

## **Towards producing a stratigraphic lexicon of Malaysia**

**LEE CHAI PENG<sup>1</sup>, KAMALUDIN HASSAN<sup>2</sup>, MOHD. SHAFEEA LEMAN<sup>3</sup>, BAHARI MD. NASIB<sup>4</sup> AND RASHIDAH ABD. KARIM<sup>4</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Geology Department  
University of Malaya  
50603 Kuala Lumpur

<sup>2</sup>Geological Survey Department of Malaysia  
P.O. Box 1015  
30820 Ipoh, Perak

<sup>3</sup>Jabatan Geologi  
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia  
43600 Bangi

<sup>4</sup>Petronas Research and Scientific Services Sdn. Bhd.  
Lot 3288 & 3289, Jalan Ayer Itam  
Kawasan Institusi, Bandar Baru Bangi  
43000 Kajang

The Malaysian Stratigraphic Central Registry Database Subcommittee (MSCRDS) was set up on 23.1.95 to collate existing published data on Malaysian stratigraphy. It consists of representatives from the departments of geology in University of Malaya, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Geological Survey Department of Malaysia and Petronas.

A draft copy of the categories of information needed for each stratigraphic unit was crafted. The work to gather published data on stratigraphic units in the Palaeozoic, Mesozoic, Cenozoic Onshore and Cenozoic Offshore of Malaysia was assigned to members of the subcommittee. The initial draft database with 20 categories of information and subcategories where needed was later found to be superfluous when most of the required information is non-existent and resulted in too many blank categories.

A more realistic format was designed having only 14 categories and has been used to produce the intended first lexicon on Malaysian stratigraphy. The compilation work was started by listing down the formations, their ages and fossil lists and went on to include the other categories. Data of varying detail from abundant to scanty has been compiled to date on 43 Palaeozoic, 41 Mesozoic, 79 Cenozoic Onshore and 41 Cenozoic Offshore formations. Most of the Malaysian stratigraphic units have not been erected formally following the recommendations of the International Stratigraphic Guide, while the Malaysian Stratigraphic Guide was still being produced by the other subcommittee of the Malaysian Stratigraphic Committee set up in 1994. We envisage a need to revise and formalize most of these stratigraphic units following the guidelines of the Malaysian Stratigraphic Guide in the future and our compilation of a lexicon on existing stratigraphic units would be a necessary first step towards that future endeavour. Recommendations for future work will also be included as a direct result of our research into stratigraphic information for the lexicon.

---