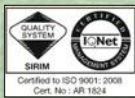


MBAM Bulletin



CONTENTS

PAGE

The 39 th International Federation of Asian and Western Pacific Contractors' Associations (IFAWPCA) Midterm Executive Board Meeting in Kathmandu, Nepal	Pg 1
Courtesy Visit to Construction Association of Bhutan (CAB)	Pg 2
42 nd Building Industry President Council (BIPC) Meeting	Pg 3
Interview with New Straits Times Press	Pg 3
Courtesy Visit to Nanyang Siang Pau	Pg 4
Study Visit to China Railway Engineering Corporation (M) Sdn Bhd (CREC) D'Rapport Project at Ampang, Kuala Lumpur	Pg 4
MBAM Fellowship Gathering No. 4/2016 Sponsored by Sudut Swasta Sdn Bhd and PLY TEC Formwork System Industries Sdn Bhd	Pg 5
Inaugural Luncheon Meeting of Malaysian International Builders	Pg 5
Penang Master Builders & Building Materials Dealers Association (PMBBMDA) 139 th Anniversary Dinner	Pg 6
Dialogue with Penang Master Builders & Building Materials Dealers Association (PMBBMDA)	Pg 6
Meeting with MYEG Sdn Bhd	Pg 7
Malaysian Construction Industry Excellence Awards (MCIEA) 2016	Pg 7
Courtesy Visit from Society of Construction Law Malaysia	Pg 8
MBAM CSR Programme - Mangrove Tree Planting	Pg 9
Meeting with Representatives from Industry Technology Research Institute (ITRI)	Pg 10
MBAM Technical Product Briefing 1/2016 and Fellowship gathering No. 5/2016 sponsored by Acotec Sdn Bhd	Pg 10
Perak Contractors' Association 51 st Anniversary Dinner	Pg 11
Other Key Events Attended by MBAM Representatives in September 2016	Pg 11
MBAM Site Safety Supervisor (SSS) Course Training Calendar 2016	Pg 12

FOR MEMBERS ONLY

30TH SEPTEMBER 2016

NO. 09/16

SEPTEMBER 2016 BULLETIN

MBAM issued a press release on 27th September 2016 to oppose the revised duties of 13.9% for steel coils and 13.4% for steel rebars that the Government had recently introduced as safeguard measures to protect the local steel industry. This new rate will be imposed on top of the existing 5% import duty, and we foresee that it will have an enormous impact on the steel consumers in Malaysia.

Master Builders Association Malaysia (MBAM) is strongly against such safeguard measures in order to prevent a repeat of 2008 artificial rebar shortage/ manipulation from happening again. MBAM fear that it will lead to uncontrollable prices of steel bars, as it will impede the free flow of imported steel. Just a few months before, the price of steel bars has increased from about RM1,500 per tonne in January 2016 to a record high of RM2,700 in May.

The Government should look at a sustainable long term plan on this issue, as the local steel producers are not supposed to be protected for their inability to be competitive even when the Government has provided the industry with numerous protection measures. Bearing in mind that various public interest construction projects that are still ongoing or being planned for the near future such as the MRT Line 2 and Line 3, LRT line 3, Pan-Borneo Highway, High Speed Rail, affordable housing projects, etc., it is certainly AGAINST the public interest to impose any safeguards measures on fairly priced Rebar imports as it will lead to increase in the cost of construction projects.

We urge the Government to do a proper study on the potential impact of safeguard measures on imported steel products on the construction industry as well as other industries which will directly or indirectly impact the public.

The following are the key events in September 2016:-

THE 39th INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ASIAN AND WESTERN PACIFIC CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATIONS (IFAWPCA) MIDTERM EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING IN KATHMANDU, NEPAL

MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee led a 13-member delegation to attend the 39th International Federation of Asian and Western Pacific Contractors' Associations (IFAWPCA) Midterm Executive Board Meeting held at the Gokarna Forest Resort, Kathmandu,



MBAM Council Members with Mr Park Jong Woong, President of IFAWPCA (3rd from right) and Engr. Altabuddin Ahmed, President of Bangladesh Association of Construction Industry (BACI)

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Group photo with the Board Members



During the 39th IFAWPCA meeting

Nepal from 31st August 2016 to 1st September 2016. This Executive Board meeting was hosted by the Federation of Contractors' Association of Nepal (FCAN) and had attracted over 70 delegates from 17 countries and regions who came to exchange views on current and important issues related to the construction industry.

The MBAM delegates who participated in the above meeting were MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee, MBAM Immediate Past President, Mr Matthew Tee, MBAM Past President and Honorary Advisor, Dato' Ng Kee Leen, MBAM Deputy President, Tan Sri Dato' A K Nathan, MBAM Vice Presidents, Tan Sri Dato' Sri Sufri Bin Haji Mohd Zin, Ir. Chuan Yeong Ming, MBAM Deputy Secretary General 1, Mr Ong Ka Thiam, MBAM Council Member, Mr Wilson Ang, MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling and Mr Alec Chong Sun Park, General Manager of Pertama Crane & Engineering Sdn Bhd.

