

Welcoming New Chairman



Malaysian Palm Oil Certification Council (MPOCC) is pleased to announce that YBhg Datuk M. Nagarajan has been appointed Chairman of MPOCC beginning 1 July 2017, taking over from YB Datuk Aaron Ago Dagang who had completed his 2-year term

on 30 June 2017.

YBhg Datuk Nagarajan comes with broad knowledge and experience in a wide range of matters related to the palm oil industry, having served the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC) for more than 11 years in various capacities, including as Head of the Palm Oil and Sago Industry Development Division, as Deputy Secretary General and culminating as the Ministry's Secretary General in 2016. He previously served as the representation of MPIC on the MPOCC Board of Trustees.

MPOCC is grateful to YB Datuk Aaron Dagang for his support and invaluable contribution in guiding the Members of the Board of Trustees in further developing and implementing the Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO) Certification Scheme. MPOCC takes this opportunity to wish Datuk Aaron Dagang and his family all the best in all their future endeavours.

Incentives for MSPO Certification Scheme

The government has announced financial incentives to be provided to oil palm entities to cover the MSPO certification audit cost.

The incentives will be given through reimbursement to MSPO-certified entities, and will be made available up to 31 December 2019. The financial incentives vary among oil palm entities and details are as follows:

- **Independent smallholders** are eligible for up to 100% incentive which will be given as reimbursement to cover the audit cost that includes initial certification auditing fee, the cost of establishing stores for pesticides and fertilizers, purchasing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), training and documentation, as well as the conversion of land title from other crops to oil palm. Meanwhile, for **organised smallholders**, the 100% incentive will cover the cost of auditing and training. The Government has allocated RM130mil as an initial incentive amount for oil palm smallholders to obtain MSPO certification.
- **Small estates between 40.46ha – 1,000ha** are eligible for up to 70% of auditing cost for MSPO Stage 1 and Stage 2 audits which will be given as reimbursement, while **estates larger than 1,000ha** are eligible for up to 30% of auditing cost for MSPO Stage 1 and Stage 2 audits, also on a reimbursable basis.

INCENTIVES

FOR MSPO CERTIFICATION SCHEME FOR ESTATES & PROCESSING FACILITIES



APPLICATION PROCEDURES

All applications must be submitted to MPOCC using the *Application Form for Estates or Processing Facilities*. Each entity has to submit its own application.

MPOCC will evaluate all applications and provide conditional approval.

Incentives will be reimbursed upon submission of the relevant original documents to MPOCC.

MSPO certification will be implemented on a mandatory basis beginning 31 December 2019. The MSPO Certification Scheme has been developed taking on board relevant domestic laws and regulations, best practices on sustainability and input from the relevant stakeholders.

SUBMISSION DETAIL

Applicants are required to send the filled Application Form together with supporting documents to MPOCC by:

email to
incentive@mpocc.org.my

or

Mail to
Malaysian Palm Oil Certification Council
15th Floor, Bangunan Getah Asli (Menara)
148, Jalan Ampang 50450, Kuala Lumpur

For further clarification, please contact MPOCC at:

email : info@mpocc.org.my
phone : 03 - 2181 0192

QUALIFYING CRITERIA AND INCENTIVES

The incentives are open to estates and processing facilities licensed by MPOB.

ESTATE LARGER THAN 40.46 ha

40.46 - 1000 ha

70% of auditing fee for MSPO Stage 1 and Stage 2 Audits

larger than
1000 ha

30% of auditing fee for MSPO Stage 1 and Stage 2 Audits

PROCESSING FACILITIES

- Mills
- Kernel crushers
- Refineries

30% of auditing fee for MSPO Stage 1 and Stage 2 Audits

- **Processing facilities** comprising of mills, kernel crushers and refineries are eligible for reimbursement of up to 30% of the auditing cost for MSPO Stage 1 and Stage 2 audits.

The government is committed in sustainable palm oil production and is therefore allocating adequate financial incentives to support the industry with the MSPO certification compliance process. The aim of the incentives is to expedite the implementation of MSPO certification and elevate the industry to the next-level of branding Malaysian palm oil against MSPO standards.

Incentive Application Procedures

For smallholders, incentive applications are fully handled by MPOB. However, for estates and processing facilities, all applications have to be submitted to MPOCC using the *Application Form* for *Estates* and *Processing Facilities*, respectively. Each entity is required to submit its own application. MPOCC will evaluate all applications and provide conditional approval. Incentives will be reimbursed upon submission of the relevant original documents to MPOCC. The guidelines and forms can be downloaded from the MPOCC website at www.mpocc.org.my.

MPOCC becomes ISEAL Alliance Subscriber

MPOCC is now a registered ISEAL subscriber following its participation in the 8th *Global Sustainability Standards Conference* hosted by ISEAL Alliance on 27-28 June 2017 in Zurich, Switzerland.

Like other ISEAL subscribers worldwide including government agencies, NGOs and certification programmes working in the field of sustainability standards and certification sector, MPOCC's subscription proves its commitment to align with ISEAL's ultimate objective of improving the positive

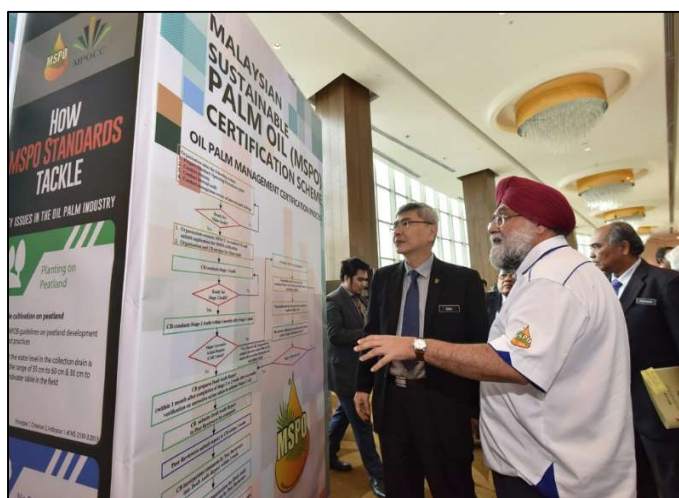
impacts of standards in support of *ISEAL Alliance Code of Ethics*.

