COUNTRY REPORT FOR THE CDNLAO MEETING 2006

Name of Country   :   **Malaysia**

Name of Library   :   **National Library of Malaysia**

Name of Chief Executive :   **Dr. Haji Wan Ali bin Wan Mamat**

I.   GENERAL OVERVIEW

Effective from May 2005, the National Library of Malaysia (NLM) came under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage.

II.   LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION / ORGANIZATION

On 6 December, 2005, Ms. Siti Zakiah Aman was appointed Deputy Director-General of NLM.

NLM acts as the Secretariat for the National Reading Campaign and works towards the promotion of the reading habits and love for books among Malaysians, especially young people. In 2005, NLM has successfully cleared MS ISO 9001:2000 Surveillance Audit conducted by SIRIM QAS International in June 2005.

i)   Public Libraries

The establishment of the National Library and public libraries in Malaysia are provided for by Federal laws as well as State Library Enactments. The Local Government Act also provides for the setting up of public libraries by State Local Authorities. The Director-General of the National Library is represented on the State Public Library Corporation Boards and gives advice pertaining to their development. In addition, the Federal Government provides allocation under the five year

development budget as well as the annual operating expenditure.

Public libraries in Malaysia are run mainly by the State Public Library Corporations in Peninsular Malaysia and State Library Departments in Sabah and Sarawak. In 2004, there were 947 public library service outlets throughout the country which include State Libraries, Regional Libraries, Branch Libraries, Town Libraries, Rural Libraries and Mobile Libraries. By 2005, there were 12 e-pustaka (mobile libraries with ICT facilities) under the supervision of the States Library.

To date some 333 rural libraries have benefited from the Universal Service Provision (USP) programme initiated by the Ministry of Energy, Water and Communications (MEWC), whereby these libraries are provided with personal computers, printers and basic fixtures and furniture and phone lines installed via satellite infrastructure through a Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) modem. This move would ensure that the necessary communication infrastructures are put in place to provide for connectivity throughout the country and to alleviate the digital divide between those who are information rich and those who are information poor.

ii)   Rural Libraries
A special project for the development of rural libraries was started in 2005 with an allocation of RM30 million for NLM to undertake. NLM also works with MEWC in the provision of ICT facilities and infrastructures to these libraries. A further 335 of such libraries are to be developed in 2006 at the cost of RM85 million.

iii)   NLM also promotes the establishment of a network of special libraries as stipulated in the National Library (Amendment) Act, 1987.

	Type of Libraries	Status / Total
1.	Academic Libraries *(Public Universities, Public Colleges, Polytechnics, Teachers' Training Colleges, Matriculation Colleges, Private Universities, Private Colleges, Community Colleges)*	415 libraries
2.	Public Libraries	947 libraries
3.	Special Libraries Government Department Libraries Private Sector Libraries	325 libraries 136 libraries

iv)   Library Association

The Librarians Association of Malaysia (PPM) is the professional body of professional officers and institutions involved in the library profession.

The PETRONAS Petroleum Resource Centre, in collaboration with PPM successfully organized the country's first Special Libraries Conference, SLib2005, with the theme of "Positioning Information Services Towards Organisational Excellence" on 15-17 May 2005, at Nikko Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

III. COLLECTION PROFILE

National databases

National Union Catalogue (NUC)

This is a collaborative project among the libraries in Malaysia and NLM hosts and manages this bibliographic and digital knowledge repositories which allows access to a wide range of materials maintained by other libraries and information resources over the Internet.

23 libraries participated in this first phase. They are Government agency libraries, academic libraries, state libraries and research libraries.

Unique/Rare Collections

In 2005, NLM acquired the Rossem's collection of original drawings, cartoons, caricatures which amounted to 2,234 items.

Bibliographies/ Indexes Published

Several titles were published in 2005:
i)   *Bibliografi Biografi Malaysia*
     i. (Malaysia Biography Bibliography)
ii)   *Sari Pustaka* – No. 1/2005
iii)   Library and Information Science Research in Malaysia: an abstract bibliography
iv)   *Adab raja-raja*
v)   *Kajian Penggunaan Standard Metadata untuk Sumber-sumber Maklumat Elektronik di Agensi-agensi Kerajaan Malaysia*
vi)   *Katalog Pameran Koleksi Nadir dan Peribadi* (Rare and Personal Collection Exhibition Catalog)
vii)   *Prosiding Persidangan Penerbitan Biografi Malaysia 2005* (Proceedings of the Malaysia Biography Publishing Conference 2005)

viii)   *Jurnal Filologi Melayu* Jilid 13 (Malay Filology Journal – Volume 13)

ix)   *Sekitar Perpustakaan* - 21 ed. and 22 ed.

