

CHAPTER II

DISASTER POLICY OF MALAYSIA

As this undergraduate thesis attempts to analyze the disaster management of Malaysia in enhancing its international cooperation, it is immensely important to understand the profile of Malaysia. It becomes a basic information to determine the characteristic of Malaysia.

This chapter firstly explains the governmental structure of Malaysia so that it can give the description about the type of Malaysian government. Furthermore, it discusses the decision-making process in managing the disaster of Malaysia.

A. History of Political Structure in Malaysia

Based on the history of its Sultanate, since the 12th-century, the Malaysian government has been recognized as a constitutional monarchy. It occurs because in the past, the Britain arranged the constitution that placed two government ideas so that Malaysia is also known as a Republican state that combined two foundations within the state. Furthermore, Malaysia has encountered many challenges either in the term of the ethnicities or the distribution of wealth since the independence of Malaysia in 1957. Also, Malays have a weakness in the political power in the country because of the lack of economic support so that Malays attempt to seek more control over the economic aspect. To achieve the balance within a state, Malaysia should maintain the finite sources (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

1. Monarchy

Malaysia adopts the Monarchy Constitutional, in which the head of the state is held by the king and it is

elected from one of the sultans in Malaysian states. In addition, the king should officiate for five-year terms.

2. Executive Authority

Prime minister in Malaysia is the head of the executive branch of the federal government. It is chosen by the king, while the members of cabinet are selected by the prime minister with the approval of the king from the members of parliament. There are some authorities that are run by the federal government, such as the administrations of justice and citizenship, foreign policies, internal securities, and defenses.

3. Legislative Authority

There are 2 parts in legislative branch, namely federal and state legislative assemblies. Hence, it is categorized as the bicameral parliament that consists of the Senate (Dewan Negara) and the House of Representative (Dewan Rakyat). Senat consists of 70 members, in which 44 members of Senat are elected by the head of state, while 26 members are elected by the legislatures from each Malaysian state. The senat members have three-year terms. In contrast, the House of Representative consists of 222 members that are appointed by universal adult suffrage from single-member districts and the members serve five-year terms.

4. Legal System

In Malaysia, the legal system is based on the English common law. The Supreme Court under the Malaysian Constitution is considered as the highest federation in Malaysia. Additionally, there are two High Tribunals of Malaysia, one is in East Malaysia and the other is in Peninsular Malaysia (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

B. Structure of Disaster Management in Malaysia

1. Laws, Policies, and Plans on Disaster Management

Malaysia has a guidance in determining the policies that are related to the disaster management,

namely the National Security Council (NSC) Directive No. 20, in which it shows the guideline in establishing a framework of disaster mitigation and also consists of other sectoral legislations. The mechanisms that are conducted in the disaster management of Malaysia within these directive are based on the level and complexity of disaster. The directive further explains the role and responsibilities of various agencies in managing disaster in order to obtain the effective coordination and mobilization of resources.

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is also contained in the development plan of the state, namely “Five year Malaysia Plan”. It concerns to promote the sustainable development and to reduce the risk factors of disaster. Furthermore, in the strategy of DRR, there is the effort of poverty reduction that is included in program and policy that are in accordance with the project of MDGs (the Millennium Development Goals). Nowadays, Malaysia is implementing the Malaysian plan (2016-2020).

Platform and Action Plan of Malaysian on Disaster Risk Reduction

Government of Malaysia since the early 1990s has implemented the mechanism of policy, infrastructure, and operational at the national, state and district levels. It was to confirm the inclusion and engagement of actors from either government or non government in managing the disaster in Malaysia.

Malaysia further has conducted some meetings that discuss the disaster risk reduction, such as the Declaration of Malaka in 2011. Moreover, in Hyogo Framework for Action (2005-2015), Malaysia also attempted to determine the priority areas. Those meeting served as the campaign to enhance the preparedness of the state and especially the public awareness in facing the disaster. It also involved the national, federal, state and local authorities. All levels of government in the declaration are driven to reinforce the human resource and the capacity for handling the Disaster Risk Reduction; to improve the cooperation and

coordination between actors of DRR; to promote the development of law and institutional regulations; to boost the technological use in conducting the valuation of the various hazard risks, the early warning, and model of downscaling and climate; and to merge the Disaster Risk Reduction to the plan of development.