The IFAWPCA Finance Committee met on 31st August 2016 and was chaired by MBAM Immediate Past President, Mr Matthew Tee. Other IFAWPCA members present at the Finance Committee Meeting were Construction Association of Korea (CAK), Master Builders Australia (MBA), The Overseas Construction Association of Japan, Inc. (OCAJI), Philippine Contractors Association, Inc. (PCA) and Singapore Contractors Association Ltd (SCAL). The Finance Committee examined and scrutinized the financial reports for the year ending 31st December 2015. The Committee also discussed the status of the financial standing for 2016 and the proposed budget for 2017.

The 39th IFAWPCA Midterm Executive Board Meeting was chaired by the IFAWPCA President, Mr Park Jong-Woong from CAK who delivered the opening remarks. The meeting was then conducted by the IFAWPCA Secretary-General, Mr Park Han-Sang from CAK. CAK presented their updated video presentation on the 43rd IFAWPCA Convention with the theme: "Convergence and Stepping Forward". IFAWPCA President, Mr Park Jong-Woong from CAK urged members of IFAWPCA to support and attend the upcoming 43rd IFAWPCA Convention in Seoul, Korea. MBAM has committed to send 50 delegates to attend the convention next year. In conclusion, the midterm meeting provided a good opportunity for our delegates to catch up with friends and to meet new business associates from other IFAWPCA members countries.

COURTESY VISIT TO CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF BHUTAN (CAB)

Association of Bhutan (CAB) on 3rd September 2016. They had a dialogue session and exchange of information with the President of CAB, Mr Thinlay Gyamtsho, Vice President of CAB, Mr Ugyen Penjor, General Secretary of CAB, Mr Wangdi Gyeltshen, as well as Mr Tshering Yonten and a few other Council Members of CAB.

CAB informed that they are self-sufficient with land, sand, cement and timber in Bhutan. They import about 30% of their roofing materials from India. For hotel projects, they import timber and furniture from overseas. They also import multi coat wires for their electricity wiring – 50% from India, 30% from China and the balance import from South East Asia. Currently they have started to use LED lights, so that they do not need to worry about its repairs and maintenance for 5-10 years. They depend a lot on India for their high tension transmission lines. They also import some cables from Malaysia. With mechanization of systems, they need more manpower capabilities. As such they suggested that MBAM help CAB train their workers.

MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee, MBAM Vice President, Tan Sri Dato' Sri Sufri Bin Haji Mohd Zin and MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling visited the Construction



In front of the Construction Association of Bhutan's office



CAB informed that they would like MBAM to help them build up their linkages or networking on intellectual forums at international level. IFAWPCA will be their first involvement at international forum. Before the visit was concluded both parties expressed interest for collaboration to work together and to send two-way delegations to visit each other to understand more regarding the business and investment opportunities available in both countries.

A token of appreciation was presented to Mr Thinlay Gyamtsho, President of CAB

42ND BUILDING INDUSTRY PRESIDENT COUNCIL (BIPC) MEETING

MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee, MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling, MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim and I attended the 42nd Building Industry Presidents' Council (BIPC) Meeting held on 9th September 2016 at PAM Centre, Jalan Tandok, Bangsar, Kuala Lumpur.

PAM presented the Resolution of the PAM Roundtable with BIPC held on 20th July 2016 in conjunction with Kuala Lumpur Architecture Festival (KLAF) 2016. The meeting noted on the deteriorating quality of professional graduates. The meeting requested that the paper be reviewed again before presenting to the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Higher Education of Malaysia.

Some of the issues discussed were as follows:-

- (i) MITI's Public Hearing on the Safeguard Investigation on Imports of Steel Concrete Reinforcing Bar (Rebar) into Malaysia was held on 15th August 2016. MBAM has opposed the safeguard proposal. On 22nd August 2016, MITI has announced the extension of time frame to an additional 30 days to 25th September 2016 to make the preliminary determination.
- (ii) Employment of foreign workers – the Ministry of Home Affairs (MOHA) has now reopened the recruitment of foreign workers for the construction sector. MOHA has set a new requirement on JobsMalaysia Online Registration and Job Advertisement effective 15th August 2016. The jobs must be advertised for a minimum of 14 days before we submit the application for new foreign workers quota to KDN. The online advertisement must date after 15th September 2016.
- (iii) Building Information Modelling (BIM) – migration is slow because the cost is high. We suggested for Universities to include BIM in their course syllabus. Propose that CIDB to come up with a Centre for BIM and for us to work with CIDB to do BIM training.
- (iv) CIDB Act 520 – Need to educate our members on the finer points of CIDB Act 520, as the penalty is high for any non-compliance of the said Act.
- (v) The Government will have to set a date for the implementation of the new requirements related to scaffoldings soon.

