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**POLICY AND GUIDELINES ON  
REDUCTION OF INVASIVE ALIEN  
SPECIES (IAS) IN UNIVERSITI  
MALAYSIA TERENGGANU CAMPUS**

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## **A. Background**

Alien Invasive Species (IAS) are species that are introduced accidentally or intentionally outside of their natural geographical range. IAS have terrible effects that lead to the extinction or decline of native species, change and deteriorate the environment, and harm ecosystems. Malaysia Department of Agriculture (DOA) has established National Action Plan for Invasive Alien Species 2014-2018 (NAP IAS) focussing on strengthening the legal framework in prevention, detection, eradication, containment and control related to IAS issues, intensify the capacity building for implementation of action plan and enhance research and development of IAS among agencies in Malaysia. This NAP IAS were renewed until 2020 and adopted in the year 2021 in The Malaysia National Action Plan on Invasive Alien Species 2021–2025 (NAP IAS 2021–2025) which aligned with Target 11 of National Policy on Biological Diversity (NPBD) 2016-2025 and Target 9 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which focuses on identification, prioritisation, and prevention of the introduction and establishment of IAS.

Reduction of IAS is in line with SDG 15: Life on Land goals to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss. Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) understand the importance of managing the campus ecosystem and biodiversity by comprehending and identifying AIS on campus. Thus, the policy focus on the identification and reduction the impact of IAS.

## **B. Scope**

Reduction of IAS main strategy is to identify the native and non-native species on campus including flora and fauna. An inventory of native species will be documented for future reference as a guideline to staff and students in UMT. Any alien species documented will be eradicate by using NAP IAS 2021 – 2025 as a guideline. UMT community will be educate on the AIS and how it can impact the environment, biodiversity and the community.

## **C. Terminology**

Native species – an organism, plant, or animal currently living in an area due to naturally occurring acts without human intervention.

Alien species - an organism, plant, or animal that being introduced to the current area due to occurring acts human intervention.

## **D. Preparations, implementation, enforcement and alternatives**

### **I. Preparation: Dissemination of info/ Education**

Sustainability related working committee and UMT have to work together to educate and disseminate the information about AIS. UMT community need to be educate on how this AIS could impact adversely upon biodiversity, including decline or elimination of native species – through competition, predation, or transmission of pathogens – and disruption of local ecosystems and ecosystem function. Climate change condition nowadays can make the condition worst by the risk of alien species becoming neutralised resulted in greater potential impact.

### **II. Implementation**

- Special Task Force committee shall be formed to coordinate the overall campaign, monitor and ensure enforcement of the policy.
- A formulation of methodology to identify the Invasive Alien Species (IAS) found on campus should be designed and the listing of the IAS is to be updated yearly and a sustainability related committee can be set up for understanding the impact of IAS.
- The sustainability related committee would recommend the procedure for impact reduction activities.
- The sustainability related committee will be composed of schools having a direct and allied focus on the subject matter.
- The student clubs and associations may play an important role in creating awareness about identification and understanding the impact of IAS found on campus.

- The Policy must be adhered to by all employees and students participating in university activities.

### **III. Enforcement**

Documented guidelines should be used as checklist in eradication strategy for the AIS. The contractor hired should comply all the checklist and failure to comply resulted in warning and penalty.

### **E. Policy Enforcement**

This policy is effective from March 30, 2024.