In 2013, National Security Council (NSC) was established as the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. In the process of DRR, Malaysia has expanded the involvement of the stakeholders that include: the private sector, university, policy maker in the government, and the organization from non-government. NSC has aimed to take over the duty for reducing the risk of disaster and preserving the continuous series of precaution, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery in order to achieve the sustainable development. Hence, it causes the modification of management cycle in handling the disaster so that it is inline with the legislative directives. The cycle consists of 5 stages, such as: stage of prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

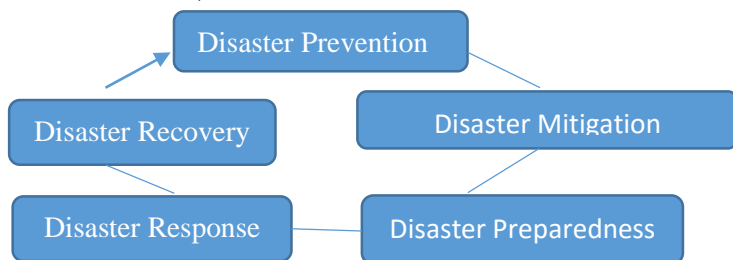


Figure 2.1 The Cycle of Disaster Risk Reduction in Malaysia

(Source: Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016)

2. Education and Training in Disaster Management

To minimize the disaster risks in Malaysia, a program of school preparedness was established in February 2016. This program is aimed to assist in increasing the disaster awareness and to facilitate the planning of disaster management that involve students in the level of primary and secondary so that they will be able to save themselves or others. It will also enhance the capacity in responding the natural disaster and in maintaining the safe situation.

The program is assisted by NSC and other instances, in which they collaborate to conduct some events and activities to spread the information about the Disaster Risk Reduction. Since 2005, Malaysia has organized the Disaster Awareness Day in order to increase the awareness of disaster risk and to encourage the commitment among the decision maker, local authorities, and the leaders of the state in handling the disaster risks.

There are some programs that have been established by the government in order to enhance the resilience of school and hospitel toward the occurred disaster, such as: the Program of School Watching and the program for Team of Smart Support that are conducted by the Minister of Education and other instances such as UNICEF and civil societies. In the incident of disasters, government, especially Ministry of Education, also provides the financial assistance for poor students that are affected by the disaster.

The government in 2011 also arranged the workshop for ASEAN countries in order to share the knowledge on Disaster Risk Reduction. From the workshop, Programs or work plans were created to enhance DRR in the aspect of education, especially in the primary and secondary school curriculum (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

3. The Structure of Organization for Disaster Management

New agency in handling the disaster, that is called as the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA), is recently established in Malaysia. The agency has taken over the function of NSC in managing the disaster. the first official meeting of this agency is on September 8, 2015. The department led by NADMA is held by the Department of Prime Minister. One of departments that also becomes the part of NADMA is the Department of Civil Defense. This agency is expected to have the ability to reach susceptible areas toward disaster, especially in the lowest level.

The person who is appointed as the chairman of this agency in managing Malaysian disaster is the senior government officials. Meanwhile, small disasters that occur in Malaysia will be led by the Department of Civil Defense and usually it concerns on some Malaysian states that are susceptible toward disaster, such as in Sarawak, Sabah, and East Coast.

However, the National Disaster Agency is still new agency so that in the discussion of the disaster management, it focuses on the coordinating role of NSC. Under the Prime Minister Department, the national agency of Malaysia in managing the disaster is handled by National Security Council or *Majlis Keselamatan Negara* (NSC) (Australian Civil-Military Center; Humanitarian Advisory Group, 2015). Based on the NSC Directive No.20, the council has function to coordinate disaster-related activities that is run by Committee of Management on Relief and National Disaster, in which it involves some agencies in the level of local, state, and federal. Figure 2 shows the Disaster Management Structure (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