After the meeting, members present were taken on a tour of the new PAM Centre at Bangsar.

INTERVIEW WITH NEW STRAITS TIMES

On 7th September 2016, Ms Ooi Tee Ching came to MBAM's office to interview MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee on the manpower shortage in the construction industry. Among the issues raised in the one-hour long interview were the increase of levy imposed on foreign worker and the increase in minimum wage. Increase in fuel prices such as gas and diesel and how these rising cost of doing business affect the contractors were also highlighted. The performances of the construction industry and how the value of construction job awarded kept increasing since 2011 till now were also discussed during the brief interview. The meeting was also attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim and MBAM PR Executive, Ms Tessa Hamid.



Interview session with Ms Ooi Tee Ching from NST



Group photos with the BIPC members



Board meeting at PAM's new building

COURTESY VISIT TO NANYANG SIANG PAU

MBAM Delegates consisting of MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee, MBAM Past Presidents & Honorary Advisors, Datuk Kwan Foh Kwai and Dato' Ng Kee Leen, MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling, MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim, MBAM PR Executive, Ms Tessa Hamid and MBAM Executive Officer, Ms Abbie Ng paid a visit to Nanyang Siang Pau on 8th September 2016. MBAM was received by the following Nanyang Siang Pau representatives, Executive Editor-in-Chief, Mr Wong Siew Peng, Executive Editor (News), Mr Ooi Chew Wah and Executive editor/Government & Corporate Affairs Manager, Mr Foo Tick Fat.



The representatives from Nanyang Siang Pau

The following are among the issues highlighted during the visit:-



A memento was presented to mark MBAM's Courtesy Visit to Nanyang Siang Pau

Lack of skilled worker

The construction industry have seen a continuous improvement in the safety performance due to the effort by the industry, trade associations and the Government. However, the construction industry has experienced pressure on the occupational safety and health in the recent years, due to the rising number of major infrastructure projects, ageing heavy machineries, as well as the lack of skilled workers that has contributed to some major accidents at the project sites.

Zika Virus

Our Government have suggested for contractors to put up mosquito traps at construction sites. However, putting up mosquito traps would only solve part of the problem, MBAM advised our members to always keep their site clean and free from water ponding. It is important to tackle the issue at source i.e. stop the breeding of mosquito at sites.

Steel Bar

MBAM would like to highlight that the Association had worked to stabilise the price of steel bars which had increased on May 2016. After our meeting with Malaysian Iron and Steel Industry Federation (MISIF) and Malaysia Steel Association (MSA) on 17th May 2016, we are pleased to inform the supply situation of steel bars has improved and is now stable. The current issue is to monitor the safeguard petition on steel bars that was filed by MSA which claimed that the rising imports of steel bars had severely affected the local industry. Any safeguard measure granted will push up the cost of construction and inevitably it will also push up the inflation in our domestic economy.

STUDY VISIT TO CHINA RAILWAY ENGINEERING CORPORATION (M) SDN BHD (CREC) D'RAPPORT PROJECT AT AMPANG, KUALA LUMPUR

Chairman, Mr Nalla Sundran, MBAM Immediate Past President, Mr Matthew Tee, MBAM Council Members, Mr Michael Yap Kok Wai and Mr Png Choon Yam were among the 58 participants that attended the visit.

On hand to receive the delegates were Project Manager of CREC Bismark Joint Venture Sdn Bhd, Mr Wang Youping and Managing Director of PLY TEC Formwork System Industries Sdn Bhd, Mr Yang Kian Lock. The participants was given a brief introduction of D'Rapport Project. The vertical high rise development of D'Rapport Residences will contain 1,099 residential units across five towers, retail elements at the podium and 280,000 sq ft of recreational space within. Phase 1 of the development, built over a 9.12-acres, will see five towers marking its presence at the embassy enclave of Ampang. The remaining land at the D'Rapport development site, measuring 60 acres overall, will have another six towers of residential high rise, a commercial /

The MBAM technical visit to China Railway Engineering Corporation (M) Sdn Bhd (CREC) D'Rapport Project at Ampang, Kuala Lumpur organized by the MBAM Technical Committee took place on 8th September 2016. The MBAM Technical Committee Chairman, Mr Kow Choong Ming, Deputy



President of BMDAM, Mr Yang Kian Lock (center) sharing information about the project site



retail mall and an office complex. The upcoming development will feature a 280,000 sq ft recreation deck which will be one of the largest in the country complemented with over 70,000 sq ft of communal and sports facilities and a 38th floor, 18,000 sq ft sky deck. The recreational deck will also feature a 38,000 sq ft “man-made forest” and an open park centralized within the development.

Overall the feedbacks from the participants were that the study visit was educational and had enhanced their knowledge.

