KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	NEW STRAITS TIMES			
TARIKH	:	13.06.22	MUKA SURAT	:	8
JABATAN	:	JPSM			

UNESCO CERTIFICATE

Bukit Bendera recognised as UN biosphere reserve site



Deputy Energy and Natural Resources Minister Datuk Ali Biju (left) and Penang Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow (centre) showing the certificate recognising Bukit Bendera as a biospehere reserve site, in George Town on Saturday. PIC BY MIKAIL ONG

GEORGE TOWN: Bukit Bendera has received the certificate that recognises it as a biosphere reserve site under the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco).

The Energy and Natural Resources Ministry said Unesco had recognised, on Sept 15 last year, Bukit Bendera's 12,481ha as Malaysia's third biosphere reserve site, one of 727 in the World Network of Biosphere Reserves.

"A shared commitment to creating a balance between the care of natural resources and development through a sustainable development approach while being able to raise the profile of the site as an area of international importance and a centre of learning excellence," the statement said.

The ministry said Malaysia's participation in the programme began with the recognition of Tasik Chini, Pahang, as the first biosphere reserve site in Malaysia with an area of 6,922.97ha on May 26, 2009.

The Crocker Range in Sabah was recognised as Malaysia's second biosphere reserve site on June 12, 2014, with an area of 350,584ha.

The ministry hoped other state governments would nominate areas of biodiversity importance.

"The programme was launched in 1971 by Unesco. MAB is an intergovernmental scientific programme aimed at establishing a scientific foundation to create a balance between human activities and environmental sustainability."

It said a biosphere reserve site promoted sustainable development as a result of the efforts of local people and scientific research.

"The biosphere reserves have functions that cover conservation, development and logistical support as prescribed under the Statutory Framework of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves." **Bernama**