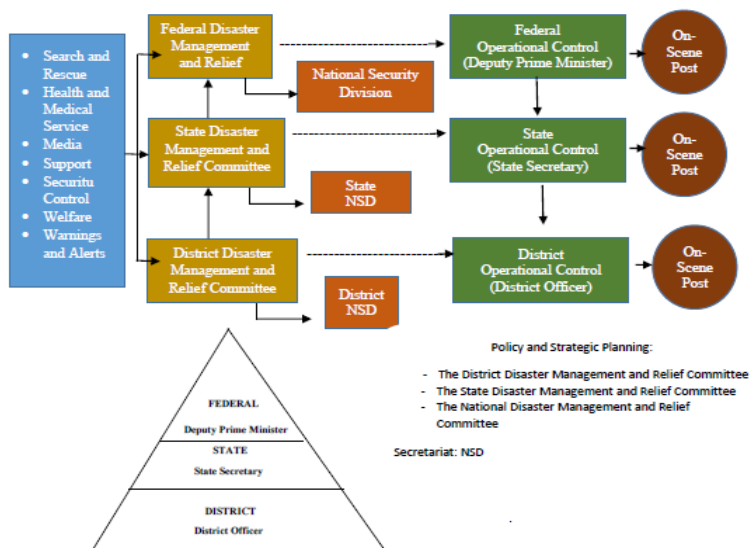


Figure 2.2 The Structure of Malaysia Disaster Management

(Source: Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016)

Various aspects of DRR become the responsibility of all government agencies. The activation of the committee in its implementation is determined by several things, including the characteristics and scale of events, and the coverage of the affected areas. The District Office is considered as the implementing agency in the field that has functions in order to ensure that the responses have coordinated; human resource and assets are adequate; and the establishment of communication by using media as an intermediary.

The organization of disaster management in Malaysia is divided into three levels of scale. Committee in each level of disaster management has different

responsibilities. In the first level, it is categorized into the sectional disaster, where it is restrained, so it does not expand to other regions. It is handled by the District committee that has the function to take the coordinated actions, including the provision in the term of human resources and assets. In the second level, the disaster is handled by the State committee because the occurred disaster is classified as a serious disaster that has potency to escalate to other regions. State committee in level 2 has a duty to providing relief for the district in the form of human resource, supplementary fund, and material assistance. In the third level, it is categorized as a complex disaster that escalates and impacts to other countries. In national level, it becomes the responsibility of Federal government in order to provide human resources and financial assets. Figure 3 describes the three levels.

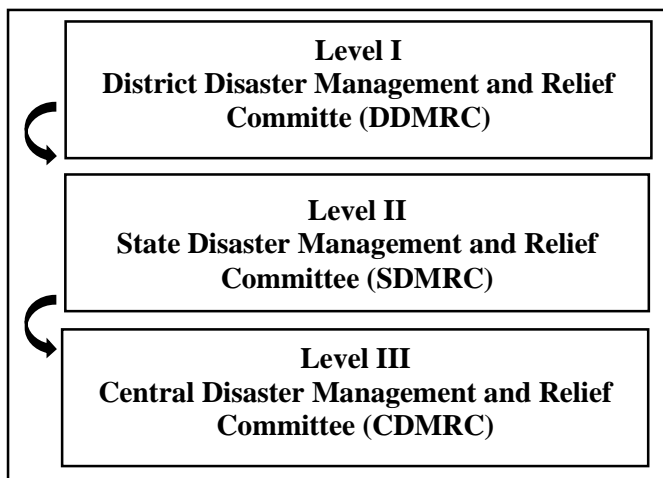


Figure 2.3 Organization Levels of Disaster Management

(Source: Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016)

In level III, Prime Minister selects Honorable Minister as a leader of CDMRC. Additionally, there are several members that include: Financial Minister, National Unity and Community Development Minister, State Chief Secretary, Armed Forces Commander, Police Department General Director, Health General Director, National Security Division General Director, Fire Brigade and Rescue General Director, Atomic Energy Licensing Board General Director, Broadcasting General Director, Information General Director, Transportation Department General Director, Public Works Department General Director, Environmental Department General Director, Social Welfare Department General Director, Working and Health Security Department, Meteorology Service Department General Director, and Civil Aviation Department General Director.