MBAM Immediate Past President, Mr Matthew Tee received a souvenir from the host

MBAM FELLOWSHIP GATHERING NO. 4/2016 SPONSORED BY SUDUT SWASTA SDN BHD AND PLY TEC FORMWORK SYSTEM INDUSTRIES SDN BHD

The MBAM Fellowship Gathering No. 4/2016 sponsored by Sudut Swasta Sdn Bhd and Ply Tec Formwork System Industries Sdn Bhd was held at Voizsup, Taman Desa on 8th September 2016. The fellowship gathering attracted 108 attendees comprised of business professionals.



The following MBAM Council Members attended the event: MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee, MBAM Honorary Advisor & Past President, Dato' Ng Kee Leen, MBAM Vice Presidents, Mr Oliver Wee and Mr Chung Soo Kiong, MBAM Treasurer-General, Mr Kenneth Liew, MBAM Deputy Secretary-General 1, Mr Ong Ka Thiam, MBAM Council Members, Ms Tan Zi Ni, Mr Lau Yew Mun, Mr Png Choon Yam and Mr Nalla Sundran and MBAM Alternate Council Members, Mr Steven Shee.

A token of appreciation was presented to Mr Yang Kian Lock



Among the familiar faces during the fellowship gathering

INAUGURAL LUNCHEON MEETING OF MALAYSIAN INTERNATIONAL BUILDERS

An inaugural luncheon meeting among the Malaysian International Builders hosted by MBAM Deputy President, Tan Sri Dato' A.K. Nathan was held on 19th September 2016 at KLGCC to kick start the discussion with the aims:-

- To encourage existing International Builders to continue to expand their business abroad;
- To encourage existing international builders to share information and their experiences, success stories and problems encountered;
- To create interest among local builders to expand their business abroad, especially SMEs;
- To develop the potential of local builders who wish to expand their businesses abroad;
- To highlight issues and problems encountered to relevant supporting organisations / agencies such as CIDB Malaysia, MATRADE, EXIM Bank with the intention to mitigate the losses on the contractors side.

It was noted that presently the participation of Malaysian International Builders in the international business is shrinking due to various reasons as follows:-



Group photo with the Malaysian International Builders committee



- a. Availability of projects and jobs domestically such as MRT project
- b. Bad experience encountered in the past

All parties present were committed to participate and cooperate to contribute as much as they can. The meeting ended with a note of thanks to the Chairman, YBhg. Tan Sri Dato' A.K. Nathan. CIDB Malaysia would be hosting the next meeting.

The meeting in session

PENANG MASTER BUILDERS & BUILDING MATERIALS DEALERS ASSOCIATION (PMBBMDA) 139TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee, MBAM Vice President, Ir. Chuan Yeong Ming and MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong attended the 139th Penang Master Builders & Building Materials Dealers Association (PMBBMDA) Anniversary Dinner. The event was also attended by numerous dignitaries from the Penang Government and the private sector.

In the MBAM President's speech, he touched on the friendship between MBAM and PMBBMDA and the shared interest to work together for the benefit of the construction industry as well as to solve the many issues affecting the members of both associations. The construction industry have been experiencing a continuous double digit growth since 2012 and the first quarter 2016 and second quarter 2016 recorded 7.9% and 8.8% growth respectively. MBAM has taken a proactive role to work together with Ministry of Home Affairs, CLAB, CIDB and institutions of higher learning, which range from seeking a stable policy on the recruitment of foreign workers to working together to encourage and train local workforce to match the industry's needs. An exchange of mementos between both the Presidents of PMBBMDA and MBAM was held to commemorate the occasion.



Souvenir exchange between MBAM and PMBBMDA

DIALOGUE WITH PENANG MASTER BUILDERS & BUILDING MATERIALS DEALERS ASSOCIATION (PMBBMDA)



Dialogue in session

association's constitutions and bylaws were raised and MBAM agreed to forward to PMBBMDA a soft copy of their constitutions and bylaws for them to adopt wherever applicable. MBAM have also agreed to 'like' PMBBMDA's Facebook page after being invited by them.

Both the Associations concluded the dialogue have been fruitful and agreed to hold more such dialogues in the future. The meeting proposed to hold a grand MBAM & PMBBMDA Joint Construction Conference to be held every 2 or 3 years.

The dialogue between PMBBMDA and MBAM was attended by PMBBMDA President, Mr Alvin Yeow, Past President, Mr Vincent Ong Seng Chye, Committee members, Mr Seow Soon Yeow, Ms Jacqueline Khoo Peng Peng and secretariat staff, Ms Kate. MBAM was represented by MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee, MBAM Vice President, Ir. Chuan Yeong Ming and MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong.

The dialogue was held to address current issues such as the seizure of assets for employing illegal workers, the forthcoming meeting with the Director of MyEG to discuss on foreign workers permit, the meeting with Deputy Finance Minister II on the high import duties on construction heavy machineries and the safeguard petition by Malaysia Steel Association.

