

PRESS RELEASE

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NATIONAL WOOD PRODUCTS EXPO OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM AND WOOD FURNITURE MAKING COMPETITION IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL FOREST DAY 2024

Thursday, 13th Rabiulakhir 1446H / 17th October 2024M

The Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism, through the Forestry Department, has organized the National Wood Products Expo of Brunei Darussalam in conjunction with the International Day of Forest 2024.

This four-day expo was officiated by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Abdul Manaf bin Haji Metussin, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism, as the guest of honor.

Also present at the opening ceremony were Yang Mulia Dayang Hajah Tutiaty binti Haji Abdul Wahab, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism, and Yang Mulia Dayang Noralinda binti Haji Ibrahim, Deputy Permanent Secretary II.

The event began with the recitation of Surah Al-Fatihah and a prayer. It was followed by a welcoming speech from Awang Reni bin Haji Yahya, the Acting Director of Forestry, who is also the chairman of the event. In his speech, he emphasized that the main objectives of this expo are to promote wood products made by local companies and raise public awareness about high-quality local wood products; facilitate business matching among wood industry entrepreneurs; highlight local downstream wood products for sale in furniture stores; and encourage the production of local wood products.

The event then witnessed the official opening of the 2024 Wood Products Expo and the launch of the *Brunei Wood Product* logo by the guest of honor. The purpose of the *Brunei Wood Product* logo is to better identify and represent locally produced wood products and give the public a better understanding of high-quality local wood products.

The guest of honor then toured the exhibition booths from the Forestry Department, Brunei Economic Development Board (BEDB), Bank Usahawan, and local wood product manufacturing companies participating in the expo, totaling 21 companies.

Also showcased were local wooden furniture products competing in the Wood Furniture Making Competition in conjunction with International Forest Day 2024, organized by the Forestry Department, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism. The prize presentation ceremony for this competition will be held on 19th October 2024.

The public has the opportunity to view local wood products during the expo, which will take place at the Main Hall, Ground Floor, and Level 1 of One City Shopping Centre, Kampong Sungai Hanching, for four days from 17th to 20th October 2024.

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Prepared by: Forestry Department Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism Brunei Darussalam

Date: 13rd Rabiulakhir 1446H / 17th October 2024M