There are some functions of National Committee, such as: 1) To configurate the tactics and policies in handling the disaster in national level, 2) To determine directives and policies of disaster management and confirm that it conforms with the plan and procedure, 3) To invite every of institutes in order to inform the prevention acts, 4) To organize the requisite of disaster relief and management, among others the equipment provision of privat sector or institute of government, as well as the provision in providing the assistance of logistic, 5) To obtain the experience from regional and oversea source in order to assist the disaster management, 6) To establish the committees of investigation, 7) To confirm every of institutes in the practice of search and rescue, 8) To provide the necessary of the Commander of Operation in conducting the Search and Rescue On-Scene Function, 9) To establish the Operation Center of Disaster in the national level, 10) To specify the exhaustive assistance, in the form of sanctuary and protection for the victim and rescue, welfare, rehabilitation, and health, 11) To establish some committees, such as finance committee, welfare

committee, etc, 12) To create the bank of data to list of equipments and proficiencies in managing the disaster in the level of nation, 13) To arrange and conduct a post-disaster and propose the recommendations or proposals to resolve the weakness that is identified from post-disaster, 14) To organize the program of coordinated training for the rescuers and reach the level of skill in handling the disaster, 15) To provide a program that can give early prevention and education for the people in encountering the disaster risk, 16) To confirm that every of actions in the form of prevention, control, practicing and education programs are successfully conducted, 17) To inspect any directives, policies, procedures and strategies repeatedly to reinforce the management of disaster in the national level, 18) To provide reports of the disaster management and control that cover the actions in handling disaster, such as the search and rescue of the victim, as well as the assistance and rehabilitation of the victim.

In Level II, disaster management is led by State Secretary. There are some members that assist in this level, such as: Officer Chief of State Police, Commander of Brigade, State Fire and Rescue Department Director, State Health Department Director, State Public Works Department Director, State Social Welfare Department Director, State Information Department Director, State Broadcasting Department Director, State Civil Defense Department Director, State Environment Department Director, State Workers Security and Health Department Director, State Meteorology Department Director, Civil Aviation Department Director, State Irrigation and Drainage Department Director, State Geological Survey Department Director, Transport Department Director, Malaysian People Voluntary Alliance Director, and Malaysian National Telecommunication Agency Manager.

There are several functions of the State Committee, such as: 1) To apply the strategies and policies

of national disaster management in encountering every disaster in state level, 2) To organize each assistance of disaster management in the form of the equipment and logistical aid from private sector or institute of government, 3) To supply the exigency relief for the rescuers and the victims, such as: evacuation, medical threatment, food and others, 4) To activate the Controlling Center of State Disaster Operation for any disaster at the level II, 5) To create a working committee to simplify the operations of sub-committee (such as the committee of welfare and the committee of transportation), 6) To establish the bank of data to list of equipment and proficiency in managing of the disaster in the state level, 7) To establish the warning and communication system for giving the information to the people, 8) To implement the practice of disaster management in the state and district level periodically, 9) To accommodate the information of disaster risk and to manage the research about the disaster risk in the state and district level, 10) To create the comprehensive examination after the occurred disaster in order to seek the causes and the impacts of the disaster, as well as suggestion to overcome the disaster, 11) To demand each of the institutes to give their reports on every actions of disaster management, 12) To confirm every of acts that are done by some institutes in the state level, either in the form of prevention, control, education, and practice, 13) To provide the report of disaster management and control, such as report of rehabilitation for the victim, the report of aid, as well as the report of search and rescue operation.

In Level I, the head of disaster management is led by the District Officer, with the members that include: District Police Officer Chief, Officer of District Health, Department of District Engineer, Public Works, Representative of Malaysian Armed Forces, Secretary of District Council, Officer of District Social Welfare, District Civil Defense Corporation Office, Officer of

District Information, Department of District Engineer, Irrigation and Drainage, Officer of District Malaysian People Voluntary Alliance, Officer of District Electrical Power, and Officer of District Telecommunications.