Furthermore, for sustainability standards and certification initiatives such as MSPO, becoming an ISEAL subscriber is a step closer to obtaining ISEAL membership and benefiting from the range of technical guidance and services that are available in the ISEAL Community. As an ISEAL subscriber, MPOCC now has access to special webinars, opportunities to share and engage with other organisations, monthly community newsletters comprising the latest technical resources and analysis, opportunities to receive tailored training and support from ISEAL, discounted access to ISEAL training workshops, reduced fees for the Global Sustainability Standards Conference as well as opportunities for relationship-building including the ISEAL Community Day.

Dialogue Session with Peninsular Malaysia Oil Palm Plantation Companies

MPOCC together with the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC) organised the 'Dialogue Session with Peninsular Malaysia Oil Palm Plantation Companies' on 27 September 2017 at the Le Meridien Hotel in Putrajaya. Over 300 participants mainly representatives of plantations and estates attended the half-day dialogue session.





At the session, participants were given an introduction on MSPO Standards and requirements, MSPO certification procedures, as well as updates on the current issues facing the palm oil sector both at the national and international levels.

MPIC Minister YB Datuk Seri Mah Siew Keong gave the opening remarks at the event. This dialogue session was a follow up to the event "Consultation on The Way Forward for MSPO Certification" that was earlier held in February 2017 when the announcement of the mandatory implementation of MSPO certification was made.



Palm International Nutra-Cosmeceutical Conference (PINC) 2017

MPOCC set up its exhibition booth at the *Palm International Nutra-Cosmeceutical Conference (PINC) 2017* which was held from 31 July to 1 August 2017 at the Le Meridien Hotel, Putrajaya. Information brochures on the MSPO certification scheme were distributed to more than 400 participants that attended the PINC 2017.

PINC 2017 highlighted the positive roles of palm bioactives including tocotrienols, carotenoids and phenolics aimed at better understanding the palm oil and its components for their effects on human health. The conference also provided updates on the latest scientific evidence on the health attributes of dietary palm oil. Participants not only include researchers and industry stakeholders, but also doctors, dietitians, nutritionists and health professionals. The conference featured prominent international health and nutritional speakers from Malaysia, Singapore, China, Australia, USA as well as Canada.

Meetings of Technical Working Committee on MSPO Standards [TWC(MSPO)]

MPOCC organised the 1st Meeting of TWC(MSPO) which was held at the Corus Hotel, Kuala Lumpur on 10 July 2017.

The meeting was attended by 26-member organisations that make up a balanced multi-stakeholder representation of the oil palm sector in Malaysia.

The TWC(MSPO) is a voluntary multi-stakeholder representation of the relevant Malaysian stakeholders or groups with interest in the oil palm sector that comprise of members having relevant expertise and are nominated by their respective organisation representing eight

stakeholder groups from the three regions of Malaysia, i.e. Peninsular, Sabah and Sarawak.

The invited members were from eight stakeholder groups comprising of **government agencies** [Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC), Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB), Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC), Jabatan Tenaga Kerja (JTK) & Department of Standards Malaysia (DSM)], **industry upstream organisations** [Malaysian Estate Owners' Association (MEOA), Sarawak Oil Palm Plantation Owners Association (SOPPOA), East Malaysia Planters' Association (EMPA), Malaysian Oil Palm Dealers Association (MOPDA), Malaysian Palm Oil Association (MPOA) and Malaysian Oil Palm Nurseries Association (MOPNA)], **industry downstream organisations** [Malaysian Biodiesel Association (MBA), Malayan Edible Oil Manufacturers' Association (MEOMA), Palm Oil Refiners Association Malaysia (PORAM), Malayan Agricultural Producers Association (MAPA) and Palm Oil Millers Association (POMA)], **smallholders organisations** [National Association of Smallholders (NASH), Dayak Oil Palm Planters Association (DOPPA), Sarawak Land Consolidation and Rehabilitation Authority (SALCRA), Lembaga Kemajuan Tanah Persekutuan (FELDA), Sabah Land Development Board (SLDB) & Persatuan Pekebun Kecil Kelapa Sawit Sabah], **environmental NGOs** [Malaysian Nature Society (MNS), Sabah Environmental Protection Association (SEPA), WWF-Malaysia], indigenous people organisations [Sarawak Dayak Iban Association (SADIA) & Federation of Orang Ulu Association Sarawak Malaysia (FORUM)], **workers union organisations** [The National Union of Plantation Workers (NUPW) & Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC)] and **academia/research and development institutions** (UPM & UNIMAS).



The one-day meeting focused on the deliberation of the *Terms of Reference* (TOR) of the TWC(MSPO), discussions on the confirmation of the *Standards Setting and Review Procedures* (SSP) and discussions on the draft of the *Supply Chain Certification Standard* (SCCS) to be used under the MSPO Certification Scheme.

The meeting unanimously agreed to the appointment of Steven Yow Thin Chin from POMA as the chairperson of the TWC(MSPO), whereas Dominic Dambul from EMPA and Napoleon Royal Ningkos from DOPPA were appointed as the two vice-chairpersons.

