



**MALAYSIA  
COUNTRY REPORT**

**The 43<sup>rd</sup> ARCASIA COUNCIL MEETING  
and 20<sup>th</sup> ASIAN CONGRESS OF ARCHITECTS (ACA20)  
BORACAY ISLAND, PHILIPPINES**

**18 – 22 September 2023**

## **MALAYSIA COUNTRY REPORT**

### **The 43rd ARCASIA COUNCIL MEETING and 20th ASIAN CONGRESS OF ARCHITECTS BORACAY ISLAND, PHILIPPINES**

**18 – 22 September 2023**

#### **1. HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTE**

Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM) - Malaysian Institute of Architects - is the national professional institute representing architects in Malaysia. Founded in 1923 as the Institute of Architects Malaya, its name was changed in 1948 to the Federation of Malaya Society of Architects (FMSA), then allied to the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). Another change to its current name to reflect national sovereignty came about on 20th January, 1967 when PAM was registered with the Registrar of Societies.

The primary objective of the Institute is for “The advancement and elevation of Architecture and the various arts and sciences connected therewith.” The Institute provides a framework for its members to operate effectively: to do, to run and to get the business of Architecture within the Code of Conduct and Scale of Fees.

The Institute is managed by an elected Council consisting of a President, Deputy President, Vice President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and 13 Council Members. Also, in Council are the Immediate Past President, up to 4 nominated Past Presidents, 3 nominated Council Members (Non-Corporate Member) and 5 elected representatives from the Chapters.

#### **2. CURRENT OFFICE BEARERS**

Term of Office : 2023 – 2024

President	Ar Abu Zarim bin Abu Bakar
Deputy President	Ar Adrianta bin Aziz
Vice President	Ar Dexter Koh Yew Peng
Honorary Secretary	Ar Anthony Lee Tee
Honorary Treasurer	Ar Ahmad Ridha bin Abd Razak

### 3. CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH

Categories of Membership:

CATEGORIES	QUALIFICATIONS	ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS AUGUST 2023	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 2023
Ordinary	Any person who has obtained the architectural qualification from schools recognized by the Institute and has passed the Professional Practice and Practical Experience Part 3 Examination.	1,790	RM500.00 (65 years old and below) RM125.00 (Overseas) RM150.00 (above 65 years old) RM 250.00 (Government Officer 65 years old and below) RM 150.00 (Government Officer above 65 years old) RM250.00 (Overseas Government Officer) Free (above 80 years old)
Fellow	Any person who has been a Corporate Member for not less than 20 years, of good standing and who has contributed to the works of the Institute, or the profession or the industry, may apply or be recommended for the Fellowship of the Institute.	90	RM500.00 (65 years old and below) RM250.00 (Overseas) RM150.00 (above 65 years old) RM250.00 (Government Officer 65 years old and below) RM150.00 (Government Officer above 65 years old) RM250.00 (Overseas Government Officer) Free (above 80 years old)
Retired	Any ordinary Member who has attained the age of 60 years, and who has voluntarily retired from practice and ceased to be registered with the Board of Architects Malaysia shall, upon request by the prescribed form as per Byelaws and subject to approval of Council, be eligible for the rights and privileges which this Constitution and the Bye-laws may prescribe or allow.	3	RM250.00 (80 years old and below) RM125.00 (Government Officer 80 years old and below) RM250.00 (Overseas Government Officer) Free (above 80 years old)
Graduate	Any person who has completed a course of studies from a school which is recognized by the Institute as equivalent to passing the Part I and Part II examinations of the Board of Architects Malaysia, or passed the Part I	1,120	RM190.00 RM125.00 (Overseas) RM95.00 (Government Officer) RM62.50 (Overseas Government Officer)

