



**MALAYSIA
COUNTRY REPORT**

**The 44th ARCASIA COUNCIL MEETING
and ARCASIA FORUM 22
COLOMBO, SRI LANKA**

14 – 18 JANUARY 2025

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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 : 2024 – 2025

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| President | Ar Adrianta bin Aziz |
| Deputy President | Ar Dexter Koh Yew Peng |
| Vice President | Ar Ahmad Ridha bin Abd Razak |
| Honorary Secretary | Ar Anthony Lee Tee |
| Honorary Treasurer | Ar David Teoh Wui Leng |

3. CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH

Categories of Membership:

| CATEGORIES | QUALIFICATIONS | ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF NOVEMBER 2024 | 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. | 1,900 | 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. | 89 | 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 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 | 1,235 | RM190.00 RM125.00 (Overseas) RM95.00 (Government Officer) |

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| | and Part II examinations recognised by the Board of Architects Malaysia. | | RM62.50 (Overseas Government Officer) |
| 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. | 560 | 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. | 70 | 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. | 19 | 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 | - |
| TOTAL MEMBERSHIP | | 3,886 | |

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>Ar Tan Sri Haji Esa Mohamed Immediate Past President (2017-2020) President UIA (2014-2017) 1st 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>Ar Datuk Tan Pei Ing 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>Ar Saifuddin Ahmad Alternate Council Member, Region IV (2017-2020)</p> <p>Ar (Dr.) Mohd Zulhemlee An Member, UIA Education Commission (Educom) (2017-2020)</p> <p>Ar Boon Che Wee Member, Professional Practice Commission (2004-2008)</p> <p>Ar Dr Goh Chong Chia Treasurer (2008-2011)</p> <p>Ar Alice Leong Pek Lian Member, UIA Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Commission (2017-2020), (2021-2023), (2023-2026)</p> <p>Ar Sarly Adre Sarkum Member, UIA Sustainable Development Commission: Reflection (2023-2026)</p> <p>Ar Thirilogachandran Member, Professional Practice Commission (2023-2026)</p> <p>Ar Datin Seri Dr Norwina Mohd Nawawi Member, UIA Architecture for All Work Programme (2017-2020), (2021-2023), (2023-2026) Member, UIA Public Health Work Programme (2017-2020), (2021-2023), (2023-2026)</p> <p>Ar Mumtazah Mustajab Member, UIA Architecture for All Work Programme (2023-2026)</p> <p>Ar Adrianta Aziz</p> | EUR 1500 |

