

PLANNING PRACTICES
IN MALAYSIA
LEGAL PERSPECTIVE

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THE INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT AND TOWN PLANNING SYSTEM IN MALAYSIA: LEGAL PROVISIONS

by

M.Zainora Asmawi¹

INTRODUCTION

Global concern about the ability of coastal areas to support mankind living on this earth is undeniably increasing. Coastal regions are home to three-quarters of the present world's population (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, 1993; Vallega, 1999) and the population growth rate is faster in coastal areas than for inland populations (Cicin-Sain & Knecht, 1998). They argue that the presence of growing populations in the world's coastal areas creates major environmental problems. Many connected or interrelated environmental issues originate in coastal areas, which put them under great pressure and induce negative environmental conditions. This scenario suggests that serious attention must be paid to how important it is to manage the coastal areas wisely and, to do this, to try to balance both the environment and economic development. In response to this situation, many countries in the world have started developing