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SABAH BIODIVERSITY CENTRE

The Official Biannual Newsletter

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HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2019

SaBC's Appointment as Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) Steering Committee Member

Third Country Training Programme (TCTP) 2019

International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) 2019

Workshop on Sabah ABS Regulation

Workshop on Sabah Biodiversity Heritage List

Access and Export Licence Issuance

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The Sabah Biodiversity Council

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THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Greetings everyone!

To celebrate SaBC's 12th year of establishment, I am happy to announce that we are finally releasing our first official biannual newsletter. This first ever issue will recap the highlights and achievements of SaBC throughout 2019.

In parallel with SaBC's new vision - "Aspire to become an internationally recognized centre in Sustainable Management and Utilization of Biological Resources," we are proud to report that on September 2019, the centre was selected as one of the Steering Committee Members of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI). With this achievement and recognition, SaBC will continue to strive, perform better, and take more actions that will eventually contribute in the long-term of sustainable conservation, protection as well as utilization of natural environment and biological resources of Sabah.

Other significant events held in 2019 were the IDB celebration which was held in Kg. Kolosunan, Inanam, the TCTP, workshops on Sabah Biodiversity Heritage List and the state ABS Regulation. All this was made possible with the support and collaboration from local communities, NGOs and other state government agencies. I urge us to continue working in an integrated manner, rather than working in silo.

I anticipate that in 2020, the industry will be more involved and committed towards sustainable and green economy. SaBC together with other respective government agencies, NGOs and local communities will work together to make this happen.

All the best for the remaining year of 2020!

Gerald Jetony

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INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

SABAH BIODIVERSITY CENTRE SELECTED AS SATOYAMA INITIATIVE (IPSI) STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER

IPSI is a partnership made up of 258 member organizations dedicated to work together to realize societies living in harmony with nature. The global initiative promotes integration between conservation, sustainable use of biodiversity and traditional ways of living at the fringe or buffer zones of protected areas

The IPSI-8 General Assembly Meeting was held from the 2nd-6th September 2019 in Kumamoto, Japan. The meeting was attended by the Secretary of SaBC, Mr. Gerald Jetony. During the meeting, on Agenda Item 4: Rotation of IPSI Steering Committee Membership, SaBC was elected as one of the Steering Committee Members. The current Steering Committee is made up of 11 to 22 IPSI members and as a member of the committee, SaBC will serve for the next two terms of the General Assembly. The centre would like to thank the members for the acknowledgement and entrusting SaBC with this responsibility.

For more information on IPSI, do visit IPSI's official website at https://satoyama-initiative.org/

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMME (TCTP) 2019

PARTICIPANTS OF TCTP 2019

The Third Country Training Programme (TCTP) is a training programme under Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) that provides technical training programme in different themes for developing countries by sharing of experience, knowledge, and technology transfer. The TCTP on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Conservation in Sabah was first initiated by the Bornean Biodiversity and Ecosystem Conservation Programme (BBEC).

The third and final cycle of TCTP 2019 with the theme 'Integrated Biodiversity and Ecosystem Conservation' was successfully held from the 4 - 25 September 2019. ITBC-UMS together with respective Sabah state government agencies and NGOs worked together in the implementation of the training programme. Participants were 15 government officers from Uganda, Kenya, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Thailand, and Philippines.

Throughout the training, participants attended lectures, experienced hands-on activities and visited community-based conservation activities. At the end of the programme, they shared what they had learned throughout the course and presented their action plans to be implemented at their local country in the future.

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ENGAGING THE PEOPLE OF SABAH

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (IDB) 2019

OUR BIODIVERSITY, OUR FOOD, OUR HEALTH

On 18th June 2019, The state level IDB 2019 celebration was held for the first time at Kg. Kolosunan, Inanam. Kg. Kolosunan is located at the upstream of Babagon Dam and within the Babagon Water Catchment Area.