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| | <p>Member, UIA Architecture and Children Work Programme (2021-2023), (2023-2026)</p> <p>Ar Rushdina Ismail Correspondent, UIA Architecture and Children Work Programme (2023-2026)</p> <p>Ar Ahmad Ridha Abd Razak Member, UIA Heritage and Cultural Identity Work Programme (2021-2023) Correspondent, UIA Heritage and Cultural Identity Work Programme (2023-2026)</p> <p>Ar Dato' Zulkhairi Md Zain Member, UIA Work Programme "Indigenous Peoples" (2022-2023), (2023-2026) Member, UIA Heritage and Cultural Identity Work Programme (2023-2026) Correspondent, UIA Public Spaces Work Programme (2023-2026)</p> <p>Ar Sharon Amin Member, UIA Work Programme "Indigenous Peoples" (2022-2023), (2023-2026)</p> <p>Ar Mohd Azli Mohamad Jamil Member, UIA Public Spaces Work Programme (2023-2026)</p> <p>Ar Aimi Ramizah Roslan Member, UIA Natural and Human Disasters Work Programme (2023-2026)</p> <p>Ar Mustapha Kamal Zulkarnain Member, UIA Architecture, Cities and Territories Work Programme (2023-2026)</p> | |
| Eastern Regional Organisation on Planning & Housing (EAROPH) | <p>Ar K C Leong Secretary General EAROPH International (1978-86)</p> <p>Ar Dato' Dr Ruslan Khalid Secretary General EAROPH International (1986-92)</p> <p>Ar Jimmy C S Lim Council Member EAROPH International (1992-94)</p> <p>Ar John Koh Seng Siew Secretary General EAROPH International (1994-2002)</p> <p>Ar Paul Lai Chu Council Member EAROPH International (2003-2005)</p> <p>Ar Lim Pay Chye Council Member EAROPH International (2003-2006)</p> <p>Ar Abu Zarim Abu Bakar Council Member EAROPH Malaysia (2006-2011)</p> <p>Datuk Ar Ezumi Harzani Ismail President EAROPH Malaysia (2019 – 2021)</p> <p>Ar Thirilogachandran a/l Shanmugasundaram 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) President EAROPH Malaysia (2024-2025)</p> <p>Ar Dato' Zulkhairi Md Zain Honorary Secretary (2018-2021), (2022-2023), (2024-2025)</p> | US\$85 |
| Architects Regional Council Asia (ARCASIA) | <p>Ar Dato' Dr Kenneth Yeang Deputy Chairman (1983-1984) Chairman (1987-1988) , Advisor (1999-2000)</p> <p>Ar David Teh Teik Lim Deputy Chairman (1985-1988)</p> <p>Ar Tan Sri Haji Esa Mohamed Honorary Secretary (1987-1988) Chairman (1995-1996) Immediate Past Chairman (1997-1998) Advisor (2022-2023)</p> <p>Ar Datuk P Kasi Honorary Treasurer (1987-1988) Chairman ACAE (1991-1994) Honorary Secretary (1995-1996) Chairman (1999-2000)</p> | US\$1000 |

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| | <p>Ar Henry Lee Inn Seong Honorary Treasurer (1995-1996)</p> <p>Ar Lai Lok Kun Honorary Secretary (1978-1980)</p> <p>Ar Lt Kol Prof Dato' Parid Wardi Chairman ACAE (1997-2000)</p> <p>Ar Dr Tan Loke Mun Honorary Secretary (1999-2000)</p> <p>Ar Lim Pay Chye Honorary Treasurer (1999-2000)</p> <p>Ar Datuk Tan Pei Ing 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) Advisor of ARCASIA (2024-2025)</p> <p>Ar Saifuddin Ahmad Member, ARCASIA Committee on Professional Practice (2018-2019) ARCASIA Vice President Zone B (2019-2021) ARCASIA President-Elect (2023) ARCASIA President (2024-2025)</p> <p>Ar Dexter Koh Yew Peng Honorary Secretary (2024-2025)</p> <p>Ar Datuk Ezumi Harzani Ismail Member, ARCASIA Committee on Professional Practice (2017-2018, 2019-2020)</p> <p>Ar S. Thirilogachandran Chairman, ARCASIA Committee on Professional Practice (2017-2018) 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)</p> <p>Ar Alvin Lim Hai Seah Member, ARCASIA Committee on Professional Practice (2019-2021, 2021-2023, 2024-2025)</p> <p>Ar Adrianta Aziz 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)</p> <p>Ar Alice Leong Pek Lian Member, ARCASIA Committee on Green Sustainable Architecture (2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2021) Deputy Chairman, ARCASIA Committee on Green Sustainable Architecture (2022-2023) Chairman, ARCASIA Committee on Green Sustainable Architecture (2024-2025)</p> <p>Ar Datin Seri Dr Norwina Mohd Nawawi Member, ARCASIA Committee on Social Responsibility (2013-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2021, 2021-2023, 2024-2025)</p> <p>Ar Ahmad Ridha Abd Razak 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) Honorary Treasurer (2024-2025)</p> <p>Ar Dato' Zulkhairi Md Zain Member, ARCASIA Heritage Preservation Group (2022-2023)</p> <p>Ar Ahmad Najib Ariffin</p> | |
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| | <p>Member, ARCASIA Heritage Preservation Group (2022-2023)</p> <p>Ar Aimi Ramizah Roslan Member, ARCASIA Committee on Social Responsibility (2024-2025)</p> <p>Ar Muhammad Qhawarizmi Norhisham Member, ARCASIA Committee on Young Architects (2019-2021, 2022-2023, 2024-2025)</p> <p>Ar Mohd Azli Mohamad Jamil Member, ARCASIA Committee of Architecture Education (2024-2025)</p> <p>Ar Sarly Adre Sarkum Member, ARCASIA Committee on Green Sustainable Architecture (2024-2025)</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, Expert Determination & Mediation Services
- CPD Seminars & Workshops (1st and 3rd week of the month)
- Design Lecture Series (4th 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