IV.   SERVICES

Digital Library Services

NLM embarks on numerous ICT projects. One such project is the Malaysian National Digital Library (PERDANA) which is a joint-venture project amongst libraries in Malaysia which promotes local digital knowledge resources that have been developed or subscribed by all libraries so that all Malaysians can easily access them. A gateway of PERDANA called "Mylib" is accessible at http://www.mylib.com.my.

NLM works towards providing digital library services through existing infrastructure especially to rural areas through programmes such as *Infodesa*, Internet *Desa*, computer infrastructure for rural schools.

Digitization Programmes

The digitization program of NLM was started in 1998. The early initiatives were to preserve, digitize and give access to important archival and library collections such as Malay manuscripts, rare books, department's publications and newspaper articles.

Other local digital contents and portals developed include:

i.   Virtual exhibition

http://www.pnm.my/yangpertama/cover.htm

ii.   e-Warisan

http://www.pnm.my/sirihpinang/htm

iii.   Malay Manuscripts Online
        http://www.pnm.my/manuskrip

iv.   e-Library User Education Package (e-lib)
        http://www.elib.gov.my

v.   International Islamic Digital Library
       http://www.iidl.net

vi.   Portal Yang Di-Pertuan Agong
       http://www.malaysianmonarchy.org.my

Literacy/ Reading Promotions Programmes

The reading campaign in 2005 mainly targets the rural community in an effort to increase awareness of the importance of reading and providing more opportunities for the rural society to participate in the campaign. Hence, to generate interest in books amongst them and cultivate reading as a lifestyle.

The launch of the National Reading Campaign in 2005 for the first time was carried out in a rural environment, at Kampung Melayu Nyior, Kluang, a village in the state of Johor, situated in the southern part of Malaysia. The event was officially launched by the Honourable Minister of Education on July 1, 2005. The occasion also witnessed the launch of the first Rural Library developed under the Malaysian Rural Library Special Project.

The National Reading Campaign was successfully implemented and commemorated due to the diligent collaborative efforts of all parties namely the state public libraries as the main key players at state level as well as other institutions which include, government departments, the public and private institutions of higher learning, state education departments, state resource centres and schools.

Among the programmes and activities carried out at national and state level for adults, youth and children were as follows:

i)   My Favourite Read Programme (book discussion)
ii)   Home Library Competition (state and national level)
iii)   Workshops on Storytelling, Home Library, How to Conduct Reading Promotion Activities, Caricature, Creative Writing
iv)   Book launch
v)   Info-Hunt (on-line quiz)
vi)   Thematic Exhibitions
vii)   Children's Festival on Reading
viii) Reading Camp
ix)   Membership Drive Campaign

All information pertaining to the reading programmes and activities can be viewed at *i-baca.pnm.my*

Exchange Services

A total of **3,826** units of library materials were added to NLM collection through the gift and exchange programmes. These comprised of **2,584** monographs and **1,242** serials. The biggest contribution were received from Petronas, the Japan Foundation, Lim Kok Wing Institutions and UDA Holdings.

In 2005, **6,797** units of library material were distributed to schools, organizations and institutions and a further **6,278** units of library materials were distributed to 335 libraries.

V. COPYRIGHT / INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

In Malaysia, the protection of copyright is administrated by the Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia.

Act Under the Administration of the Corporation

i)   Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia Act 2002 (Act 212)
ii) Trade Mark Act 1976 (Act 175)
iii) Patents Act 1983 (Act 291)
iv) Copyright Act 1987 (Act 332)
v)   Industrial Design Act 1996 (Act 552)
vi) Layout Designs and Integrated Circuit Act 2000 (Act 601)
vii) Geographical Indications Act 2000 (Act 602)

VI. PROFESSIONALIZATION/TRAINING/CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

NLM provides in-service training and professional development of all librarians, assistant library officers and library assistants attached at NLM and federal government department libraries.

VII. INFRASTRUCTURE

Library buildings

In 2005, a total of 12 branch libraries were built throughout the country with 12 *e-Pustaka* mobile libraries made available to the communities at the state level. Under the Universal Service Provision (USP) Programme and a total of 200 rural libraries were equipped with telephone, computers and Internet facilities.

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