The 2nd Meeting of the TWC(MSPO) was held on 14 August 2017 and was attended by 23-member organisations. The one-day meeting discussed the comments received on the TOR, and agreed to adopt the document with some minor amendments.

The meeting also discussed the SSP under the MSPO Certification Scheme document (dated 10 July 2017), and agreed to appoint a consultant to further develop and refine the document.



Meeting of Experts Working Group (EWG) on MSPO Supply Chain Certification Standard (SCCS)

The 1st Meeting of the TWC (MSPO) on 10 July 2017 ended with the outcome to move forward by forming an Experts Working Group (EWG) to develop the MSPO SCCS. The objective of the development of the supply chain standard is to strengthen the MSPO Scheme as well as provide the palm oil downstream industry with sustainability certification which will allow them to make a claim that their sustainable products originate from sustainably managed plantations.

The 1st Meeting of the EWG on MSPO SCCS was held on 21 July 2017. The EWG members were represented by eight organisations, including the MBA, MEOMA, PORAM, POMA, MAPA, MPOB, SOPPOA and EMPA. The meeting also focused on the proposed timeline for the development of the MSPO SCCS.



The meeting further deliberated on the MSPO SCCS Draft 1 (dated 14 August 2017). The finalised version of the document was then subjected to a 60-day public comments period, starting from 29 August to 28 October 2017.

The meeting also discussed the membership composition of the TWC(MSPO). Since only 31 organisations had responded so far by nominating their Members and Alternate Members, the meeting agreed to re-invite the remaining organisations.



On 4 August 2017, the 2nd Meeting of the EWG on MSPO SCCS was held, which further elaborated on the MSPO SCCS Draft 1 based on the summarised comments received from the TWC(MSPO) members,

namely DOPPA, WWF, SEPA, SOPPOA, MBA, MPOA, MEOMA and PORAM.

The 3rd Meeting of the EWG on MSPO SCCS was held on 23-24 November 2017. The meeting discussed the input received from the first public comment for the MSPO SCCS Draft 1. The discussion resulted in the consolidation of the MSPO SCCS Draft 2, which was then endorsed by the TWC (MSPO) at its 3rd meeting held on 19 December 2017.

Felda Ekspresi Negaraku Carnival

From 21 to 23 July 2017, MPOCC participated in the 'Felda Ekspresi Negaraku' carnival by setting up a booth with fun-packed games and informative brochures on the MSPO Certification Scheme. The carnival which was held in Putrajaya was the first of its kind organised by Felda to commemorate the Felda settlers and the second generation of the settlers who have contributed to the economy and nation.

During the three-day carnival, MPOCC's booth was visited by over a thousand visitors who were delighted with the interactive games that were designed to be fun, informative and educational on the MSPO Certification Scheme, as well as increasing MPOCC's social media following.



Dialogue with Central Palm Oil Millers Association (POMA)

On 16 August 2017, MPOCC organised a dialogue session with the Central POMA at the Holiday Villa Hotel and Conference Centre in Subang Jaya. The session attracted more than 30 POMA members and other independent palm oil millers from Selangor, Pahang and Johor.

The MSPO Standard and Certification Dialogue is a series of roadshows that is held for palm oil millers to drive the uptake of MSPO certification to be in line with the government's commitment towards ensuring mandatory implementation of MSPO Certification Scheme for the palm oil industry by 31 December 2019.

The objective of the dialogue session is to introduce MPOCC and the operation of the MSPO Certification Scheme. Participants are also informed about the MSPO certification initiatives carried out by MPOB for smallholders.

Participants were informed on the details of the auditing guidelines of the palm oil milling standard, MS2530-4:2013 MSPO Part 4: General principles for palm oil mills. The session is also aimed at providing support for palm oil miller to become fully certified against MSPO Certification Scheme.

Dialogue with Southern Peninsular Palm Oil Millers Association (SPPOMA)

Another dialogue session with the millers was held on 5 September 2017, where MPOCC reached out to members of SPPOMA. The event was held at the Swiss-Garden Hotel, Melaka where 50 participants from 17 mills attended the one-day session.

At the dialogue session, participants were also informed about the certification initiatives carried out by MPOB for smallholders, in relation to milling standards. They were also briefed on details of the auditing guidelines of the palm oil milling standard, *MS2530-4:2013 MSPO Part 4: General principles for palm oil mills*.



UNESCO-IKIM Expert Group Consultation

On 18 September 2017, MPOCC made a presentation relating to how the MSPO Certification Scheme addresses haze issues in oil palm cultivation, during the *UNESCO-IKIM Expert Group Consultation (EGC) on Bioethical Perspective of Haze* jointly organised by the UNESCO Jakarta Office and the Institute of Islamic Understanding Malaysia, in collaboration with the



Academy of Sciences Malaysia and the University of Malaya.



Among the objectives of the event were:

- To gather experts to deliberate and incorporate the bioethical dimension for guiding policy making on eradication of haze to multiple factors involved in the issue.
- To deliberate on finance and trade considerations to better understand the sources of haze in Malaysia.
- To explore the mobilisation of ethical and sustainability science dimensions to create a win-win solution between ecology, knowledge and innovation, and to create synergies between the economy and society.

MPOCC-UPM Dialogue: Push to Adopt MSPO Sustainability Standards

A two-way dialogue session called '*Putra Plantation Forum Series 7: Push to Adopt MSPO Sustainability Standards in Malaysia*' between Institut Kajian Perladangan (IKP) and UPM Agriculture Faculty in collaboration with MPOCC was held at the Dewan Pertanian UPM, Serdang on 17 August 2017. The session was attended by 100 participants from agencies, traders, academia as well as UPM staff.