The Babagon Water Catchment is an important catchment as it supplies clean water for nearby communities and those living in Kota Kinabalu, Tuaran, Papar, Putatan, and Penampang. The selection of Kg. Kolosunan was thus resonates with IDB 2019 theme which was “Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health”. Under the State Water Resources Enactment 1998, the water catchment of Babagon will soon be gazette as a 'Water Conservation area'.

The event was officially launched by the Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Christina Liew, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment and witnessed by local communities, universities students from UMS and UCSF, primary school students, government and non-government agencies, reporters, as well as local foreign visitors foreigners. During the celebration, two MoUs were signed between the community and the government (represented by Sabah Forestry Department and Drainage and Irrigation Department) as a pilot project for water catchment conservation in Sabah. the MoUs will strengthen the relationship and cooperation between the communities and government department to ensure the long term conservation and protection of Babagon Water Catchment Area.

This event would not have been possible without the strong support of local communities (Kg. Kolosunan, Kg. Babagon Toki, Inanam and Kg. Tampasak, Penampang) and amazing coordination from Forever Sabah!

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SUSTAINABLE UTILIZATION AND PROTECTION OF SABAH'S BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

WORKSHOP: SABAH ACCESS & BENEFIT SHARING (ABS) REGULATION

24th - 25th November 2019
Perkasa Hotel, Kundasang

A two-days workshop was organized by SaBC to develop the Sabah State ABS Regulation. The workshop was attended by more than 30 representative from respective government departments and agencies including Dr. Waidi Sinun one of the six appointed Sabah Biodiversity Council members.

The objective of this workshop was to review and update the Sabah State ABS Regulation. As a result of the workshop, a draft on the Sabah State ABS Regulation was prepared and produced as a supplementary document for Sabah Biodiversity Enactment (SBE) 2000 (amend. 2017).

WORKSHOP: SABAH BIODIVERSITY HERITAGE LIST

28th November 2019
Hilton Hotel, Kota Kinabalu

The Sabah Biodiversity Heritage List Workshop was organized by SaBC with the main objective of identifying Sabah's endemic plant species that will be listed as Sabah Natural Heritage Plant List SBE 2000. The workshop was attended by more than 30 participants of government departments, research institute and NGOs including Dr. Rahimatsah Amat and Dr. Waidi Sinun (appointed Sabah Biodiversity Council members)

The workshop was held prior to the reports of illegal Sabah's endemic durian species seeds smuggling activities by foreigners. As an outcome of the workshop, the proposed Sabah Natural Heritage Plant List was prepared for SBE 2000.

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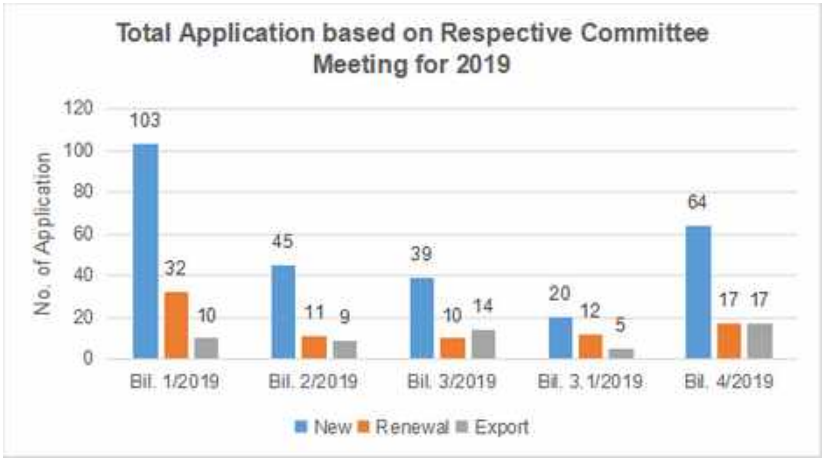
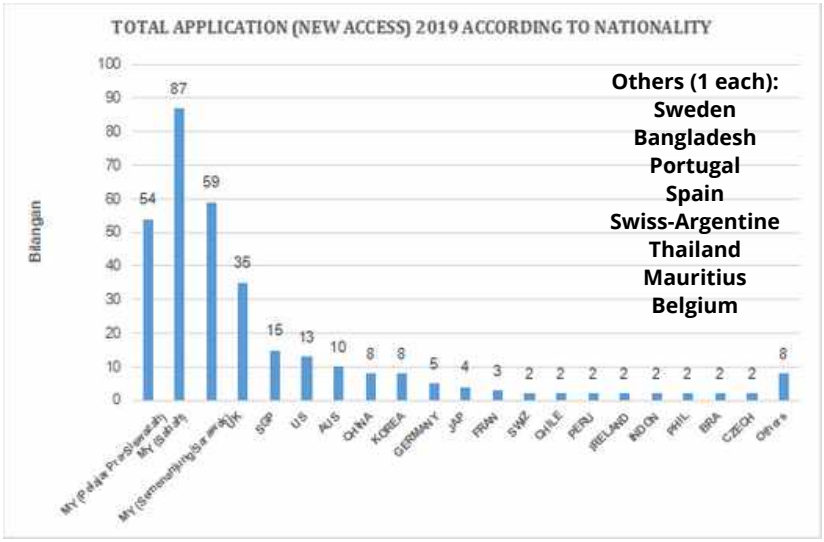
INFOGRAPHIC REPORT ON ACCESS AND EXPORT LICENCE ISSUANCE 2019