PMBBMDA touched on the GST issue which involved one of their members with a developer and after much discussion it was agreed to obtain more evidence for further study before a conclusion could be made. Issues on their



The dialogue concluded with a presentation of souvenir to Mr Alvin Yeow, PMBBMDA President

MEETING WITH MYEG SDN BHD

MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee led a 6-member MBAM delegation to meet up with YBhg. Datuk P.S. Jaya from M.Y. EG Sdn Bhd on 22nd September 2016. MBAM delegation consist of Vice Presidents, Ir. Chuan Yeong Ming, HR Committee Member, Mr Mazlan Haron, MBAM Member, Puan Jamaliah Wan Chik, Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling, Manager, Ms Lee Siew Mei and I.

The meeting was arranged following complaints from members with regard to MyEG services in particular the renewal of foreign workers' work permit (PLKS). The delay by MyEG in renewing the PLKS on time has caused much inconvenience and difficulties to our members. Workers are unable to work at the construction site as they are not allowed to renew or apply the "CIDB Green Card" until workers have obtained their PLKS sticker. Without the CIDB Green Card, workers are not allowed to work at the construction site. This has created another issue or problem to Contractors / Employer on who should bear the workers' wage.

The following issues were raised and deliberated:

- a. **Delay in renewal of foreign worker work permit (PLKS)** – M.Y. EG will appoint two (2) dedicated staffs to look into MBAM members' complaint.
- b. **Rehiring Programme** – M.Y. EG will continue to accept applications for rehiring programme. However, there is no official announcement by the Government. The Immigration Malaysia has since expanded the regulations for rehiring programme as follows:
 - Illegal immigrants who hold Visit Pass (Temporary Employment) working with the same employer or a different employer, who have overstayed are eligible to participate in the rehiring programme regardless of the period overstayed.
 - Illegal immigrants who overstayed on Social Visit Pass (PLS) who have extended their period of stay on / before March 31, 2016, in order to increase the number of applications for this category.
 - Illegal immigrants who have PLKS under the 6P programme or who have registered under the 6P programme but have overstayed, can participate in the rehiring programme regardless of the overstay period and regardless of when the passport was issued.
 - Illegal immigrants who overstayed or have a Long Term Pass e.g. Student Pass, Professional Visit Pass and Employment Pass are also eligible to get a valid work pass through this rehiring programme.
 - Illegal immigrants who overstayed on the Visit Pass (Temporary Employment) Foreign Domestic Worker (PRA), are allowed to participate in the rehiring program under the allowed sectors and sub-sectors only, with the exception of Foreign Domestic Worker sector.
 - Illegal immigrants who possessed travel documents (passport) which is still valid for not less than 15 months.
- c. **Special Pass** – M.Y. EG will raise the said matter with Immigration Department of Malaysia and CIDB Malaysia to avoid workers being arrested and so that they are able to apply CIDB green card while waiting for their PLKS to be issued.



A laid back meeting session with Datuk P.S. Jaya



MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee, MBAM Vice President, Ir. Chuan Yeong Ming and Datuk P.S. Jaya

MALAYSIAN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE AWARDS (MCIEA) 2016

The Malaysian Construction Industry Excellence Awards (MCIEA) 2016 was held on 23rd September 2016 at Grand Hyatt Kuala Lumpur Hotel. The awards celebrated excellence in Malaysia's construction industry and has been organised by the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) Malaysia since 2000.

The main objectives of the awards were to recognise individuals and/or organisations who have contributed

MBAM Council Members at the MCIEA 2016





The MBAM Council Members and the winners of the MCIEA 2016

The celebrated winners of the MCIEA 2016

and demonstrated excellence in enhancing the image, performance and improvement of the construction industry and to provide a platform for healthy competition amongst industry players in the quest for excellence by showcasing best practices in project implementation.

MBAM members who were recognized with awards this year include:

- ◆ Datuk (Prof) Seri Abdul Rahman, Chairman of Ahmad Zaki Sdn Bhd - Prominent Player Award
- ◆ Mr Taing Kim Hwa, Managing Director of WCT Holdings and Co-Founder - CEO of the Year Award
- ◆ Gamuda Bhd -Builder of the Year Award
- ◆ Technofit Sdn Bhd - Special Mention (Builder of the Year category)
- ◆ UEM Construction Sdn Bhd - International Achievement Award
- ◆ Bina Puri Holdings Berhad – Special Mention (International Achievement Award)
- ◆ Naza Engineering & Construction Sdn Bhd and IJM Construction Sdn Bhd - Best Project Award (building) for Major project of more than 100 million.
- ◆ IJM-Jaks Joint Venture - Special Mention for Best Project Award (Infrastructure) for Major project of more than 100 million.
- ◆ Setia Precast Sdn Bhd - Special Award for Industrialised Building System (IBS) (Seri Jati Apartment in Setia Alam, Selangor)

The various awards was presented by Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah Bin Haji Yusof, Minister of Works, Malaysia, Tan Sri Dr Ahmad Tajuddin Mohd Ali, CIDB Chairman and Dato' Ir. Ahmad 'Asri Abdul Hamid, CIDB Chief Executive.

