

# Application of **Universal Design** in the Built Environment

Editors:  
Asiah Abdul Rahim  
Ismawi Hj Zen



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**INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY  
MALAYSIA**

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FERRY JETTY OF PANGKOR ISLAND**

Muna Hanim Abdul Samad, Asiah Abdul Rahim,  
NurAmirah Abd Samad, Wan Mariah Wan Harun,  
and Zulkefle Ismail

**INTRODUCTION**

On December 13, 2006, the United Nations formed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Convention to protect and enhance the rights and opportunities of the world's estimated 650 million disabled people. Many countries sign up to the convention and agree to adopt national and enact laws so that persons with disabilities would have equal rights to education, employment, and cultural life; the right to own and inherit property; not be discriminated against in marriage, children, etc; not be unwilling subjects in medical experiments (United Nation, 2006).

The main aim is to ensure that PWDs are able to live an independent life and partake totally in all aspects of life, and have access, on an equal basis with others, to the physical environment, to transportation, to information and communications, including information and communication technologies and systems, and to other facilities and services open or provided to the public, both in urban and in rural areas. Estimates of worldwide and country-wide numbers of individuals with disabilities are problematic due to the varying approaches taken to defining disability. However, in