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Brunei Learns About Wonders of the Ocean

Keeping Our Waters Safe

Eco-Diving Youths to the Rescue!

'Discover Brunei' iPad App Launched

A Wave of Thanks

The Department of Fisheries, MIPR launched World Oceans Day 2012 in Brunei Darussalam on Monday, 11 June 2012, and was officiated by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Utama Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Yahya bin Begawan Mudim Dato Paduka Haji Bakar, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources.

Celebrated worldwide every 8 June, the annual day marks an appreciation for the invaluable importance of the oceans to our own sustainability. The theme this year is "UNCLOS at 30" to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea, 1982.

The ceremony began with a speech from the Guest of Honour, and was followed by the launching of the book, "Field Guide to Reef-Building Corals of Brunei Darussalam". Later on, a prize presentation of certificates on "Reef Check Eco Diver Training for Youth" was made to 13 students, while certificates of appreciation were given to 15 turtle volunteers, and prizes were awarded to the winners of the Beach Bunch contest.

As a symbol of compassion towards marine life, the Guest of Honour together with the attending students released the turtles, before officiating the newly constructed Marine Biodiversity Centre building at Meragang.

MIPR launched World Oceans Day 2012 in Brunei Darussalam on Monday, 11 June 2012





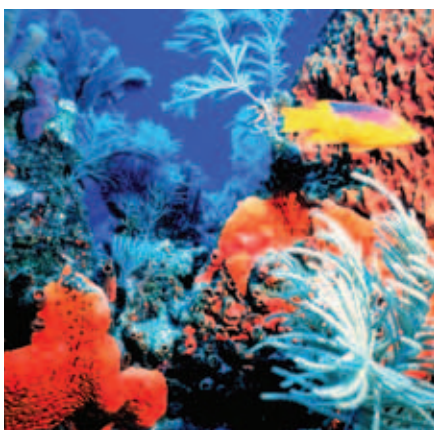
Brunei Learns about WONDERS OF THE OCEAN

In the afternoon of Monday, 11 June 2012, the Muara Fisheries Complex hosted a seminar in conjunction with World Oceans Day. Over 100 participants comprising of government officials, non-government organisations, and students attended the seminar. Also present was Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Utama Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Yahya bin Begawan Mudim Dato Paduka Haji Bakar, the Minister of Industry and Primary Resources.

Two working papers were delivered by two invited speakers, Mr Roger McManus, the IUCN Expert from USA, and Professor Richard Kenchington from University of Wollongong, Australia. Entitled "Benefits of a Network of No-Take Marine Protected Areas" and "Managing Tropical Marine Eco-System in the Great Barrier Reef and South East Asia", both papers prompted a question and answer session towards the end of the seminar.

“ One of the measures to protect these habitats is through the establishment of marine protected areas, which are expected to restore National oceanic life and increase productivity of fishery resources. ”

*Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Utama
Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Yahya
Minister of Industry and Primary Resources*



Keeping Our Waters Safe

On Sunday, 10 June 2012, "Operasi Kembura" commenced at Pantai Jerudong. Led by the Department of Fisheries, it was joined by various enforcement agencies, and aimed at the fishermen that use these shores to go to the sea.

Held in conjunction with World Oceans Day, the event sought to remind all fishermen to always obey the regulations set by the Department of Fisheries, with special attention given to the prohibition of using explosive and poisonous substances as a means to catch fish. This is to ensure the safety of the fishermen themselves as well as the public, and to safeguard marine resources such as the coral reefs. This joint operation also hoped to highlight the importance of the 500m safety zone around the offshore oil and gas structures, as well as to ensure all acts and regulations concerning foreign workers are met.

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM CELEBRATES World Metrology Day!



Brunei Darussalam celebrated World Metrology Day for the very first time on 9 June 2012, at Dewan Setia Pahlawan, Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources. The event, organised by the National Standards Centre, was officially launched by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Utama Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Yahya bin Begawan Mudim Dato Paduka Haji Bakar, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources.

Celebrated by more than 80 countries worldwide, World Metrology Day - which falls

on every 20th May, aims to raise awareness of the role metrology plays in our daily lives. Highlights of the event included:

1. Videoclip presentation on World Metrology Day
2. Talks by guest speakers on:
 - a. 'The Role of Metrology in National Quality Infrastructure' by YM Abdul Rashid bin Haji Zainal Abidin, representative from the Asia Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP)
 - b. 'Legal Metrology – A Means Towards Ensuring Fair Trade and Consumer Protection' by YM Dr Wan Abdul Malik Wan Mohamed, representative from the ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards & Quality
3. Certification of Appreciation to agencies involved with metrology activities in Brunei Darussalam
4. Certificate of Appreciation to individuals who have made significant contributions to the development of metrology in Brunei Darussalam
5. Exhibitions from relevant agencies



“Weights and measures are crucial to our daily lives. It relates to quality of life, such as health, safety, environment, and food quality. To meet these requirements, a metrological infrastructure is being developed.”

Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Utama Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Yahya
Minister of Industry and Primary Resources



Eco-Diving Youths To The Rescue!

The Eco Diver Training for Youth Programme was organised by the Department of Fisheries in collaboration with Reef Check Foundation, USA from 1 to 5 June 2012. Thirteen students from Jerudong International School and Sixth Form Centre Meragang were selected to participate in the programme.

On the fourth day of the event, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Utama Dato Seri Setia Awg Hj Yahya bin Begawan Mudim Dato Paduka Hj Bakar, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources joined the students in a reef check activity at Pelong Rocks. Briefing the participants on what to do before the dive was Dr Gregor Hodgson, the Reef Check Executive Director.

Upon graduating from the programme, the participants will be able to conduct surveys with the Department of Fisheries in Brunei Darussalam and other countries. As part of Reef Check, data collected by the newly-certified divers will be used not only in Brunei Darussalam, but also for the organisation's global and regional reef tracking initiatives.



MIPR Diary

JUNE 5 'Discover Brunei' iPad app launched

Brunei Tourism launched the 'Discover Brunei' iPad app, at the iCentre in Berakas on 5 June 2012. Present at the launch were the Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Utama Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Yahya bin Begawan Mudim Dato Paduka Haji Bakar and CEO of Brunei Tourism, Sheikh Jamaluddin Sheikh Mohamed.

Developed wholly by local mobile app developer MeSixty, the app features:

1. Detailed write-ups of places to stay, shop, eat and visit
2. Interactive content such as Malay phrases soundboard and a 360-degree image of a local instrument
3. Selection of high quality professional photos and videos of tourist locations
4. Useful tips about getting around Brunei, national holidays, local customs and amenities
5. Information on tour guides, travel agents, shopping malls, hotels and service apartments
6. Photos and tips posted at featured locations by real people using content from Instagram and Foursquare
7. Chatworthy integration allowing users to chat about Instagram posts



JUNE 9 Clean-up at Pantai Meragang

A beach cleaning exercise organised by the Department of Fisheries took place in the morning of 9 June, 2012, at Pantai Meragang, Muara. Staff from the department and members of the local eco-group Beach Bunch joined forces in giving the beach a much needed spruce up.

