

HOW GREEN IS OUR RINGGIT?



INTRODUCTION

Twenty years ago world leaders met in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil for the United Nation Conference on Environment and Development or popularly known as Earth Summit. Among the most important decision made was the adoption of Agenda 21 which is a global blueprint to promote sustainable development which requires economic growth, advance social equity and at the same time ensuring environmental protection.

The Earth Summit was regarded a major success in raising public awareness about sustainable development which requires the integration of economic growth with social and environmental consideration into countries development policies and plans. In this regard, Agenda 21 remain as a long term road map for sustainable future.

Since Rio, there have been tremendous efforts by all stakeholders namely governments, agencies, international organizations, non-government organizations and individuals to implement the sustainable development objectives. Malaysia has long been committed to sustainable development and this is well reflected and in-cooperated in Malaysia Plan documents.

The world is now preparing to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2012. The main aim of the conference is to evaluate the progress made globally in achieving the vision of sustainable development over the past two decades. Rio+20 will be focusing on two major themes namely a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and international framework for sustainable development.

The Third Dato' Ismail Awang Forestry Forum has chosen the theme "HOW GREEN IS OUR RINGGIT ?" to explore some of the related issues with the following objectives:

- To explore current thinking on green economy
- To understand how green economy will influence the Malaysian way of life
- To explore green economy research needs and collaboration

PROGRAMME

0830 - 0900	Registration
0900 - 0930	Welcoming Remarks by Y.Bhg. Datin Harison Ahmad
	Opening Remarks by Y.Bhg. Prof. Datuk Dr. Noor Azlan Ghazali, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and International Affairs) Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
0930 - 0945	Refreshment
0945	Planery Session, Chaired by Y.M. Raja Datuk Zaharaton Raja Zainal Abidin, Visiting Scholar, Institute for Environment and Development (LESTARI)
0950 - 1015	IS MALAYSIA ON THE RUNWAY TOWARDS A GREEN ECONOMY ? Dr. Yeah Kim Leng, Group Chief Economist, RAM Holdings Berhad
1015 - 1040	HARNESSING NATURAL CAPITAL FOR A GREEN ECONOMY Y.Bhg. Datuk Dr. Abdul Rahim Nik, Deputy Secretary General, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
1040 - 1105	CAN COMMODITY SECTOR PROPEL MALAYSIA TO A GREEN ECONOMY? Wan Mazlan Wan Mahmood, Undersecretary, Strategic Planning And International Division, Ministry Of Plantation Industries And Commodities
1105 - 1130	GREEN TECHNOLOGY AS PILLAR TO A GREEN ECONOMY Y.Bhg. Datuk Loo Took Gee, Secretary General, Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water
1130 - 1300	Panel Discussion DOORWAY TO A GREEN ECONOMY IN MALAYSIA : ISSUES AND CHALLENGES Chaired by Y.Bhg. Prof. Datuk Dr. Noor Azlan Ghazali, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and International Affairs) Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
1300 - 1315	Closing Remarks by Y.Bhg. Prof. Dr. Mazlin bin Mokhtar, Director of Institute Environment & Development (LESTARI), UKM
1315	Lunch

DATO' ISMAIL AWANG FORESTRY FORUM SERIES

Dato' Ismail Awang Forestry Forum is organized annually by Institute for Environment and Development (LESTARI) Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia with the support of Datin Harison Ahmad and the family of Dato' Ismail Awang. The forestry forum is largely set to discuss emerging issues in forestry that affect resource management and the downstream timber industries. The forum is opened to all interested parties both the government agencies and private sector as well as NGOs and research institutions.

PROFILE OF DATO' ISMAIL AWANG

Allahyarham Dato' Ismail Awang graduated with a degree in forestry from the Australian National University (ANU) in 1967 before joining the Forestry Department as a Deputy Conservator of forest. He served the Forestry Service in various capacities as he gradually moved up the ranks. On 1st September 1992, he was appointed as the Director-general of Forestry Department Peninsular Malaysia. In April 1997, he was invited to take up the position as Chief Executive Officer of the Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) which he served for almost 10 years (July 1997-January 2007). He provided a strong leadership to steer MTC to be well known and respected organization. His illustrious and dedicated service to forest sector both at the Forestry Department MTC spent almost 40 years of his life.