	and Part II examinations recognised by the Board of Architects Malaysia.		
Student	Any person who has passed the Malaysian Certificate of Education or Cambridge Overseas School Certificate or Higher School Certificate or any examination recognised as being equivalent and acceptable by the Council, and having been admitted to a course leading to a professional degree or diploma in architecture.	264	Free of Charge
Associate Graduate	Any person who has graduated from a school of architecture but is not qualified for admission as a Corporate member, Graduate member or Student member but acceptable to the Council for this class of membership and is interested in the objectives of the Institute, and employed full time in an architectural practice or engaged in the building and design industry and residing in Malaysia.	52	RM190.00 RM125.00 (Overseas) RM95.00 (Government Officer) RM62.50 (Overseas Government Officer)
Academic	Any person who possesses qualifications in architecture acceptable to the Council for this class of membership and is interested in the objectives of the Institute and has been lecturing or teaching architecture full time in a college or university or engaged in building research or special projects in Malaysia, is residing in Malaysia and is not qualified for admission as a Corporate member or Student member.	23	RM250.00 RM125.00 (Government Officer) RM190.00(Overseas) RM95.00 (Overseas Government Officer)
International	Any person who has graduated from a school of architecture but who is not qualified for admission as a Corporate member, Graduate member or Student member but is acceptable to the Council for this class of membership and is interested in the objectives of the Institute, and is a Corporate Member in his country of residence or origin or holds equivalent membership of an Institute of Architects which itself is a member institute of the International Union of Architects (UIA).	1	RM500.00 RM250.00 (Government Officer)
Honorary	Any person who is not eligible for Corporate membership of the Institute may be elected as an Honorary Member if he is, by reason of his eminence, interest of Architecture and the arts and sciences connected therewith and of his contribution to the objectives of the Institute, considered by the Council to be eligible for the honor of Honorary Membership.	9	-
<b>TOTAL MEMBERSHIP</b>		<b>3,352</b>	

Procedure for enrolment:

- a) Every applicant for admission as Member shall make application and be proposed by at least two Corporate Members of the Institute in accordance with the proposal form as per Bye-Laws of his class of membership to which admission is sought.
- b) The proposal of every applicant for admission to any class of membership must be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary for submission to Council and if Council approves such proposal and find such candidate to be eligible and qualified according to the Constitution and Bye-Laws for the time being in force, he shall be admitted to membership in the class to which he has been proposed and such admission shall be recorded in the minutes of the Council meeting at which such nomination is approved.

#### **4. BUDGET OF THE INSTITUTE**

Sources of funds:

- i) Annual membership subscriptions
- ii) Sale of publications
- iii) Conferences/seminars
- iv) Sponsorships

The budget would have to be approved by Council.

#### **5. NUMBER OF CHAPTERS**

There are currently 5 Chapters of PAM:

- i) Northern Chapter (includes states of Penang, Perlis and Kedah)
- ii) Southern Chapter (includes states of Johor and Malacca)
- iii) Sabah Chapter
- iv) Sarawak Chapter
- v) East Coast Chapter (includes states of Pahang, Terengganu and Kelantan)

#### **6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)**

The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of April each year.

#### **7. LEGAL STATUS OF THE INSTITUTE IN THE COUNTRY**

PAM is recognised by the Malaysian Government as the national institute for Architects in Malaysia. Membership to PAM is not compulsory for a professional Architect to practice architecture in Malaysia. Corporate Members are entitled to use the suffix APAM after their names while Fellow Members may use the suffix FPAM.

#### **8. LEGAL STATUS OF THE ARCHITECTS IN THE COUNTRY**

Architecture in Malaysia is regulated through the Architects Act 1967 (Act 117).

Entitlement:

Only an Architect or a foreign architect who is residing in Malaysia for not less than one hundred and eighty days in any one calendar year shall be entitled to submit plans or drawings to any person or authority in Malaysia.

## 9. REGISTRATION AUTHORITY FOR ARCHITECTS IN THE COUNTRY

The Registration Authority for Architects in Malaysia is the Board of Architects Malaysia or Lembaga Arkitek Malaysia (LAM) constituted under the Architects Act 1967 (Revision in 2015). The Board of Architects Malaysia (LAM) is the statutory body set up by the government to control the registration of Architects and practice of architecture in Malaysia. The Architects Act has allowed Professional Architects in Malaysia to use the prefix 'Ar.'