There are some functions of the District Committee, such as: 1) To organize the assistance and management of disaster by providing the equipment and logistic aid for the institute of government or private sector in handling the disaster, 2) To establish the Controlling Center of the District Disaster Operation in the district level, 3) To improve the allocation of the works for the agency in the Controlling Center of Disaster Operation, 4) To identify and create the centers of evacuation, 5) To provide the basic necessities such as food, clothes, medical treatment, shelters for the victim and rescuers, 6) To convince that the Operation of Search and Rescue is conducted effectively and smoothly, 7) To establish the system of announcement among the Controlling Center of State Disaster Operation and the Control Post On-Scene, 8) To create the working committees to assist the operation of disaster management (such as the Committee of Welfare, the Committee of Transportation, the Committee of Finance, etc.), 9) To create sub-committee at the village level or other states in managing disaster, 10) To establish the bank of data to the list of equipment and proficiency of disaster management in the district level, 11) To determine and conduct the examination of post-disaster by providing the forward recommendations for resolving the existing weakness, 12) To get the information and the research of disaster risk in the district level, 13) To request all institutes to collect the reports of disaster management, 14) To provide the report of disaster management and control, including all of activities in the form of the rehabilitation for the victim, the search and rescue, and the exigent aid.

The Division of National Security has several roles in managing the national disaster, such as: 1) To provide services to all committees of disaster management in term

of secretarial aspects that depend on the level of the occurred disaster, 2) To confirm that the experience and the application of policy as well as the mechanism of disaster management are run well, 3) To confirm that the management of post-disaster is immediately done after the disaster occurred, 4) To rally the Team of Rescue and the Assistance of Special Malaysia Disaster to the Operations of Search and Rescue, 5) To coordinate the Training of Disaster Management and the Training of Search and Rescue, 6) To observe the performance of institutes in term of controlling and preventing the disaster, 7) To devise, manage, and supervise the personnel and employee in the performance of deterrent educations and practice of disaster relief, 8) To suggest the Committee of Disaster Management and Relief in handling and supervising the disaster (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

4. The Organizations of Disaster Management in Malaysia

a. The Malaysian Red Crescent Society (MRCS)

MRCS becomes a part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). The organization is considered as the National Society of Malaysia. In 13 states of Malaysia, there are 160 staff and 230,000 volunteers that have registered in MRCS. Based on the NSC Directive 20, It has functions in the disaster preparedness and response toward the disaster so that it will operate in the affected-disaster area and give the assistance for the victim (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

b. The Relief Fund of National Disaster (Kumpulan Wang Amanah Bantuan Bencana Negara [KWABBN])

KWABBN has a function to increase the overall resilience of communities toward disasters by giving the assistance for the disaster victims, such as the tool of microfinance, the concept of public-private, and another that are formed to assist the affected people of the disaster (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

c. The Meteorological Service of Malaysia

This agency becomes a part of disaster mitigation in Malaysia, in which it is considered as an agency that has a responsibility to give warning and information of incident in term of the phenomena of damnific weather for both the government institutes, that are included in the program of mitigation that are immediately informed and for the people that are notified through the media of mass. Malaysia also has established a Central Forecasting Office in the Headquarters of the Meteorological that has the purpose to observe the weather and sea conditions over the regions of Malaysia (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

d. Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID)

DID is formed to observe the flow of river, rain, and floods as well as to monitor the mitigation of floods. There are 17 major river basins and 27 towns that have developed the plans of flood mitigation, both in the various structural and non-structural measures, such as repairing of river channel sections; constructing of flood bunds, levees, ring bunds, and by-pass flood ways; using of mining pools for flood attenuation; building of flood retention dams to control flood flows and to minimize the occurrence of

floods (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

e. The Special Malaysia Disaster Assistance and Rescue Team

It has a function to respond any operation of search and rescue in the major disaster on the land. In addition, it also has the capabilities that are beyond the existing principal emergency services because it is equipped with specialized skills and equipment (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

f. The Malaysian Meteorological Department

The agency has responsibilities in giving information and warning on weather, sea conditions, seismicity, and tsunamis. The special observation is emphasized to heavy rainfall, strong wind, and high waves, intense haze episodes and drought (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

g. The Malaysia Social Welfare Department

There are several responsibilities that are handled by this agency, such as:

- 1) The provision and management of the center of relief or evacuation and forward supply base.
- 2) The supply and distribution of the assistances, such as food, clothing, and other essential items for the affected victims.
- 3) The registration of disaster victims for the rehabilitation purposes.
- 4) The provision of counseling services (“post-disaster”) for the affected victims (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

5. Community Based Disaster Management in Malaysia

There is a program of a community-based disaster management which involves multiple agencies in Malaysia. It has the purposes to spread the information and to enhance the awareness of the community so that it will assist the stakeholder to identify the hazards, to analyze and to design the initiative of disaster management, as well as to analyze and to determine the capacity needs.