Prior to the dialogue session, MPOCC Senior Manager (Supply Chain), Dr. Sanath Kumaran gave some insights on MPOCC as an organisation, its role and responsibilities, before briefing on the status of MSPO-certified areas nationwide and explaining more on the MSPO Certification Scheme.

In the Q&A session, Dr. Sanath covered various topics such as mechanisms to counter negative allegations on Malaysian palm oil especially on deforestation and peat land issues, concerns from the EU markets, branding of MSPO in the global market, benefits of MSPO certification as well as auditing processes. Towards the end of the dialogue, Dr. Sanath called for support from the industry players, especially the growers, to spread awareness on the MSPO Certification Scheme in making the national mandate a success.

Asia Palm Oil Conference (APOC) 2017

MPOCC participated as a panelist at the APOC 2017 which was hosted by the Thai Palm Oil & Oil Palm Association in Surat Thani, Thailand. The conference, also known as the 7th Palmex Thailand 2017 was held from 17-18 August, with a comprehensive focus on trade, investment and technology, and provided excellent partnership opportunities with international players. The conference also featured Asian palm oil

leaders and global industrial experts with a good mixture of prominent international and Asian attendees.

The event was attended by over 2,000 visitors from Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam, Japan, China, Taiwan, India, New Zealand, Netherlands, Canada, United States, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Spain, Pakistan and the Middle East.



MPOCC was represented by Mohd Hasbollah Suparyono, Senior Executive (Plantation Management) who made a presentation on the implementation of the MSPO Certification Scheme.

Consultation on Child Labour and Commitments to Source Responsibly in the Palm Oil Sector

On 5 September 2017, MPOCC Senior Manager (Plantation Management), Chong Wei Kwang attended the consultation workshop entitled *Child Labour and Commitments to Source Responsibly in the Palm Oil Sector* as a resource person to provide input on the requirements in relation to child protection in relation to the MSPO Certification Scheme.

The consultation workshop, organised by The Forest Trust (TFT) was held in Sandakan, Sabah with the aim to seek stakeholders' input on the presence of children in plantations. The workshop addressed the disparity

of perceptions between locally acceptable norms and activities universally conceptualised as child labour. In this matter, the importance of the MSPO principles, criteria and guidance pertaining to the work force and compliance with legal requirements were discussed.

Oils and Fats Trade Fair 2017

On 14 September 2017, MPOCC CEO Harnarinder Singh gave a presentation on the *Implementation of the Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO) Certification Scheme* during the *Oils and Fats Trade Fair 2017: Food Safety Forum Session 1* which was held in Munich, Germany from 11-15 September 2017.

The participants were briefed on the importance of sustainability certification, task and responsibilities of MPOCC, the MSPO Certification Scheme, MSPO Standards, work progress in MSPO certification, the way forward for the MSPO Certification Scheme and timeline for mandatory MSPO certification, as well as the challenges and issues faced.

The Trade Fair is a biennial event which this year around received participation from 50 exhibitors, including those from Austria, Italy, Belgium, Spain, the Netherlands, Serbia, Switzerland, France, Great Britain, Canada, the United States, Japan, China and India.

The Forum Session was part of the extensive supporting programme to the exhibition with international speakers from Germany, Netherlands, Belgium and Malaysia who contributed according to their areas of expertise.

The highly specialised Trade Fair is Europe's key business and technology platform, showcasing the latest trends and technological developments targeting both the vegetable and animal oils and fats industries.

CBs Engagement and Dialogue with MPOCC

Over 40 representatives from Certification Bodies (CBs) attended the CBs Engagement and Dialogue with MPOCC that was held on 28 September 2017 at the Corus Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. The event started off with a briefing by DSM on *Accreditation Requirements for CBs and ACBs Operating Oil Palm Management (OPMC) Requirements*, and was followed by a Q&A session.



The participants were also briefed by MPOCC on the MSPO Scheme Documents and this was followed by a discussion session on the MSPO Certification Scheme and its implementation arrangement, *Procedures for Notification of Certification Bodies Operating Oil Palm Management or Supply Chain Certification, Issuance of MSPO Logo Usage License* and the MSPO certification processes.



Towards the end, the participants had a dialogue session with the ACBs where topics discussed were on audit procedures, engagement of peer reviewers, MSPO-RSPO combined audit checklist, means of compliance project to produce auditing guidelines, request for CB's progress on certified areas, as well as areas undergoing certification.

Currently, there are five ACBs operating oil palm management certification under the MSPO Certification Scheme, namely DQS Certification (M) Sdn. Bhd., SGS (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd., Bureau Veritas (M) Sdn. Bhd., TUV NORD (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. and SIRIM QAS International Sdn. Bhd.



On the other hand, another six CBs are undergoing the accreditation process, namely CARE Certification International (M) Sdn. Bhd., BSI Services Malaysia Sdn. Bhd., Prima Cert International Sdn. Bhd., NIOSH Certification Sdn. Bhd., Control Union (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd., Global Gateway Certification Sdn. Bhd..