## 10. INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATIONS OF THE INSTITUTES

ORGANISATIONS	POSITIONS HELD BY MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS
International Union of Architects (UIA)	<p><b>Ar Tan Sri Haji Esa Mohamed</b>            Immediate Past President (2017-2020)            President UIA (2014-2017)            1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Region IV (2011-2014)            Council Member, Region IV (2008-2011)            Member, Professional Practice Commission (1998-2008)            Professional Practice Commission Implementation Task Force (2009-2011)</p> <p><b>Ar Datuk Tan Pei Ing</b>            Secretary General (2021-2023)            Council Member, Region IV (2017-2021)            Alternate Council Member, Region IV (2008-2011)            Member, Professional Practice Commission (2004-2008, 2014-2020)            Member, International Competition Commission (2014-2017)            Chair, Committee on Gender Equity in Architecture under UIA Professional Practice Commission            Member, Vision and Strategic Planning Committee (2008-2011)</p> <p><b>Ar Saifuddin Ahmad</b>            Alternate Council Member, Region IV (2017-2020)</p> <p><b>Ar (Dr.) Mohd Zulhemlee An</b>            Member, UIA Education Commission (Educom) (2017-2020)</p> <p><b>Ar Alice Leong Pek Lian</b>            Member, UIA Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Commission (2017-2020), (2021-2023)</p> <p><b>Ar Datin Seri Dr Norwina Mohd Nawawi</b>            Member, UIA Region IV Work Programmes Architecture for All (2017-2020), (2021-2023)            Member, UIA Region IV Work Programmes Public Health (2017-2020), (2021-2023)</p> <p><b>Ar Adrianta Aziz</b>            Member, UIA Architecture and Children Work Programme (2021-2023)</p> <p><b>Ar Ahmad Ridha Abd Razak</b>            Member, UIA Heritage and Cultural Identity Work Programme (2021-2023)</p> <p><b>Ar Dato' Zulkhairi Md Zain</b>            Member, UIA Work Programme "Indigenous Peoples" (2022-2023)</p> <p><b>Ar Boon Che Wee</b>            Member, Professional Practice Commission (2004-2008)</p> <p><b>Ar Dr Goh Chong Chia</b>            Treasurer (2008-2011)</p>	EUR 1500

<p>Eastern Regional Organisation on Planning &amp; Housing (EAROPH)</p>	<p><b>Ar K C Leong</b> Secretary General EAROPH International (1978-86) <b>Ar Dato' Dr Ruslan Khalid</b> Secretary General EAROPH International (1986-92) <b>Ar Jimmy C S Lim</b> Council Member EAROPH International (1992-94) <b>Ar John Koh Seng Siew</b> Secretary General EAROPH International (1994-2002 ) <b>Ar Paul Lai Chu</b> Council Member EAROPH International (2003-2005) <b>Ar Lim Pay Chye</b> Council Member EAROPH International (2003-2006) <b>Ar Abu Zarim Abu Bakar</b> Council Member EAROPH Malaysia (2006-2011) <b>Datuk Ar Ezumi Harzani Ismail</b> President EAROPH Malaysia (2019 – 2021) <b>Ar Thirilogachandran a/l Shanmugasundaram</b> Secretary General EAROPH International (2019-2021) Deputy President EAROPH Malaysia (2018-2020) Honorary Secretary EAROPH Malaysia (2011-2012) Council Member EAROPH Malaysia (2012-2014),(2014-2016),(2019 – 2021) <b>Ar Dato' Zulkhairi Md Zain</b> Honorary Secretary (2018-2021)</p>	<p>US\$85</p>
<p>Architects Regional Council Asia (ARCASIA)</p>	<p><b>Ar Dato' Dr Kenneth Yeang</b> Deputy Chairman (1983-1984) Chairman (1987-1988) , Advisor (1999-2000) <b>Ar David Teh Teik Lim</b> Deputy Chairman (1985-1988) <b>Ar Tan Sri Haji Esa Mohamed</b> Honorary Secretary (1987-1988) Chairman (1995-1996) Immediate Past Chairman (1997-1998) Advisor (2022-2023) <b>Ar Datuk P Kasi</b> Honorary Treasurer (1987-1988) Chairman ACAE (1991-1994) Honorary Secretary (1995-1996) Chairman (1999-2000) <b>Ar Henry Lee Inn Seong</b> Honorary Treasurer (1995-1996) <b>Ar Lai Lok Kun</b> Honorary Secretary (1978-1980) <b>Ar Lt Kol Prof Dato' Parid Wardi</b> Chairman ACAE (1997-2000) <b>Ar Dr Tan Loke Mun</b> Honorary Secretary (1999-2000) <b>Ar Lim Pay Chye</b> Honorary Treasurer (1999-2000) <b>Ar Datuk Tan Pei Ing</b> Deputy Chairman, Zone B (2007-2008) President Elect (2011-2012) President (2013-2014) Immediate ARCASIA Past President (2015-2016) Advisor of ARCASIA (2017-2018) Advisor of ARCASIA (2019-2021) <b>Ar Saifuddin Ahmad</b> Member, ARCASIA Committee on Professional Practice (2018-2019) ARCASIA Vice President Zone B (2019-2021) ARCASIA President-Elect (2023) <b>Ar Datuk Ezumi Harzani Ismail</b> Member, ARCASIA Committee on Professional Practice (2017-2018, 2019-2020) <b>Ar S. Thirilogachandran</b> Chairman, ARCASIA Committee on Professional Practice (2017-2018)</p>	<p>US\$1000</p>

