Hello Komoditi in Betong

MPOB participated in the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities’ (MPIC) Hello Komoditi programme in Betong, Sarawak on 8 - 9 November 2014. The event was officiated by Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Dr Alfred Jabu Numpang, Deputy Chief Minister of Sarawak. More than 3000 people visited the event where exhibitions, demonstration and sale of commodity products were being held. Other agencies under MPIC which participated include the Malaysian Rubber Board, Malaysian Cocoa Board, Malaysian Pepper Board, Malaysian Timber Industry Board, National Tobacco and Kenaf Board, and the Institute of Malaysian Plantations and Commodities. Also present at the event were Datuk Himmat Singh, Secretary-General of MPIC; Razali Gapor, Assemblyman of Beting Maro; Mohd Razi Sitam, Assemblyman of Saribas; and Datu Romie Sigan Daniel, Betong Division Resident. At the event, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Dr Alfred Jabu presented Good Agriculture Practice (GAP) certificates to 10 oil palm smallholders.

Quality Leadership Award

MPOB won the 2014 Quality Leadership Award from the European Society of Quality Research (ESQR) for its contributions in developing and nurturing Malaysia’s oil palm sector. The award was presented during a ceremony held in Las Vegas, USA on 9 December 2014. The prestigious award was received by Johari Minal, MPOB’s American Region Manager.

MPOB Awards Excellent Industry Players

MPOB organised an MPOB Award and Palm Industry Award Night to recognise excellent individuals and companies in the oil palm sector. The ceremony was officiated by Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas, the Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities, on 19 December 2014. A total of 22 oil palm industry players from the upstream and downstream sectors were awarded that night. Also present at the ceremony were Datuk Himmat Singh, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities; Datuk Dr Choo Yuen May, MPOB’s Director-General; and Pandelela Rinong, Malaysia’s diving queen.

Launching of SOP Green Energy Palm Biodiesel Plant

Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas, the Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities, launched the SOP Green Energy’s palm biodiesel plant in Bintulu, Sarawak on 17 January 2015. Also present at the launch of the plant which adopted MPOB technology were Datuk Himmat Singh, the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities; Datuk Dr Choo Yuen May; Tan Sri Datuk Ling Chiong Ho, Chairman of SOP; SOP’s Chief Executive Officer, Paul Wong Hee Kwong and SOP’s Chief Operating Officer, Eric Kiu Kwong Seng. At present, SOP Green Energy Sdn Bhd is the sole producer of palm biodiesel in Sarawak.

Dialogue with Oil Palm Planters in Bintulu

Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas, the Minister of the Plantation Industries and Commodities, met with representatives from the Dayak Oil Palm Planters Association (DOPPA) in Bintulu, Sarawak on 17 January 2015 for a dialogue session. Some 100 DOPPA members attended the dialogue. Also present at the session were Datuk Himmat Singh, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities; Datuk
Dr Choo Yuen May, Director-General of MPOB; and Hollis Awell, president of DOPPA.

Visit to Petroleum Depot in Bintulu

An MPOB delegation, led by Datuk Dr Choo Yuen May, the Director-General, visited a petroleum depot jointly-owned by Petronas Dagangan Berhad and Shell Timur Sdn Bhd, in Bintulu, Sarawak on 17 January 2015. The delegation was briefed on the safety aspects of the depot as well as the development of the biodiesel blending facilities there. The depot houses two palm diesel storage tanks with a capacity of 800 cubic metres meant to service the biodiesel needs of Sarawak.

MPOB Bagged MTE 2015 Excellent Medals

MPOB won two each of gold, silver and bronze medals at the Malaysian Technology Expo (MTE) 2015 Best of the Best Award, organised by the Malaysian Association of Research Scientists (MARS) on 18 – 20 February 2015. Zawawi Ibrahim, Research Officer, from the Engineering and Process Division’s Biomass Technology Unit won the Best of the Best Gold medal for his medium density fibre board technology. The other gold award winner was, Dr Abdul Masani Mat Yunus, Research Officer from the Advanced Biotechnology and Breeding Centre Division for his palm genetic engineering technology via cell protoplasts.

Visit by MP from EU

MPOB received a visit from the members of Parliament of the European Union (EU) and representatives for the European Energy Forum on 23 February 2015. They were received by Datuk Dr Choo Yuen May, the Director-General of MPOB, who later briefed them on the sustainability aspects of Malaysia’s oil palm sector. The visiting delegation was led by Richard Ashworth, a member of the EU Agriculture and Rural Development Committee.

Participation in the NSCEC

MPOB participated in the 2015 National Smallholders and Commodity Entrepreneurs Congress (NSCEC) which was held in Kuching, Sarawak on 18 March 2015. The Congress was organised by the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities with the support from the Sarawak Agriculture Modernisation Ministry. Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Adenan Satem, the Chief Minister of Sarawak officiated the Congress. Also present were Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Alfred Jabu Anak Numpang, the Deputy Chief Minister of Sarawak, and Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas, the Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities. More than 70 exhibition booths were set up for the Congress which was participated by all the agencies under the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities.