Participation in Seminars/ Exhibitions/ Conferences/ Dialogue Events

Over the period, MPOCC participated in the following:

- 13th National Seminar (NATSEM) 2017 at the Grand Dorsett Subang Hotel from 17-18 July 2017

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MPOCC does not make nor is to be taken as making any representation or warranty, whether expressed or implied, as to the accuracy or completeness or otherwise of the information. MPOCC and its trustees, officers and employees shall not be responsible nor be held liable for any claims, liabilities, losses, damages, costs or expenses of any kind suffers or incurred by any party arising from or as a result of any reliance on the information provided in the list

- 23rd MPOB Transfer of Technology (TOT) Seminar and Exhibition 2017 on 11 July 2017
- 9th Asia Sustainable Oil Palm Summit at the Pullman Hotel, Kuala Lumpur from 1-2 August 2017
- 8th Malaysia International Palm Oil and Agriculture Equipment Technology Expo at the Bintulu Civic Centre, Sarawak from 8-10 August 2017

Website Update: Consultants who can support MSPO Certification Scheme implementation

MPOCC has now made available a list of Malaysian registered consultants on its website who can provide consultancy services for MSPO certification. The list is solely for reference purposes only and has been created solely based on submissions made by the individual companies to MPOCC. The list has not been independently verified.

MSPO Brochures in Five Vernacular Languages

Previously, MPOCC has produced brochures in the Malay, English, Mandarin and Iban languages to cater for targeted stakeholders in the different regions and states in Malaysia. The latest addition is a set of MSPO

brochures translated into the Kadazandusun language specifically to cater for stakeholders in Sabah. All the brochures are available for download at www.mpocc.org.my.

MSPO Technical Briefings for Estates and Plantations

Over the period October – December 2017, MPOCC and the Incorporated Society of Planters (ISP) had co-organised a total of 12 sessions of *MSPO Technical Briefings for Estates and Plantations* nationwide in Peninsular, Sabah and Sarawak. During the briefings, details on MSPO certification requirements for plantations as prescribed in the MSPO Part 3 document MS2530-2013 were presented. In total, the series of briefings attracted more than 1,200 participants.



The briefing modules included an introduction to MPOCC and the MSPO Certification Scheme, certification requirements for plantations (Principles, Criteria and Indicators for compliance) and the certification and auditing processes involved.

Such MSPO technical briefings have certainly assisted the industry players, especially the organised smallholders and plantation companies, to gear

themselves and be ready for the auditing for MSPO certification.



Details on the MSPO technical briefings conducted are as per following:

No.	Venue	Date
1	Sungai Siput, Perak	10 October
2	Sungai Petani, Kedah	11 October
3	Kuantan, Pahang	6 November
4	Miri, Sarawak	11 November
5	Sibu, Sarawak	12 November
6	Segamat, Johor	18 November
7	Kluang, Johor	19 November
8	Kota Tinggi, Johor	20 November
9	Kuala Terengganu	23 November
10	Teluk Intan, Perak	6 December
11	Sandakan, Sabah	9 December
12	Kuching, Sarawak	12 December

1st Meeting of Experts Working Group on Means of Compliance [EWG (MOC)]

The 2nd meeting of the TWC (MSPO) held on 14 August 2017 had resulted in the formation of the EWG (MOC) to develop a guidance document on means of compliance of MS2530 Part 3, standard for use by the relevant stakeholders. The EWG (MOC) is a six-member group made up of representatives of

smallholders, upstream industry, environmental NGOs and worker's union organisations.

The 1st meeting of the EWG (MOC) was held on 3 October 2017 at the MPOCC office. The meeting deliberated on draft means of compliance document, and agreed to refine the document by using the elements in the *Guidelines for Auditing* including the methods to compliance, either by site verification, document review or interview with stakeholders. The draft document will be developed and distributed to both auditees and auditors as a reference document.

ARPOS Network 2nd Annual General Meeting

The Academic Research on Palm Oil Sustainability (ARPOS) held its 2nd Annual General Meeting at the National University of Malaysia (UKM) in Bangi, Selangor on 9 October 2017. MPOCC was given the opportunity to deliver the keynote address, which was presented by Dr. Sanath Kumaran who elaborated and emphasised the need to adopt MSPO sustainability standards in Malaysia.

EU-Malaysia International Discourse on Palm Oil Sustainability

The EU-Malaysia International Discourse on Palm Oil Sustainability was organized by the EU-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce and Industry at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Center on 11 October 2017. Over 200 people comprising of local and international participants from various organisations attended the discourse. During the event, MPOCC Chairman Datuk M. Nagarajan moderated a panel discussion entitled *Examples of Good Practices Leading to a More Sustainable Palm Oil Supply and Demand Chain*.

Datuk Seri Mah Siew Keong meets Chief Minister of Sarawak

On 13 October 2017, Plantation Industries and Commodity Minister YB Datuk Seri Mah Siew Keong paid a courtesy visit to the newly appointed Chief Minister of Sarawak, YAB Datuk Patinggi Dr. Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Abang Haji Openg in Kuching. MPOCC CEO was among the delegates that discussed various commodity issues and challenges, including sustainability certification under the MSPO Certification Scheme.

ISEAL Training Workshops

ISEAL conducted a series of training workshop from 17-25 October 2017. MPOCC Senior Executive (Supply Chain), Yazreen Mohd Sabri attended the workshops which were conducted by ISEAL trainers Kristin Komives, Director of Impact and Ana Garzon, Manager of Innovations. The three-day training workshops were held in Bonn, Germany and London, U.K. and covered five topics including sustainability standards essentials, foundations of monitoring and evaluation system,s as well as research design, methodology and impact evaluation in the field of sustainability standards.

2nd Training for Peer Reviewers under the MSPO Certification Scheme

MPOCC held a two-day *Training Course for Peer Reviewers* at the Hotel Bangi Putrajaya, Selangor on 25-26 October 2017. A total of 40 peer reviewers who are registered with MPOCC attended the training session.

The training course was conducted with the objective to provide a better understanding of the MSPO Standards and auditing procedures, including the

Are you an expert?

