventilation in workplaces, which is essential for curbing the spread of COVID-19 and ensuring effective implementation of OSH measures.

Caption: (1) Presentation by Mr Hafizul bin Mahmad @ Budin, Assistant Factory & Machinery Inspector from the Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH); (2) Mr Mohd Irsyad Shafiq bin Razali, Officer from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

马来西亚雇主联合会(MEF)东马砂拉越区域于2023年5月24日召开本年度第5次会议。MEF砂拉越高级顾问祖扎拉尼博士主持该混合会议。来自砂州职场安全与卫生局和大马职场安全与卫生机构的官员受邀在会议中分享有关各自组织在确保职场安全与卫生方面的角色和职能。

Persekutuan Majikan-Majikan Malaysia (MEF) Wilayah Malaysia Timur (Sarawak) mengadakan mesyuarat Bil. 5/2023 pada 24 Mei 2023. Dr Dzulzalani bin Eden, Perunding Kanan MEF Sarawak mempengerusikan mesyuarat hibrid tersebut. Semasa mesyuarat, pegawai daripada DOSH and NIOSH telah dijemput untuk memberi taklimat kepada ahli-ahli MEF mengenai gambaran keseluruhan peranan dan fungsi organisasi masing-masing dalam memastikan keselamatan di tempat kerja.

SKILLS TRAINING FOR WORKMEN



With effect from 1 January 2023, these skills set are claimable under the HRD Corp Claimable Course Scheme by registered employers from the Human Resource Development levy contributions.

For more information, please contact **Ms Suzie Adee** or **Ms Kirupaliny Bhaskaran** at 082-332 222 or email suzie@sta.org.my / kirupaliny@sta.org.my.

Presently, STAT offers training for the following twelve (12) skills set:

1. Tree Felling - Chainsaw (Natural Forest)
2. Log Extraction - Tractor (Natural Forest)
3. Log Loading - Front End Loader (Natural Forest)
4. Mechanical Site Preparation - Excavator (Forest Plantation)
5. Clear-fell Site Preparation - Chainsaw (Forest Plantation)
6. Tree Felling - Chainsaw (Forest Plantation)
7. Log Extraction - Cable Hauler (Forest Plantation)
8. Log Extraction - Bulldozer (Forest Plantation)
9. Log Loading - Excavator (Forest Plantation)
10. Breaking Out - Cable Hauler (Forest Plantation)
11. Tree and Log Identification
12. Log and Timber Identification



STA TRAINERS



STA Training Sdn Bhd (STAT), a subsidiary company of STA, is registered as a Training Provider with Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp), offering training to workmen in the forestry and timber industry.