	<p>Deputy Chairman, ARCASIA Committee on Professional Practice (2015-2016)  Member, ARCASIA Committee on Professional Practice (2013-2015, 2021-2023)  Member, ARCASIA Committee on Social Responsibility (2012-2013)  <b>Ar Alvin Lim Hai Seah</b>  Member, ARCASIA Committee on Professional Practice (2019-2021, 2021-2023)  <b>Ar Adrianta Aziz</b>  Chairman, ARCASIA Committee of Architecture Education (2022-2023)  Deputy Chairman, ARCASIA Committee of Architecture Education (2019-2021)  Member, ARCASIA Committee of Architecture Education (2017-2018, 2018-2019)  <b>Ar Alice Leong Pek Lian</b>  Member, ARCASIA Committee on Green Sustainable Architecture (2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2021)  Deputy Chairman, ARCASIA Committee on Green Sustainable Architecture (2022-2023)  <b>Ar Datin Seri Dr Norwina Mohd Nawawi</b>  Member, ARCASIA Committee on Social Responsibility (2013-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2021, 2021-2023)  <b>Ar Ahmad Ridha Abd Razak</b>  Chairman, ARCASIA Committee on Young Architects (2019-2021)  Deputy Chairman, ARCASIA Committee on Young Architects (2017-2018, 2018-2019)  Member, ARCASIA Committee on Young Architects (2016-2017)  <b>Ar Dato' Zulkhairi Md Zain</b>  Member, ARCASIA Heritage Preservation Group (2022-2023)  <b>Ar Ahmad Najib Ariffin</b>  Member, ARCASIA Heritage Preservation Group (2022-2023)</p>	
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## 11. MAJOR PROGRAMMES OF THE INSTITUTE IN THE PAST YEARS

- Kuala Lumpur Architecture Festival (KLAF) cum ARCHIDEX
- PAM President's Night (Annually)
- WAD World Architecture Day (Annually)
- PAM Annual Dinner (Annually)
- PAM Members' Night (Annually)
- PAM Golf Competition (Annually)
- PAM Inter Firms Bowling (Annually)
- Students Workshop & Exhibition (Annually)
- PAM Housing + Urbanity Symposium (Annually)
- PAM Professional Practice Forum (Annually)
- PAM Promotion of Profession Workshop (Annually)
- PAM Community Care Programme (Annually)
- Community Outreach Programme (Monthly)
  - Architects Meet the Public Session

- Technical Visits
- Arbitration, Adjudication & Mediation Services
- CPD Seminars & Workshops (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month)
- Design Lecture Series (4<sup>th</sup> week of the month)
- Architectural Design Competition