MPOCC is looking for PEER REVIEWERS



To peer review Audit Reports prepared by Auditors under MSPO Certification Scheme

Requirements

Experience

- Minimum of seven (7) years of experience in oil palm management or expertise related to various aspects of oil palm management such as:

○ agriculture ○ environmental sciences ○ geology ○ natural sciences ○ ecology ○ botany ○ zoology ○ sociology ○ anthropology ○ forestry ○ agriculture/forest engineering ○ engineering ○ process technology ○ energy management ○ quality management ○ business management ○ agriculture/forest economics ○ other relevant related fields

Other Criteria

- Have the necessary knowledge and work experience to assess the adequacy of the audit reports submitted by the auditors.
- In-depth knowledge on applicable local rules and regulations, and the condition of the oil palm plantation areas audited including the oil palm management system being implemented would be an advantage
- Have a good understanding of the certification standards for oil palm management (MS 2530:2013 series) used under the MSPO Certification Scheme and related auditing procedures

Further details are available at www.mpocc.org.my

Application Forms are available at:

www.mpocc.org.my/scheme-documents

Send details to info@mpocc.org.my



MALAYSIAN PALM OIL CERTIFICATION COUNCIL

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info@mpocc.org.my | www.mpocc.org.my



DSM-Accredited Certification Bodies are looking for qualified

Auditors for MSPO Certification

Requirements

Academic Qualification

- Post-secondary education, college or university diploma/degree in one of the following:
 - Agriculture
 - Science & Technology
(e.g. Environmental Sciences, Life Sciences, Geological Sciences, Natural Sciences)
 - Engineering
 - Process Technology
 - Energy Management
 - Quality Management
 - Social Sciences
 - Anthropology
 - Business Management
 - Occupational Health & Safety
- Other relevant related fields
- Undergone lead auditor course in QMS, EMS or OSH

Work Experience

Auditor

- **With tertiary education:** At least three (3) years of work experience in the oil palm sector or related fields
- **With post-secondary education:** At least ten (10) years of work experience in the oil palm sector or related fields

Lead Auditor

- At least five (5) years of work experience in the oil palm sector or related fields

Auditing Experience

Auditor

- Conducted a minimum of four (4) on-site audits for a total of at least 20 man-days of audit experience as an auditor-in-training under the direction and guidance of a qualified Lead Auditor for MSPO or equivalent sustainability certification schemes within the last two (2) years.

Lead Auditor

- Conducted at least three (3) MSPO or equivalent sustainability certification audits as Lead Auditor-in-training with a minimum of fifteen (15) man-days under the direction and guidance of a qualified Lead Auditor for MSPO or equivalent sustainability certification schemes within the last two (2) years.

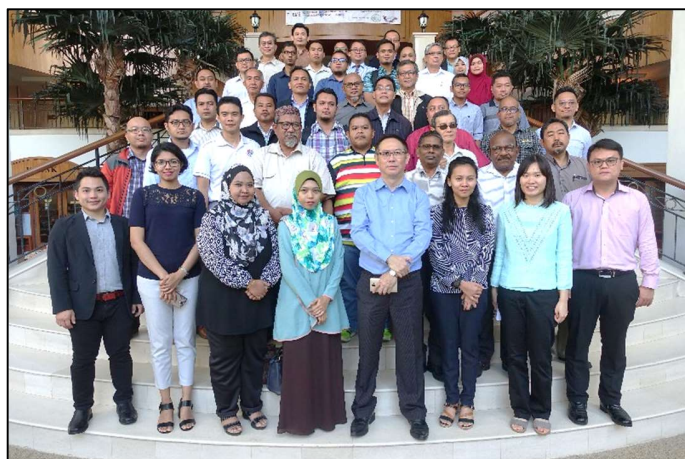
Please contact any DSM accredited certification body (ACB) of your choice as listed on MPOCC's website at www.mpocc.org.my



MALAYSIAN PALM OIL CERTIFICATION COUNCIL

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methodology and skills required for conducting reviews, as well as the scope and role of peer reviewers in the certification process.



Providing such training is one of the efforts taken by MPOCC to increase the number of peer reviewers to cater for the anticipated increase in the demand for MSPO certification following the government's announcement to make it mandatory by December 2019.

This year alone, MPOCC has provided training to a total of 63 peer reviewers who are experts in the various fields related to sustainability certification and the oil palm industry both upstream and downstream in Malaysia.

Meeting with the Sabah Forestry Department (SFD)

On 18 December 2017, MPOCC and SFD met to discuss on matters related to the implementation of certification scheme particularly on the Sabah Jurisdictional Certified Sustainable Palm Oil (JCSPO) and the national certification scheme MSPO. The meeting ended with an agreement to further engage for an amicable solution that will satisfy both parties.

MPOCC holds the first Certified Sustainable Palm Oil (CSPO) Forum: The Way Forward

MPOCC organised the inaugural forum entitled '*Certified Sustainable Palm Oil Forum (CSPO): The Way Forward*' on 13 November 2017, in conjunction with the International Palm Oil Congress and Exhibition 2017 (PIPOC 2017) that was held from 12-16 November 2017 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC). More than 450 participants representing various stakeholders attended the event.



The half-day event discussed the recent developments in the implementation of mandatory national sustainability certification for the Malaysian palm oil sector.





Discussions also focused on certified sustainable palm oil and certification schemes, adopting national certification standards in the local and global context, addressing emerging challenges, and exploring opportunities to further strengthen the palm oil sector. Key opinion leaders were present to deliver presentations on:

- Latest developments on how the industry is adopting emerging national standards and their market implications
- NGO perspective on sustainability certification schemes
- Potential collaboration between sustainability certification systems
- Experiences from the field on auditing entities for sustainability certification



A total of eight panelists representing MPOCC, MPOB, WWF Malaysia, National Association of Smallholders (NASH), International Sustainability & Carbon Certification (ISCC) System GmbH, Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), and Felda Global Ventures (FGV) were present during the panel discussion on certified sustainable palm oil.

