



ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
THROUGH LAW
IN MALAYSIA

By Dr. Hanim Kamaruddin

HISTORY OF ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION & DEVELOPMENT IN MALAYSIA

Pre-Independence

- Legislation pertaining to sectoral natural resources addressing a particular area of activity
- Straits Settlement Ordinance No. III was enacted in 1894

Post-Independence

- Booming development in traditional industries
- Legislation to promote sound housekeeping practices in specific sectors
- Enforced as a non-integrated approach

Current

- Rapid industrialisation persists
- Introduction of the Environmental Quality Act 1974

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT 1974

Act 127

- Apply to the whole of Malaysia
- Environmental Quality Control
- Complementing Rules, Orders and Regulations for Sustainable Development
- Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Parts

- Administration
- Licences
- Prohibition & Control of Pollution
- Control of Scheduled Wastes
- Appeal Mechanisms
- Payment of Research
- Environmental Fund
- Miscellaneous Matters

Compliance

- Written notice
- Compound
- Seize equipment
- Prosecution
- Revocation on license
- Prohibition order
- Arrest without warrant