- **Professional Recognition and Advocacy**

The profession seeks greater recognition within both public and private sectors. PAM advocates for improved regulations and frameworks to enhance the role of architects in decision-making processes.

- **Advancing Sustainability and Building Regulations**

Architects are called to design environmentally friendly, energy-efficient buildings. PAM promotes sustainable practices and clearer policies, though challenges remain in aligning building codes with environmental goals.

- **Integration of Technology and Digital Transformation**

Adapting to new technologies like BIM and smart tools is crucial. PAM supports members with training, but continuous adaptation is needed to stay competitive in a rapidly evolving tech landscape.

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 9th 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 aligns its initiatives with ARCASIA's goals of promoting sustainability in architecture through seminars, workshops, and policy frameworks that address environmental issues and climate resilience. During this Council term, PAM is establishing a committee on ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) to further strengthen its commitment to these goals.
- PAM engages with government agencies and industry stakeholders to advocate for policies that reflect ARCASIA resolutions. This includes promoting policies related to green building certifications, energy efficiency standards, and architectural education reforms.
- PAM ensures strong representation at ARCASIA meetings, contributing to discussions on architectural standards, policies, and practices. This participation helps shape the direction of ARCASIA's resolutions and ensures that Malaysia's voice is heard within the region.

16. PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

- Strengthen partnerships with ARCASIA, the Board of Architects Malaysia (LAM), and other stakeholders to address pressing issues such as urban design and sustainability challenges. This will involve sharing knowledge, resources, and expertise to set new standards for Malaysian architecture.
- Establish a dedicated ESG committee to align with ARCASIA's goals of promoting sustainability in architecture. This committee will focus on integrating ESG principles into architectural practices, fostering climate resilience, and promoting sustainable urban development in Malaysia.
- Foster a profession that is architecturally remarkable, socially inclusive, economically prosperous, and environmentally sustainable. This will involve implementing ARCASIA's resolutions on inclusive design and sustainable building practices across all levels of practice in Malaysia.

17. ANY OTHER IMPORTANT ISSUES WHICH REQUIRE ARCASIA COUNCIL TO ADDRESS/ASSIST

- **Regional Collaboration on Sustainable Development**
Address the need for a unified framework for sustainable architectural practices across ARCASIA member countries. This includes establishing common guidelines for energy efficiency, carbon reduction, and sustainable building materials that can be adapted to different regional contexts.

- **Support for Digital Transformation in Architecture**
Facilitate the adoption of digital technologies like Building Information Modelling (BIM) across ARCASIA member countries. PAM can propose ARCASIA support for training programs, digital infrastructure, and cross-border exchange of digital expertise.
- **Addressing Urbanization Challenges**
Develop strategies to tackle the challenges posed by rapid urbanization in many ARCASIA member countries. This could include research into smart city solutions, disaster resilience, and integrated urban planning models that align with ARCASIA's goals on sustainable urban development.
- **Professional Mobility and Mutual Recognition**
Enhance mechanisms for professional mobility within ARCASIA member countries, particularly concerning mutual recognition of architectural qualifications and experience. PAM could propose ARCASIA support for frameworks that streamline cross-border practice and mobility for architects.