The panelists contributed ideas on MSPO on three thematic areas: benchmarking MSPO as an international standard; meeting the challenge of mandatory MSPO certification by 31 December 2019; and ideas on supporting smallholders to achieve MSPO certification.

The forum is one of MPOCC's continual efforts to create awareness and promote the uptake of MSPO certification among the palm oil industry players. It is hoped that the forum created a platform for various stakeholders of the palm oil industry to share their knowledge and experiences in implementing sustainability certification.

MPOCC is optimistic that this event had been useful in increasing the adoption and uptake of MSPO certification by the palm oil industry and in the implementation of the MSPO Certification Scheme which collectively will further enhance the image of the Malaysian palm oil industry, improve competitiveness, and form the basis for the branding of Malaysian palm oil.

International Oil Palm Conference (PIPOC) 2017

MPOB held its biennial PIPOC event at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Center on 14-16 November 2017. MPOCC participated in the three-day event by setting up a booth and making a presentation at one of the five concurrent conferences. The event attracted over 1,000 visitors to MPOCC's booth and gave the public a

chance to directly discuss with MPOCC officers on matters related to the MSPO Certification Scheme, its requirements and benefits.

On the second day of the event, MPOCC CEO Harnarinder Singh made a presentation entitled *Sustaining Palm Oil Economic Competitiveness through Certification* to over 200 conference participants. Among the topics discussed in his presentation were background on MPOCC as the independent organisation to develop and operate the MSPO Certification Scheme. Besides that, Harnarinder also discussed the need for sustainability certification, economic reasoning for implementing MSPO certification and the benefits that come along with it for the different stakeholder groups.

Presentation at the European Palm Oil Conference (EPOC) 2017

Malaysian delegates comprising of members from organisations including MPIC, MPOB, MPOC, MPOCC and Media Prima, as well as the Malaysian Ambassador in Brussels H.E. Dato' Hasnudin Hamzah, attended the EPOC 2017 that was also held on 23 November 2017 in Brussels, Belgium. At the event, MPIC Secretary General, Datuk K. Yogeesvaran delivered a keynote address to the participants. MPOCC Chairman, Datuk M. Nagarajan also made a presentation on *Inclusive Sustainable Palm Oil Policies in Malaysia* where he explained about the Malaysian palm oil policies, its commitments and plans.

Other members of the Malaysian delegation included MPOCC CEO Harnarinder Singh, MPOC CEO Dr Kalyana Sundram, MPOC Regional Manager for European Region Uthaya Kumar, MPOB Regional Manager for European Region Dr Puah Chiew Wei, MPIC Assistant Undersecretary (Oil Palm and Sago Development Division) Mohd Izwan Jamaludin and MPOCC Senior Executive (Accreditation) Tan Kai Yuuen.



Other MSPO Briefing and Training

Sessions held in July – December 2017:

DATE	EVENT
5 July	Briefing to Riverview Rubber Estate, Tanjung Tualang, Perak
10 July	MSPO briefing at the IOI Supplier Engagement Programme II, Sandakan, Sabah
17-20 July	MSPO briefing to Sabah Department of Agriculture in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah
25 July	Implementation of mandatory MSPO briefing to Members of Parliaments at Seri Pacific Hotel, Kuala Lumpur
28 July	MSPO-RSPO Certification Sustainable Dialogue and Dinner at Le Meridien Hotel, Putrajaya
11 August	MPOCC-East Malaysia Planters Association (EMPA) 1 st Forum in Sandakan, Sabah
25 August	MPOCC-EMPA 2 nd Forum in Lahad Datu, Sabah
14 August	MSPO briefing to 60 Senators at Bangunan Utama Parlimen, Kuala Lumpur
21-25 August	MSPO Lead Auditor Training by SIRIM STS Sdn. Bhd. at Bangi Putrajaya Hotel, Selangor
8 September	MSPO briefing to Bursa Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur
9 October	MSPO briefing and update on MSPO Supply Chain Certification Standard development in PORAM Commercial and Technical meeting at PORAM's office, Kuala Lumpur
20 October	MPOCC-EMPA 3 rd Forum in Tawau, Sabah
27 October	MSPO briefing to Association of Banks in Malaysia (ABM), Kuala Lumpur
30 October	MPOCC-MPOA 2 nd Forum in Tanah Merah, Kelantan
3 November	MSPO briefing to Sarawak Oil Palm Plantation Owners Association (SOPPOA) in a seminar to its members at the RH Hotel in Sibu, Sarawak
10 November	MSPO briefing to MPOC's Regional Managers and Market Analysts, Kuala Lumpur
28 November	MPOCC-EMPA 4 th Forum in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah
6 December	MSPO briefing to U.S. Trade Representatives for Labour at MPOCC's office, Kuala Lumpur
8 December	MSPO briefing to MITI Deputy Minister, YB Datuk Chua Tee Yong at MPOCC's office, Kuala Lumpur
13 December	MSPO briefing at the Import/Export Procedures and Trade Documentation Course, Kuala Lumpur
21 December	MSPO briefing to SIRIM President and Group Chief Executive Officer, Prof. Ir. Dr. Ahmad Fadzil M. Hani at MPOCC's office, Kuala Lumpur