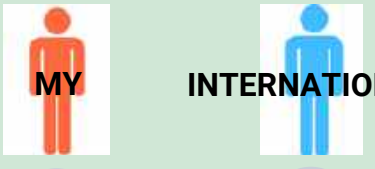


TOTAL NO. OF PAPERS RECEIVED

5

1. Endemism and diversity of small mammals along two neighboring Bornean mountains
2. El Niño drought and tropical forest conversion synergistically determine mosquito development 3) Description of 8 New Species of Hoploscopa (Lepidoptera) from Mt. Kinabalu
3. Movements of Moths through Riparian Reserves Within Oil Palm Plantations
4. New Taxa of crickets Orthoptera: Grylloidea: Gryllinae, Phaloriinae and Pteroplistinae) from Northern Borneo (Belait and Sandakan)
5. Bird's nest ferns promote resource sharing by centipedes

NATIONALITY (NEW ACCESS LICENCE)



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Access and Export License Application:

- Starting June 2019, the Access and Transfer Licence fee is imposed to all researchers.
- Starting October 2019, all Access Licence and Transfer Licence application must be submitted via SaBC's online application portal at https://sabcapps.sabah.gov.my/ .

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COMMUNICATION & AWARENESS ACTIVITIES
(International, local & community)

Workshop: Traditional and Complimentary Medicine (TCM) - 11th March 2019, Wisma Dang Bandang, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

Strategic Plan (blueprint) Traditional and Complimentary Medicine (health, economy & sosioculture)

Mdm. Ken Kartina Khamis accompanied by internship students from SaBC attended the workshop

Seminar: Biosafety Awareness - 15th April 2019, Hilton Hotel, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

Mdm. Ken Kartina Khamis received a gift from the Director of Sabah Agriculture Department as a token of appreciation for giving a talk during the Biosafety awareness seminar

Exhibition booth from SaBC in conjunction with the Biosafety Awareness Seminar

Talk: Guidelines on Access & Export Licence Application
16th May 2019, Institute for Tropical Biology and Conservation

8th May 2019- Ms. Hanisandra from SaBC gave a talk on the Guidelines on Access and Export Licence application at University College Sabah Foundation (UCSF)

8th May 2019- Ms. Hanisandra from SaBC was given a certificate as a token of appreciation for.

16th May 2019- Ms. Hanisandra from SaBC gave a talk on the Guidelines on Access and Export Licence Application at Institute for Tropical Biology and Conservation (ITBC)

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... COMMUNICATION & AWARENESS ACTIVITIES (International, local & community)

International Conference on Heart of Borneo 2019

21st March 2019, Sutera Harbour Resort, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

On 21st March 2019, Concurrent Session III: Institutionalization of Conservation Finance & Payment for Ecosystem Services was moderated by Mr. Gerald Jetony, Secretary of SaBC.