COURTESY VISIT FROM SOCIETY OF CONSTRUCTION LAW MALAYSIA

Society of Construction Law (SCL) Malaysia visited MBAM on 23rd September 2016 at Tan Sri Datuk Tee Hock Seng Conference Room. Representing MBAM were MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee, MBAM Vice President and Chairman of MBAM Contracts and Practices Committee, Mr Oliver Wee, Deputy Chairman of MBAM Contracts and Practices Committee, Mr Steven Shee, MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling, MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim. Meanwhile, the Society of Construction Law (SCL) were represented by SCL President, Mr Thayanathan Baskaran, SKRINE, Mr Tatvaruban and Ms Siew Suet Mey.



SCL President, Mr Thayanathan Baskaran received a souvenir from MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee



Issues discussed includes SCL Digest, SCL Delay and Disruption Protocol Malaysian Supplement, The SCL Review of Construction Law to be held 20th January 2017 at KLRCA and the SCL Handbook on Construction Law

Overall, it was a productive and enlightening meeting and both organisations hoped to work closely together to further grow the construction industry.

The representatives from Society of Construction Law Malaysia

MBAM CSR PROGRAMME - MANGROVE TREE PLANTING

Master Builders Association Malaysia (MBAM) had organised a CSR programme on 24th September 2016 at Kuala Selangor Nature Park, Kuala Selangor. The activity selected for this year's programme was to plant mangrove tree saplings followed by a mangrove cleaning session at the Kuala Selangor Nature Park, which was a nature park managed by Malaysian Nature Society (MNS).

When a wildlife habitat area in Kuala Selangor was proposed to become a new golf course in 1987, MNS stepped in and instead established it as a nature park. Now the Kuala Selangor Nature Park or KSNP thrives as a tourist destination and educational resource, instilling interest and understanding for the area's unique habitats. It has since become a sanctuary to many species of flora and fauna such as the endangered Silvered Leaf Monkey (*Presbytis cristata*) which KSNP has adopted as its logo.



A part of the mangrove tree saplings that will be planted



MBAM Council Members with the MBAM signboard

This year's CSR programme was kindly sponsored by Ikhmas Jaya Sdn Bhd. A number of other companies also contributed to ensure the success of the programme. They were as follows:

1. S.K. Wawasan Sdn Bhd
2. Fitters Engineering Services Sdn Bhd
3. Coppertech Controls Sdn Bhd
4. Waterlink Technologies Sdn Bhd
5. JKM Electrical Engineering Sdn Bhd
6. Infocon Engineering Sdn Bhd
7. Pekat E&LP Sdn Bhd
8. ID Hydraulic Sdn Bhd
9. A.F.S Engineering (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd
10. Gentelite Electrical Trading Sdn Bhd
11. Cooling System Design Work Sdn Bhd
12. Top-Mech Provincial Sdn Bhd

A total of 87 participants participated in the event, which saw a total of 350 mangrove tree saplings successfully planted.

After toiling the morning away planting mangrove tree saplings, the participants later adjourned to a nearby restaurant to enjoy a sumptuous seafood lunch. Some of the participants later continued their visit to Kuala Selangor by touring the Bukit Melawati where one can get close and feed the friendly Silvered Leaf monkeys.

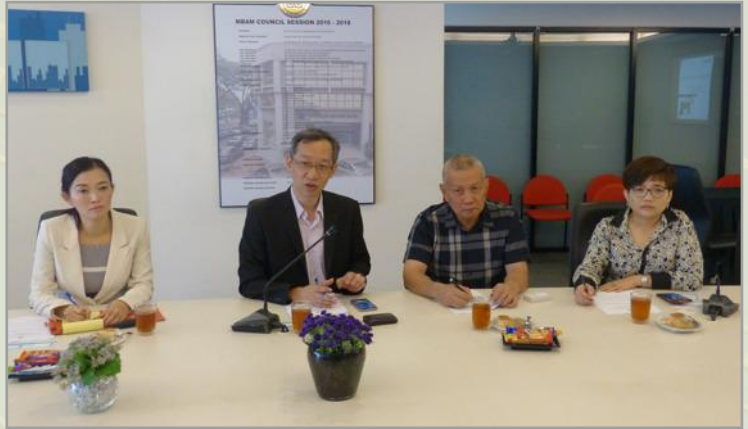
Spending the day close to the nature left us feeling refreshed and we departed Kuala Selangor feeling hopeful that one day we might return to see the fruit of our labour grow and mature to be part of the nature park's complex ecosystem.



Group photo with all participants

MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM INDUSTRY TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (ITRI)

MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee, MBAM Executive Director, Ms Loh Mei Ling, MBAM Manager Ms Lee Siew Mei and I met up with the representatives from the Industry Technology Research Institute (ITRI) on 29th September 2016 at Tan Sri Datuk Tee Hock Seng Conference Room. ITRI was represented by Division Director, Services Systems Technology Center, Smart Commerce & Community Service Division, Dr. Wu Nien-chu, Project Manager, Ms Sandy Huang and Mr Chang from Taya Kitchen Company.