## 12. ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITIONS/ AWARDS

- PAM Gold Medal and PAM Kington Loo Medal
- PAM Awards (Annually)
- PAM Student Awards: PAM Silver and Bronze Medals
- PAM – The Edge Green Excellence Award (Annually)

## 13. KEY ISSUES FACING THE ARCHITECTS / ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION / INSTITUTE IN THE COUNTRY

- Software options and competitiveness
- Issues with Collection of fees with the clients
- Lack of public understanding of what Architect profession does

## 14. RESOURCES OF THE INSTITUTE

### • **PUSAT BINAAN SDN BHD**

Pusat Binaan Sdn Bhd, the business and entrepreneurial arm of PAM is involved in areas relating to the architectural profession and building industry. The activities undertaken by Pusat Binaan Sdn Bhd are not solely for profit but also as a service to members and others in the building industry.

### • **PAM EDUCATION FUND (PEF FUND)**

The PAM Education Fund was set up with the approval of general body of members on 9<sup>th</sup> August 1981. The main objective of the fund is to encourage and assist persons desirous of acquiring architectural or related qualifications by provision of scholarship and educational loans. The Fund provides loans or grants of money, book and equipment for training candidates in the architectural profession and also provides grants for research work in relation to building science or to the art and science of architecture. Current PEF projects include travel scholarship to students from recognised universities, study scholarships, student jamborees, student exhibitions and book grant to PAM Resource Centre.

### • **PUSAT TEKNOLOGI PAM SDN BHD**

Pusat Teknologi PAM Sdn Bhd principal activity is consist of providing education related services. It was established with the objectives to be the learning and development platform for PAM Members. Among the programmes offered by PTPAM were Industrial Building System (IBS), Building Information Modelling (BIM), Route for PAM Accredited Arbitrator Courses, PAM BootCamp, BIM Summit, BIM Buzz, PAM Part III Structured Course, Train the Tutor and Practical Construction Contract Administration Course.

## **15. THE INSTITUTES EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT ARCASIA RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED IN THE PAST COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- PAM maintained a consistent and productive dialogue with government agencies and policymakers to enhance the efficiency of the building industry. This ongoing engagement aims to reduce resource wastage and improve the overall delivery system of the industry. By actively participating in policy discussions and advocacy efforts, The Institute has contributed to shaping policies that align with the organization's goals and objectives.
- Recognizing the pressing issue of climate change, PAM has undertaken a series of initiatives to address this challenge within the architectural profession. These efforts include organizing seminars, training sessions, and publishing materials focused on climate change. These activities are designed to educate both policymakers and the general public on sustainable architectural practices and their critical role in mitigating climate change.
- PAM places a strong emphasis on nurturing and empowering young architects within the profession. To this end, two committees have been established: the PAM Graduate Architects Committee and the PAM Membership and Youth Committee, dedicated to advancing the interests and careers of young architects, and working towards bringing young architects to the forefront of the architectural community by creating opportunities for skill development, mentorship, and networking.

## **16. PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

- PAM's first priority for the future is to foster growth by increasing its membership base and actively engaging new and young members. This initiative aims to bring fresh perspectives and energy to the organization while also providing opportunities for mentorship and professional development. A larger and more diverse membership will enhance the Institute's overall reach and impact.
- To amplify the influence of architects in shaping a better world, PAM is committed to promoting architect leadership and advocacy. Architects possess unique insights into the built environment's impact on society and sustainability. The strategy involves empowering architects to assume leadership roles, advocate for architectural solutions, and engage with policymakers at national, professional, and community levels.
- The Institute recognizes that many of today's challenges transcend borders. Thus, a central element of the strategic vision is to engage more effectively with global agendas. By aligning with critical global issues such as sustainability, climate change, gender equity, and future-oriented practices, The Institute aims to contribute architectural perspectives and solutions to these pressing global challenges.

- The credibility and effectiveness of PAM hinge on robust governance and ethical standards. The strategic plan prioritizes improvements in governance practices, including enhanced audit and oversight mechanisms. Additionally, it emphasizes the development and enforcement of a comprehensive code of conduct, transparency in all operations, and the promotion of inclusivity in decision-making processes.