Talk: Sabah Biodiversity Enactment 2000

11th September 2019, Institute for Tropical Biology and Conservation (ITBC), University Malaysia Sabah.

Mdm. Ken Kartina Khamis attended the Third Country Training Programmed (TCTP) and gave a talk on Sabah Biodiversity Enactment 2000 to the participants.

Talk: Sustainable Development

21st - 24th October 2019, Kinabatangan, Sabah

Mr. Gerald Jetony, Secretary of SaBC gave a talk on Biodiversity Conservation for Sustainable Development Future of Sabah at ASEAN Tourism Human Resources Management and Development (ATRM) programmed. This programmed was held for four (4) days at Kinabatangan.

Dialogue on Institutionalization of FPIC

7th November 2019, Wisma SEDIA, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

Secretary of Sabah Biodiversity Centre (SaBC), Mr. Gerald Jetony gave during the dialogue of Institutionalization of FPIC

Dialogue on Institutional of Free, Prior and Informed (FPIC) co-organized by Jurisdictional Certification Steering Committee (JCSC) and Kementerian Undang-undang dan Hal Ehwal Anak Negeri

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... COMMUNICATION & AWARENESS ACTIVITIES (International, local & community)

Workshop: Contextualized Leadership Execution (CLE) for Managing Protected Areas

10th - 14th November 2019: Mdm. Nayang Liyana Bahari and Mdm. Ken Kartina Khamis of SaBC attended a five-day workshop held at Golden Sands Resort, Batu Ferringhi, Pulau Pinang.

The workshop was organized by Jabatan Perlindungan Hidupan Liar dan Taman Negara Semenanjung Malaysia (PERHILITAN) with the support and cooperation from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Global Environment Facility (GEF). The purpose of the workshop is to see the best way to manage protected areas through the leadership model for protected area managers.

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... COMMUNICATION & AWARENESS ACTIVITIES
(International, local & community)

14th December 2019 - Briefing and exhibition of Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve Roadshow (CRBR) at Pusat Rekreasi Air Terjun Kionsom, Inanam

YB Kenny Chua, Assistant Finance Minister, (ADUN Inanam) together with Mr. Gerald Jetony, Secretary SaBC and staff members at the SaBC exhibition booth

Briefing and exhibition of CRBR officiated by YB Kenny Chua, Assistant Finance Minister, (ADUN Inanam)

16th November 2019, Kg. Madsiang Penampang - Exhibition from Sabah Biodiversity Centre (SaBC) in conjunction of Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve Roadshow (CRBR)

18th December 2019, Biotechnology Research Institute (BRI), University Malaysia Sabah (UMS)
Blue Ocean Talk: Procedure on Access and Export Licence Application

Mdm. Alessandra Markos was presented a certificate as a token of appreciation for giving a talk on the Procedure of Access and Export Licence Application.

Question and answer session on the Procedure of Access and Export Licence Application