The representatives from Industry Technology Research Institute (ITRI)



MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee received a token of appreciation from ITRI

In brief, ITRI is promoting a project named **“Project to Strengthen the Connection of Taiwan SMEs to the Global Value Chain via Multiple Marketing Strategies”** which is managed by Taiwan Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Ministry of Economic Affairs. The main goals of this project to strengthen SMEs’ (Small and Medium Enterprise) capabilities, build innovative SMEs to participate in global value chains, and broaden the participation benefits. This project integrates Taiwan excellent enterprises, products of good quality, and robust international marketing and after-sales service of the enterprises. In order to facilitate bilateral cooperation, the project will use the cloud-based B2B/2C platform and IOT emerging technology to help the development of bilateral commercial and commodity display.

The meeting discussed on how both parties can cooperate and share resources. A Memorandum of Understanding was proposed for further collaboration especially on improving the business opportunities between Malaysian industries with Taiwan small enterprises.

MBAM TECHNICAL PRODUCT BRIEFING 1/2016 AND FELLOWSHIP GATHERING NO. 5/2016 SPONSORED BY ACOTEC SDN BHD

On 30th September 2016, the Technical Product Briefing No. 1/2016 and Fellowship Gathering No. 4/2016 sponsored by Acotec, a member of OSK Group was held at Swiss Garden Hotel and Residences. The Technical Product Briefing attracted 71 attendees while the fellowship attracted more than 101 attendees. MBAM President, Mr Foo Chek Lee thanked Acotec for the kind sponsorship which enabled MBAM members to network and build stronger relationships with each other. Overall it was a successful event and a token of appreciation was presented to Acotec for their generous sponsorship.



MBAM Council Members and others during the fellowship gathering



MBAM Alternate Council Member, Mr Thomas Samuel with the speakers of the technical product briefing



A souvenir was presented to Mr Tan Kheak Chun, CEO of Acotec Sdn Bhd as an appreciation for their sponsorship

PERAK CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION 51ST ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Mr Lau Wah Heng and his Council Members. On arrival the guests were greeted by a pair of traditional Lion dance troupe.



Mr Eric Kuan presented a token of appreciation to Perak Contractor's Association's President, Mr Lau Wah Heng

In addressing the occasion, MBAM Council member, Mr Eric Kuan in his speech acknowledged the close working relationship between the two associations and the support rendered by the Perak Contractor's Association for the advancement of the construction industry. He hoped that the Perak Contractor's Association would continue to play an important role and work together with MBAM to address common interest of the industry.

Next, on behalf of MBAM, Mr Eric Kuan presented a memento to Mr Lau Wah Heng representing the Perak Contractor's Association. The event continued with dinner and stage shows. It was an enjoyable night for all the guests.

Other Key Events Attended by MBAM Representatives in September 2016

1st September 2016

Lighthouse Club Kuala Lumpur Get Together was attended by MBAM Senior Managers, Mr Lenny Lim and Mr Michael Thong at Havana Bar & Grill, Changkat Bukit Bintang, Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur.

1st - 3rd September 2016

Workshop on Improving Efficiency For Dealing With Construction Permits In Private Hospitals For Kuala Lumpur, Shah Alam and Seremban was attended by Mr Tan Kim Yoke from Sunway Construction Group Sdn Bhd, Mr Ng Eng Aan from IJM Bhd, Mr Mohammad Fauzi Haji Ahmad from Ahmad Zaki Resources Berhad and MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim at Dewan Kristal, Ministry of Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Authorities (KPKT), Putrajaya.

2nd September 2016

Singapore Contractors Association Ltd (SCAL) Annual Dinner was attended by MBAM Vice President, Mr Oliver Wee at Resorts World Sentosa, Compass East Ballroom, Level B2, 8 Sentosa Gateway, Singapore.

6th September 2016

World Bank Business Awareness Session Workshop was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim and MBAM Manager, Ms Lee Siew Mei at Conference Hall 1, Ground Floor, Sasana Kijang, Kuala Lumpur.

3rd Organising Committee Meeting on APSC was attended by MBAM PR Executive, Ms Tessa Hamid at MSPC, Wisma Vertitech, 17 Jalan Kenari 4, Puchong Jaya.

8th September 2016

SICA 2016 Programme Coordination Meeting No. 2/2016 was attended by MBAM Vice President, Ir. Chuan Yeong Ming at Bilik Kempas, Tingkat 32, PWTC, Kuala Lumpur.

CIDB Technical Construction Practices Meeting No. 3/2016 was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong at CIDB IBS Center, Kuala Lumpur.

9th September 2016

Department of Polytechnic Education, Advisory Committee on Marketability of Graduates, Meeting No. 1/2016 was attended by MBAM Deputy Chairman of Education Committee, Mr Andrew Ong at Bilik Mesyuarat Utama, Aras 5 Galeria PJH, Putrajaya.