Jom Semarakkan Sawit Programme at Sungai Besar

MPOB organised Jom Semarakkan Sawit programme to meet oil palm smallholders at Sungai Besar, Selangor on 21 March 2015. The Jom Semarakkan Sawit programme was officiated by Dato’ Noriah Kasnon, the Deputy Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities. Also present were Datuk Dr Choo Yuen May, the Director-General of MPOB; Budiman Hamzah, the State Assemblyman of Sungai Panjang; and Dr Aminuddin Hassim, the Deputy Secretary-General of the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities. More than 600 people residing within the area attended the programme that highlighted the various aspects of oil palm industry as well as the available support services extended by MPOB.

Visit by ACCCIM

MPOB received a visit from a 15-member delegation from the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia (ACCCIM) on 26 March 2015. The delegates were received by Datuk Dr Choo Yuen May, the Director-General of MPOB, who also briefed them on the development in the oil palm industry as well as the activities of MPOB.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, MEETINGS AND COURSES

Technical Seminar at UPM

MPOB, in collaboration with the Science and Food Technology Faculty, Universiti Putra Malaysia, organised the MPOB Technical Seminar (MTeS U) at the Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Serdang, Selangor on 14 October 2014. Under the theme, Introduction to Palm Oil and its Applications, the Seminar aimed to educate the local university students on the palm oil industry and palm oil-based products. The Seminar attracted more than 150 participants comprising students as well as academicians and non-academic staff from the Science and Food Technology Faculty, Human Ecology Faculty, Food Process and Engineering Faculty, Bioscience Institute, and others. Professor Dato’ Dr Mohd Yazid Abi Manap, the dean of the UPM Science and Food Technology Faculty, stressed in his welcome remarks that the faculty welcomed such collaborations with MPOB.
POMREQ 2014

MPOB organised the National Seminar on Palm Oil Milling, Refining, Environment and Quality (POMREQ) in Kuching, Sarawak on 3 – 4 November 2014. The Seminar was officiated by Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas, the Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities. It was attended by 250 participants representing the various segments of Malaysia’s oil palm industry.

Palm Oil Nutrition and Health Forum in China

MPOB, Malaysian Palm Oil Council and Zhejiang Province Nutrition Association organised a Palm Oil Nutrition and Health Forum in Hangzhou, China on 17 November 2014. The aim of the Forum was to raise the awareness of consumers in China on the health benefits of palm oil consumption. The Forum was officiated by Datuk Dr Choo Yuen May, the Director-General of MPOB. A total of 120 participants comprising food experts, oils and fats experts as well as government officials attended the Forum.

Seminar on GST for Industry Players

MPOB and the Malaysian Royal Customs and Excise Department jointly organised a seminar for oil palm industry players at MPOB Head Office in Bangi, Selangor on 18 December 2014. The objective of the seminar was to educate the oil palm industry players on the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) which took effect on 1 April 2015. The seminar was officiated by Datuk Dr Choo Yuen May, the Director-General of MPOB. It was attended by representatives of the country’s oil palm industry as well as MPOB officials.

Palm Oil Outlook Seminar

MPOB organised the 2015 Palm Oil Economic Review and Outlook Seminar in Kuala Lumpur on 19 January 2015. The Seminar was officiated by Datuk Himmat Singh, the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities. Also present at the event were Dato’ Dr Wan Mohammad Khair-il Anuar Wan Ahmad, Chairman of MPOB and Datuk Dr Choo Yuen May, the Director-General of MPOB. The Seminar, held annually, was attended by 250 participants, representing the various segments of the palm oil as well as the oils and fats industry.

CCFO Meeting

Datuk Dr Choo Yuen May, the Director-General of MPOB led the Malaysian delegation to the 24th Session of Codex Committee on Fats and Oils International Meeting held in Melaka from 9 - 13 February 2015. Other members of the delegation were representatives from the Health Ministry, National Pharmaceutical Control Bureau, Palm Oil Refiners Association of Malaysia (PORAM), Malaysian Palm Oil Association and Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers. The meeting was attended by 100 delegates from 40 countries and five international organisations. The meeting was chaired by Noraini Dato’ Mohd Othman, the Health Ministry’s Senior Director of the Food Security and Quality Division.

POC 2015

MPOB participated in the 2015 Palm and Lauric Oils Conference & Exhibition Price Outlook (POC) held in Kuala Lumpur from 2 - 4 March 2015. The Conference was officiated by Datuk Himmat Singh, the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities. He was representing Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas, the Minister of the Plantation Industries and Commodities. Also present at the event were Dato’ Ar. Wan Mohammad Khair-il Anuar Wan Ahmad, Chairman of MPOB and Datuk Dr Choo Yuen May, MPOB’s Director-General. More than 200 participants attended the Conference, representing the various segments of the palm oil as well as oils and fats industry.

GST Seminar in Sarawak and Sabah

MPOB organised a seminar and dialogue on Goods and Services Tax (GST) in Sarawak and Sabah to assist the oil palm industry players to gain better understanding of the tax structure. In Sarawak, the seminar and dialogue was held at Kuching and Miri on 10 and 11 March 2015. More than 500 participants attended the seminar and dialogue. In Sabah, it was held at Kota Kinabalu on 25 March 2015 and some 370 people attended the seminar and dialogue, which was held with the cooperation of the Malaysian Royal Customs and Excise Department.