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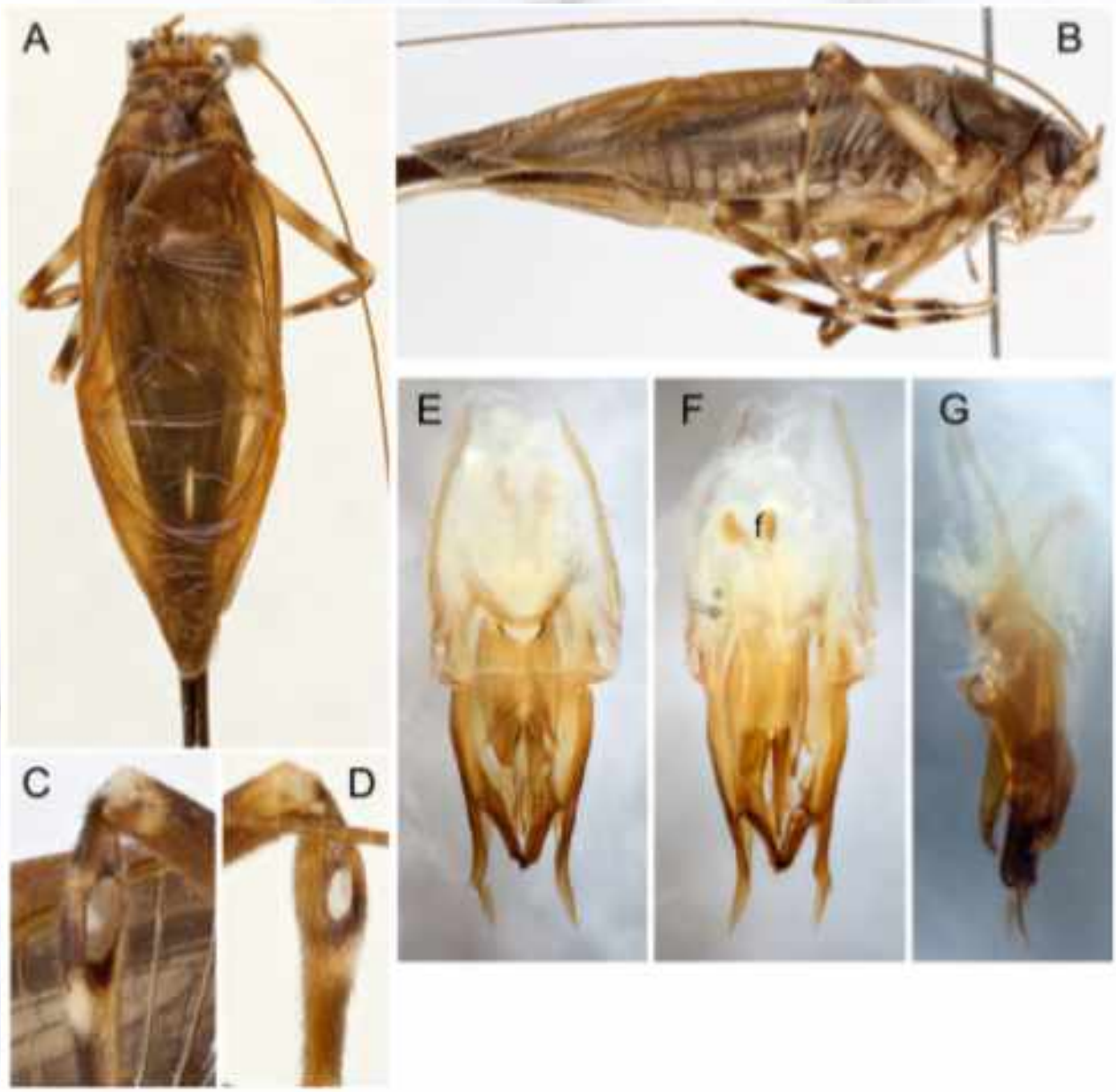
NEW SPECIES DESCRIBED IN SABAH IN 2019

One (1) new species of cricket from the subfamily **Phaloriinae** is described from Sandakan, Sabah in the paper:

New taxa of crickets (Orthoptera: Gryllidea: Gryllinae, Phaloriinae and Pteroplistinate) from nothern Borneo (Belait and Sandakan)

Vescelia sepilokensis Tan, Gorochov, Japir & Chung, **sp. nov.**



Vescelia sepilokensis Tan, Gorochov, Japir & Chung, **sp. nov** male holotype: dorsal (A) and lateral (B) habitus; outer (C) and inner (D) tympana; genitalia in dorsal (E), ventral (F) and lateral (G) views.

Reference:

Tan, M.K., Gorochov, A.V., Abdul, W. R., Japir, R. and Chung, A.Y.C., (2019).New taxa of crickets (Orthoptera: Gryllidea: Gryllinae, Phaloriinae and Pteroplistinae) from northern Borneo (Belait and Sandakan). *Zootaxa, 4661*(1), 101-117.