20th September 2016

Malaysian Service Providers Confederation (MSPC) Extraordinary General Meeting was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim at Wisma Veritech, 2nd Floor, Jalan Kenari 4, Pusat Bandar Puchong.

21st - 22nd September 2016

CIDB-Board Members Workshop on CIDB Budget for 2017 was attended by MBAM President, Mr Matthew Tee at Cyberview Resort and Spa, Persiaran Multimedia, Cyberjaya.

Malaysian Interior Industry Partners Association (MIIP) The MIIP Awards 2016 was attended by MBAM Past President, Datuk Kwan Foh Kwai at B1-8-3A, Menara SOHO, Jalan Perak, Kuala Lumpur.

22nd September 2016

International Conference on Avoiding and Resolving Construction Disputes was attended by MBAM Deputy Chairman of Contracts & Practices Committee, Mr Steven Shee and MBAM Contracts & Practices Committee Member, Mr Cheh Keng Soon at Hotel Armada, Petaling Jaya.

Meeting with CIDB Federal Territory on Site Supervisor Interview was attended by Deputy Chairman of Education Committee, Mr Andrew Ong and MBAM Manager, Ms Lee Siew Mei at Bilik Mesyuarat, Level 1, CIDB, Kuala Lumpur.

23rd September 2016

SIRIM Meeting on TC on Household Fittings & Building Accessories was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong at SIRIM ISO Room, Level 3.

Liebherr Sales Kluang Sdn Bhd & Oktoberfest 2016 Celebration and Appliances Showroom Opening was attended by MBAM Vice President, Mr Oliver Wee, MBAM Alternate Council, Mr Thomas Samuel, MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong and MBAM Senior Executive, Mr Leon Leong at No. 1 & 3, Jalan Serendah 26/40, Seksyen 26, Selangor.

27th September 2016

PAM-IFEM Fire Seminar 2016 was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim at Nexus 2&3, Connexion @ Nexus Bangsar South.

CIDB Technical Committee on Building Materials (JTBB) Meeting No. 2/2016 was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong at Bilik Sabah, Level 3, PWTC, Kuala Lumpur.

Tractors Malaysia - General Construction HEX Roadshow 2016 was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Lenny Lim at Tractors Malaysia Head Office, Puchong.

28th September 2016

Technical Committee on Continuous Mill, Flat, Rolled Products was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong at ISO Room, Block 3, SIRIM STS Sdn Bhd, Shah Alam.

Trade Talk on Business Opportunities with Sri Lanka was attended by MBAM Manager, Ms Lee Siew Mei at Perdana Hall, Level 6, West Wing, Menara Matrade, Kuala Lumpur.

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands-Luncheon Talk On The Presentation of Smart Cities was attended by MBAM Vice President, Tan Sri Dato' Sri Sufri Bin Haji Mohd Zin and MBAM PR Executive, Ms Tessa Hamid at Ambassador's Residence, 25, Jalan Langgak Golf, Kuala Lumpur.

29th September 2016

Malaysian Polytechnic Excellence Award Ceremony by Department of Polytechnic Education was attended by MBAM Deputy Chairman of Education Committee, Mr Andrew Ong at Kinrara Resort, Bandar Kinrara, Selangor.

SIRIM Working Group on Ceramic Tiles was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong at Bilik ISO, SIRIM Block 1, Shah Alam.

SIRIM Technical Committee on Bricks & Blocks was attended by MBAM Senior Manager, Mr Michael Thong at Bilik ISO, SIRIM Block 1, Shah Alam.

Yours faithfully,

MASTER BUILDERS ASSOCIATION MALAYSIA

DENNIS TAN

MBAM Secretary General

MBAM SITE SAFETY SUPERVISOR (SSS) COURSE TRAINING CALENDAR 2016

		2016			
STATES	CLASS	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
KUALA LUMPUR	FULL TIME	19 - 26	17 - 24	16 - 23	14 - 21
KUALA LUMPUR	WEEKEND	13 Aug - 4 Sept		15 - 27	
PENANG	FULL TIME		12 - 19		7 - 14
JOHOR	WEEKEND	2 - 18	21 Oct - 6 Nov		3 - 18
KOTA KINABALU, SABAH	FULL TIME	3 - 10		26 Nov - 3 Dec	
KUCHING, SARAWAK	WEEKEND	3 - 25		26 Nov - 18 Dec	
MIRI, SARAWAK	FULL TIME		26 Oct - 2 Nov		
BINTULU, SARAWAK	FULL TIME				3 - 10

Weekend (WE) Classes will be conducted on :

Saturday & Sunday : 8.00 am to 7.00 pm

Contact Persons:

Ms Fieya / Ms Ida / Mr Farhan / Ms Chai

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Please download the Application Form from MBAM website: www.mbam.org.my