

A National Geocentric Datum and the Administration of Marine Spaces in Malaysia

TEO Cheehai and Ahmad FAUZI NORDIN, Malaysia

Key words: Coastal Zone Management, Hydrography, Land management, Marine cadastre

SUMMARY

Malaysia is a country with two primary land masses, Peninsular Malaysia and East Malaysia (on the northern part of the island of Borneo). The country has a total land mass of approximately 330,000 square kilometers and 4,320 kilometres of coastlines. The marine spaces within its jurisdiction are approximately 574,000 square kilometers. Approximately 30 percent of these spaces are under State jurisdiction. Administering and managing Malaysia's marine spaces across the extent of the country represents a challenge for both surveyors and administrators. A national geocentric datum was adopted in 2002 which, among others, united Peninsular Malaysia and East Malaysia under a single national mapping datum. Prior to the adoption, the country embraces two separate mapping datum. This presentation will discuss an early attempt to identify the technical constrains and challenges within the spatial dimension when embarking on the development of an appropriate marine administration (cadastre) system in Malaysia. One of these constrains was overcome by the adoption of a national geocentric datum. The presentation will also discuss to a certain extent the derivation and features of this national geocentric datum and attempt to outline additional challenges towards the development of an appropriate marine administration (cadastre) system for Malaysia.

CONTACTS

Teo Cheehai
116 Jalan Raden Anum Satu
Seri Petaling
Kuala Lumpur, 57000
MALAYSIA
Email: chteo@geosurveys.com.my / fauzi@jupem.gov.my