* The above figure was excerpted from the paper: New taxa of crickets (Orthoptera: Grylloidea: Gryllinae, Phaloriinae and Pteroplistinate) from nothern Borneo (Belait and Sandakan). Access Licence No. JKM/MBS. 1000-2/2 JLD.7 (59)

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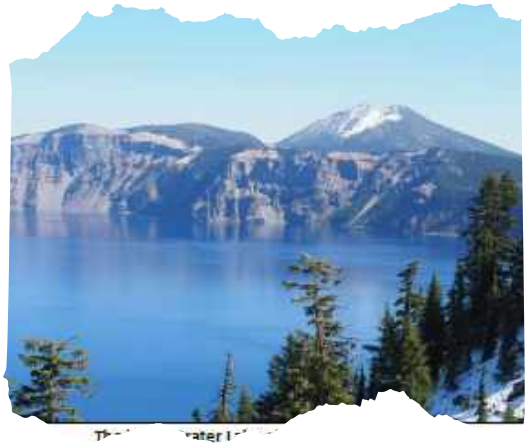
OUT & ABOUT

OREGON, USA: SABAH TECHNICAL MISSION TO OREGON, USA

Mr. Gerald Jetony, SaBC participated in the Sabah Technical Mission to Oregon, USA from 26th September - 8th October 2019. The purpose of the trip was to acquire knowledge from Oregon's forest resource management experiences - covering forest governance, park management and recreational forestry, freshwater fisheries management, community engagement in forest management, as well as innovation in wood industry. Other participating agencies were personnel from Sabah Forestry Department, Sabah Foundation, Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Drainage and Irrigation Department, Borneo Eco Tours, LEAP, and TONIBUNG.

During the trip, the Sabah delegates were brought to several places for exposure such as the Tropical Salvage, World Forestry Center, Hoyt Arboretum, Columbia River Fish Hatchery, the Oregon Zoo, Mary's Peak Special Conservation Area, Roseburg Wildlife Safari, the Clater Lake National Park, and many more.

One of the most interesting visit was to the Columbia River Fish Hatchery, where the tribal head, Mr. Wilbur Slockish himself shared his experience on native land rights with the delegates. This session is indeed useful for SaBC's future management plan on Sabah indigenous community tradition conservation.



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OUT & ABOUT

LOS BANOS, PHILIPPINES: OTHER EFFECTIVE AREA-BASED CONSERVATION MEASURES

Regional Workshop on Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measure (OECMs) was held from the 4th to 6th November 2019 at ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB), Philippines. This workshop aimed to accelerate progress on Aichi Target 11 implementation in the East and Southeast Asia region and was attended by Mdm. Nayang Liyana Bahari.

This workshop was held to achieve the agreement on a strategic plan (2011 - 2020) Target 11 during the 10th Conference of the parties (COP) which held at Aichi, Nagoya, Japan in 2010.

During the 10th COP, Malaysia has agreed to implement the strategic plan (2011-2020) Target 11, whereat least 17% terrestrial and 10% of marine areas are gazette as protected areas in 2020. Further agreement on the definition, features and criteria for OECMs were made during the 14th COP on November 2018.

ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB) has an initiative to clarify on the OECMs evaluation methodology which developed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) by organizing this workshop. Hence, this methodology will guide each country to identify their potential areas that will be evaluated and reorganized as a OECMs later.

Every desire requires efforts to achieve it. Hence, this workshop is part of the effort to create a recognition structure for the OECM areas which is tailored to our country's environment. Other than that, the programmed workshop has given exposure to participants with results of 10th and 14th COP's agenda which were to increase the protected areas in each country involved as it allows the participants to understand the rating methodology of OECMs. Better understanding of the OECMs including its rating methodology that has been created shall be implemented in participants' respective countries. The ACB will be organizing appropriate workshops to support representatives from the ministries, departments and agencies involved to attend the workshop. This is to ensure continuous discussion for implementation purposes.