The system of disaster management at the level of community is handled by the District Officer and the police officer that is in charge of the district. Hence, the representative from the various government departments, the Rescue Department Officer, and agencies at the level of the district become the key roles in managing the disaster in Malaysia (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

6. International Agencies in Malaysia

a. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFCR)

The headquarters of IFCR in the region of Asia Pacific is in Kuala Lumpur. There are approximately 70 staffs that work in IFCR. It is aimed to help and support the Malaysian government in the program of the Disaster Risk Management (DRM), as well as to support Malaysian Red Crescent as a humanitarian assistance in the state (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

b. International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

The function of ICRC is to respond quickly and efficiently in assisting the affected people by armed conflict because the capability of its rapid spread so that the emergencies is difficult to be predicted. Moreover, ICRC also manages the disaster

in the conflict zone because if a country has conducted war, it will increase the effect of the disaster. Hence, there are some topics, such as the humanitarian issues, the Law of International Humanitarian, the mandate and the role of ICRC, that become the material for delegation of ICRC in conducting the discussion with national and regional bodies (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

c. United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

There are more than ten federal minister and instances that are involved in the project of UNDP and it is run nationally in more than six states. UNDP has the role to support the priorities of national and the implementation of national development plans in Malaysia, both in the short term and in the long term, such as the 11th Malaysian Plan and policies and strategies of development in other sectors. Therefore, UNDP has conducted the new and innovative development methodologies that can be implemented and improved in the state (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

d. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

UNICEF has affiliated with the Malaysian government since 1954. There are some programs that have attained by UNICEF in assisting the life of children in Malaysia, such as the improvement of nutrition, health, water, and sanitation; formal and informal education; as well as services for children in rural and poor urban areas. Furthermore, UNICEF adjusts its program with the Five-year Malaysian Plan and also supports the Vision 2020, a 30-year national development process culmination (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

e. The United Nations High Commission for Refugee (UNHCR)

UNHCR has a role to assist the Malaysian government in order to handle the refugees and asylum-seeker in the state, in which it recently has assisted more than 92,000 refugee and some asylum-seekers that come to Malaysia. Actually it has joined in Malaysia since 1975.

When more than 50,000 Filipino Muslims from Mindanao escaped to Malaysia during the 1970s and 1980s, UNHCR has helped the Malaysian government to receive Filipino Muslim refugees and to arrange their stay in Malaysia. Moreover, in 1980s UNHCR also has assisted the Malaysian government to overcome the problem of Cham refugees from Cambodia and the problem of Bosnia refugees in 1990s (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

f. World Health Organization (WHO)

WHO is one of organizations under the system of United Nations which is in charge of dealing with the international health. WHO attempts to overcome the health issue by giving the priority on the matters of health issue and involving partnership in which is needed the common action; forming the agenda of research and stimulating the generation, translation and deployment of valuable knowledge; setting norms and standars, promoting and monitoring of the implementation; articulating ethical and evidance-based policy options; giving the technical support, catalyzing the change, and establishing the capacity of sustainable institutional; as well as monitoring the health situation and assessing the health trends (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

g. International Organization for Migration (IOM)

In 1970s, IOM began active in Malaysia during the crisis of the Indochinese refugee. It has the role to provide the medical screening and the assistance of transportation for the refugee that would be leaving Malaysia. The resettlement of the refugee from Malaysia still continued until 1994.

However, after the resettlement operations ended, IOM assisted the Malaysian government on the program of Assisted Voluntary Return for unsuccessful asylum seekers. Between 1984 and 1995, the various agencies of the Malaysian government also was assisted by IOM in term of the Economic Planning Unit (Prime Ministers Department), under the program of German Integrated Expert.