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

The Waterfront Hotel, Kuching | 9am - 1pm | 27 January 2018



**Registration
is free
Seats are limited**



Certified Sustainable Palm Oil Forum: The Way Forward | Sarawak

Register at www.mpocc.org.my

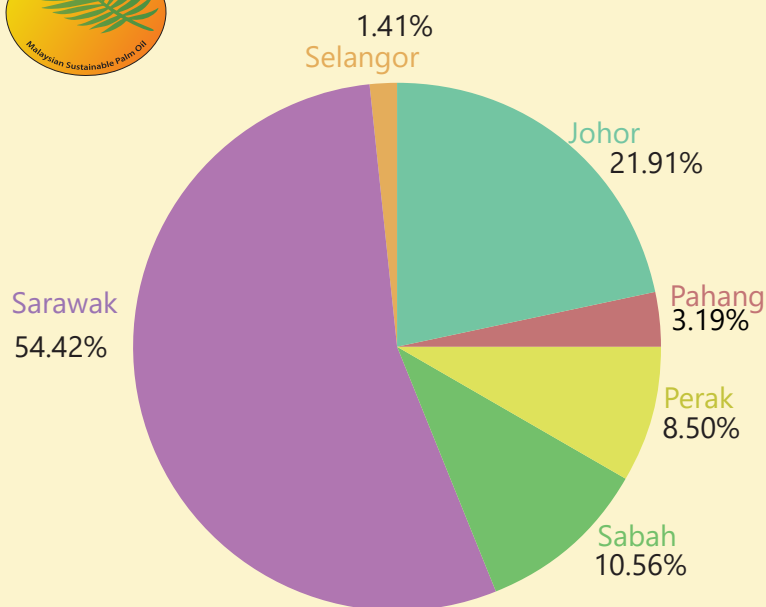
ORGANISED BY





MSPO Certified Areas & Mills

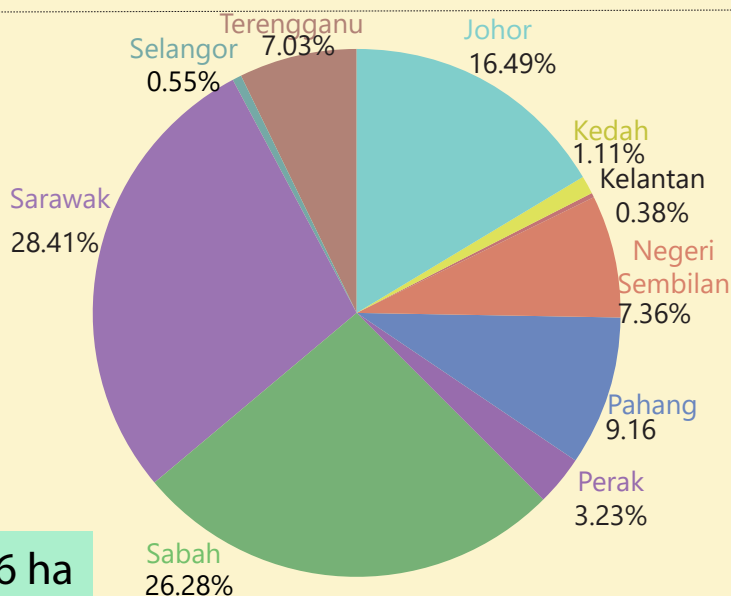
As of December 2017



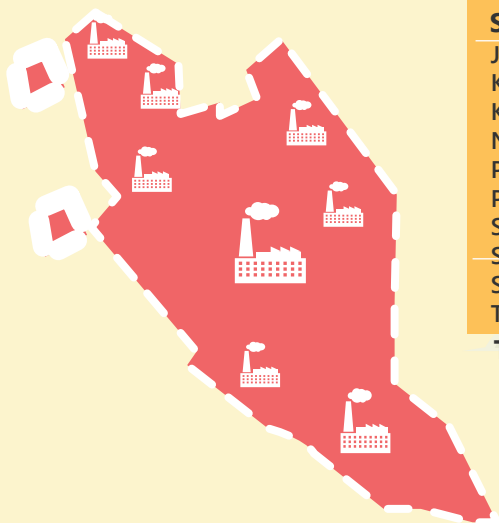
Total Certified Area under Independent Smallholders (SPOCs*)
4,804.93 ha

*SPOCs = Sustainable Palm Oil Clusters

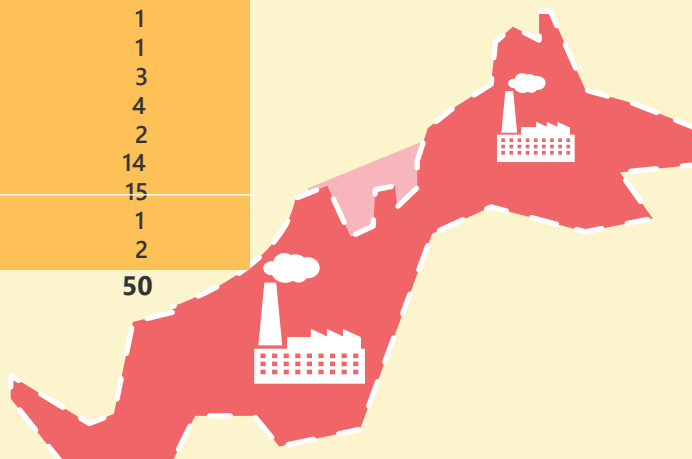
Total Certified Area under Plantations & Organised Smallholders
513,989.03 ha



TOTAL CERTIFIED AREA = 518,793.96 ha



State	Certified Mills
Johor	7
Kedah	1
Kelantan	1
Negeri Sembilan	3
Pahang	4
Perak	2
Sabah	14
Sarawak	15
Selangor	1
Terengganu	2
Total	50



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