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OUT & ABOUT

ROME, ITALY: 8TH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY TO THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

On the 11th until 16th of November 2019, the 8th session of the Governing Body of International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) was held at Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome, Italy.

ITPGRFA is an international agreement that is formally and globally adopted since 2001. The treaty promotes conservation of agricultural plant genetic resources and protects the rights of farmers in gaining access on fair and equitable sharing from the resources through a multilateral system. Malaysia is one of the Contracting Parties and has ratified the ITPGRFA since 2003.

Delegates from 146 countries attended the 8th session of the Governing Body of ITPGRFA. Malaysia was represented by H.E. Dato' Abdul Malik Melvin Castelino Anthony, Ambassador of Malaysia to Italy, Dr. Mohd. Shukri Mat Ali @ Ibrahim (MARDI), Mr. Muhammad Rudy Khairudin Mohd. Nor (Embassy of Malaysia), Mr. Tan Chong Tan Chun (DOA), Mr. Mohd. Suhail Muhammad (Embassy of Malaysia) and Mdm. Alessandra Markos (SaBC).

The Governing Body of ITPGRFA concluded its 8th session with a rejection of the compromise package to enhance the Multilateral System (MLS) of access and benefit sharing for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. The negotiation for a more compromise MLS was on-going for the past six years. Though an agreement could not be reached on this particular issue, all parties remained supportive and committed to the Treaty.

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THE SABAH BIODIVERSITY COUNCIL

Sabah Biodiversity Council consists of the following members:

1) Chairman - Sabah State Secretary
2) Secretary of Sabah Biodiversity Centre
3) State Attorney-General (or alternate representative)
4) Secretary of Natural Resources (or alternate representative)
5) Chief Conservator of Forests (or alternate representative)
6) Director of Sabah Parks (or alternate representative)
7) Director of Wildlife Department (or alternate representative)
8) Director of Environment Protection Department (or alternate representative)
9) Director of Water Resources (or alternate representative)
10) Director of Sabah Agriculture Department (or alternate representative)
11) Director of Sabah Fisheries Department (or alternate representative)

The appointed members (valid until 1st August 2021):

1) Dr. Waidi Sinun
2) Prof. Madya Dr. Monica Suleiman
3) Dr. Rahimatsah Amat
4) Dr. John Tay
5) Dr. Agnes Agama

▲ Sabah Biodiversity Council Meeting (MBS) No.1/2019

▲ Pre-Sabah Biodiversity Council Meeting (Pra-MBS) No. 1/2019

▲ Sabah Biodiversity Council Meeting (MBS) No.2/2019

▲ Pre-Sabah Biodiversity Council Meeting (Pra-MBS) No. 1/2019

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT MY ACCESS AND EXPORT LICENCE APPLICATION?

Application period	The Access and Export License Committee will meet four (4) times in a year for application vetting process
1st December – 28th February	March/April
1st March – 31st May	June/July
1st June – 31st August	September/October
1st September – 30th November	December/January

*Disclaimer: SaBC has the right to amend the date. Applicants are advised to constantly check for new announcement

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Nur Aizat Zaid
Nur Zaahrah Karim
Norfarah Syaqirah Lasri

UPCOMING EVENTS ON 2020

- Sabah Biodiversity Integrated Information System (SABIIS) Workshop
- Workshop on Local Collaborators' Roles and Responsibilities
- 2nd-Sabah (ABS) Regulation Workshop
- 2nd-Sabah Biodiversity Heritage List Workshop
- Workshop on Sabah Biodiversity Enactment 2000 SOP Inspection and Compliance Workshop

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COME AND JOIN US!

For those who would like to write and contribute, please contact the editors at sabc@gmail.com. Open for all! For more information, you may visit our official website. Thank You!

THANKYOU

Special thanks to Ms. Nadia Sairin Faculty of Communication & Media Studies, UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA (UiTM) for assisting SaBC in producing the first ever newsletter!

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