Malaysia in 2015 encountered a problem related to the refugee that many of them came from Myanmar so that IOM was asked to assist the Malaysian government to facilitate the resettlement of the refugee that became the stranded migrants and the victims of trafficking (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

7. U.S. Government Agencies in Malaysia

The main agency of U.S in responding to the overseas disaster is the Department of State. Moreover, there is U.S. Government & Overseas Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (USAID) within the DoS, in which it has a responsibility to coordinate the assistance of international disaster. Additionally within USAID, there is OFDA, stands for the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, that has a responsibility to coordinate the humanitarian assistance. Furthermore, USAID through OFDA can ask DoD (Department of Defense) to assist the

operations of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief in overseas if the U.S. embassy has declared a disaster (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

8. The Role of Military in Disaster Relief

There are three major security threats, such as terrorism, maritime security, and effect of expanding from the natural disasters, that must be encountered by the region of Southeast Asian. Hence, Malaysia attempts to develop its power in order to overcome those problems by MAF (*Angkatan Tentera Malaysia*, ATM). MAF is one of military branches that involve the three service branches, such as: Royal Malaysian Air Force, the Royal Malaysian Navy, and Malaysian Army. It has 110,000 voluntary active personnel and 296,300 reserves.

In the peacekeeping missions, actually MAF has been involved in the United Nations in many countries even though there is no clear directions about the existancy of MAF in the peacetime. However, there was a legislation that was formed to give the authority for MAF in assisting the disaster management. Recently, its legislation is upper house review. MAF will inaugurate the Military Assistance in the peace situation according to the recent law (Bill NSC 2015) if it is accepted.

In military branch of Malaysia, the major roles in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) are handled by the Army and the Air Force, in which Malaysia has conducted some international missions that are related to HADR, such as the medical assistance for Afgan refugee in Chaman, Pakistan (2001/2002); the assistance for Tsunami disaster in Aceh, Indonesia (2004); the assistance for the earthquake in Battagram, Pakistan (2005/2006); and the assistance for the earthquake in Bantul, Indonesia (2006). All of above assistances are conducted by the Army. However, there are some assistances that are undertaken by the Royal Malaysian Air Force, such as the

assistance for the earthquake in Nepal (2005) and the operations of relief for Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines (2013).

There are some experts in MAF, such as: engineers, divers, teams of search and rescue, personnel of air medical, and the explosive specialists. Hence, MAF has the capability to estimate the disaster consequences and to determine the major risk factors for the victim (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

9. Foreign Disaster Relief and Emergency Response

a. Disaster Relief Program Description

Department of Defense (DoD), based on 10 U.S.C. 404, has a function to respond toward the situations of man-made or natural disaster from other states in order to prevent the loss of life.

The Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) will assess the needs and the priorities of the state and can ask the assistance of DoD if the local Embassy of U.S officially has declared a disaster.

The assistances given by DoD can be in the form of Humanitarian Daily Rations (HDR), excess property items, transportation, or other commodities. The Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid (OHDACA) appropriation or USAID may fund transportation of disaster relief. The transportation of disaster relief can also be funded by The Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid (OHDACA) appropriation or United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

b. Foreign Disaster Relief and Emergency Response Program Process

If there is a foreign state which is experiencing a disaster and asks the U.S Embassy in

order to assist its state, Department of State (DoS) and OFDA will validate the request. Moreover, DOS can request the assistance of disaster relief from DoD.

After that, its request will be approved by Assistant Secretary of Defense that organizes the special operation on the low intensity conflict and it further will be continued for the action by Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA).

Stockpile, that is needed, such as HDRs, Excess Property, etc, will be identified by Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) as Programs Directorate. Moreover, it also cooperates with the Joint Staff Logistics Directorate (J4) in order to provide the transportation in supporting disaster relief efforts (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

c. Congressional Notification for Foreign Disaster Assistance

After approximately 48 hours, the activities in providing the assistance of the disaster are begun. Pursuant to the law (10 U.S.C. 404), Presiden will send a report to the Congress, in which it contains the assistance notification (proposed and provided) and the description about several matters, such as: the man-made or natural disaster for which assistance of disaster is needed; threats that are caused by a disaster toward human life; material resource and U.S military personnel that is involved in providing the assistance; the disaster assistance that are provided by either other states or other actors (public or private relief organizations); and the estimated for the duration of the disaster assistance activities (Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance, 2016).

