



## CERRM SHARED ITS EXPERTISE ON BAUXITE MINING

The workshop was a platform which aimed at providing better knowledge and understanding on bauxite mining activities to participants comprising lecturers, undergraduates, representatives from state agencies as well as those from companies operating mineral mining activities.

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A workshop aimed at enhancing awareness on issues relating to bauxite mining was organised by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), with the cooperation of Ministry of Transport, Kuantan Port Authority (KPA) and Marine Department.

The National Awareness Workshop on the Implementation of International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code (With Special Focus On Cargoes That May Liquefy, Bauxite) was held at Zenith Hotel in Kuantan on April 27, 2016.

The workshop was a platform which aimed at providing better knowledge and understanding on bauxite mining activities to participants comprising lecturers, undergraduates, representatives from state agencies as well as those from companies operating mineral mining activities.

The workshop was officially opened by Kuantan Port Authority (KPA) Managing Director, Dato' Khairul Anuar Abdul Rahman. Also present were Dr. Kanagalingam from the Ministry of Transport, Alfredo Parroquin-Ohlson from IMO and Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP)'s Centre of Earth Resources Research and Management (CERRM) Director, Dr. Muzamir Hasan.

When presenting his talk, Dr. Muzamir said in his study titled "Geotechnical and Morphological Properties of Kuantan Bauxite: In-situ and Stockpile Samples from Bukit Goh and Gebengm," he highlighted matters relating to the geotechnical engineering characteristics of the bauxite sample in Kuantan.

"This sharing of input is important to the authorities as well as to the bauxite mining operators as it involved putting in place safe and more efficient work procedures. It gave a better picture to the participants how 'liquefaction' can occur inside a cargo ship that carries minerals such as bauxite," he said.

He added that the matter was highlighted after several cases of bauxite-laden cargo ships were reported to have sunken when the 'liquefaction' occurred in the vessels.

"Findings from the study would help create one standard operating procedure (SOP) for a sustainable bauxite mining in Malaysia," said Dr. Muzamir, who was appointed by IMO to represent Malaysia in an international committee that reviewed the amending process of IMSBC Code's next edition.

It would look into the safe work procedures as well as drafting a more effective procedure in the IMSBC Code when transporting minerals such as bauxite by cargo ships.

Other experts who shared their views were Dave Anderson from Australian Maritime Safety Authority, Dr. Ken Grant from Minton, Treharne and Davies Pte Ltd, David Bolomini from International Group of P & I, Lee Stenhouse from Roxburgh Environmental Ltd and David Tongue from International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners (INTERCARGO).

The participants also took time off to visit the Faculty of Civil Engineering & Earth Resources Centralised Laboratory and Soil Mechanics And Geotechnics Laboratory.

They got to see the method and techniques used to analyse bauxite sample.

Kuantan Port Authority Operational and Regulatory Senior Manager, Dato' Asmawi Nordin said he was pleased with the findings from the research conducted by UMP and its commitment in providing the right information to the participants.

He added that KPA was willing to work together with UMP especially in matters relating to research and development that would bring about better and efficient work standards in handling bauxite.

Alfredo Parroquin-Ohlson from IMO said the workshop gave a clear picture on understanding the geotechnical engineering characteristics of bauxite from Kuantan which was different from other countries.

It gave useful information when it came to amending the next edition of IMSBC Code.