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### Three Dimensional Land Legislation in Malaysia

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Strata Titles Act 1985 (Act 318), National Land Code 1956 (Act 56) with these amendments and Strata Management Act 2013 (Act 757) have been established with the increasing of multi-storey property development. Combined effect of these laws are to ensure strata titles being passed to buyers upon delivery of vacant possession. However, such amendments in three acts have not cater for three dimensional properties. Therefore, this paper recommended some solutions to formulate and improve the existing land related legal documents towards three dimensional land legislation.

Keywords: Three Dimensional, Cadastre, Legislation, Multi-layer Property.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Currently, there is shortage of suitable legislation about three dimensional properties in land and cadaster legislation. Previous researches<sup>1-11</sup> have been discussed on this matter but still no solid evident in law to dispose private rights in land in three dimensional environment<sup>12-23</sup>.

Three main legal documents involve in three dimensional (3D) property *viz.* the National Land Code 1965 (Act 56), Strata Titles Act 1985 (Act 318) with the amendments and Strata Management Act 2013 (Act 757), besides title document and certified plan that interrelated to Malaysia 3D property<sup>24-28</sup>.

There are 6 types title documents depend on location and size. The Malaysia cadastral map is certified plan. These certified plans are for land, strata and stratum (underground). Lately, the execution of eCadastre Malaysia makes certified plan format become simpler, but it still preserve the information on the plan.

Meanwhile, certified strata plan contains parcels and land parcels information such as number of floors/levels, boundary dimensions, heights of the building, floor areas, parcel numbers etc. Until now, still no certified stratum plan issued because of shortage of stratum object registration and survey awareness.

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## 2. METHODS TO ACHIEVE THREE DIMENSIONAL'S LAND LEGISLATION

To make three dimensional land legislation possible, we review many issues such as cost of transition, the necessity to change, handling of the cadaster procedures, how to define boundaries? How to manage those three dimensional properties? The rights of property, technical and organizational. These reviews have been discussed in national and international platforms<sup>29-36</sup>.

# 3. FINDING OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN LEGAL DOCUMENT

As mentioned earlier, the need of formulate three dimensional land legislation is crucial in Malaysia. Therefore, we should look at the relevant of three dimensional property legal aspects and amendments and should be made to the existing land laws. This is why the ownership of 3D properties have been exact crucial regarding to property rights. Many preliminary researches have been discussed for improvement of the institutional aspects.<sup>37-43</sup>.

The National Land Code 1965 (NLC 1965) specified that land can be classified as seabed, foreshore and land above shoreline. New laws should be established because of the real need to create 3D property in certain cases. Hence, new interpretation of 3D property should be given as "three dimensional property means a property unit or space which in its entirety is delimited both horizontally and vertically". New classification of land should be suggested as "for the purpose of this Code, land shall also be classified as three dimensional property unit and space".

Section 75A of NLC 1965 allows the use of air space above reserved and State land. State government can give permit for period not more than 21 years for doing activities. Air space comprises 3D property unit and space dimension above surface. Thus a new paragraph should be amended by adding "from the aforesaid it follows that a structure, as a rule, also includes three dimensional property unit and space" in related section.

Section 92 of NLC 1965 stated the rights to use by owner after State dispose the land under final title and the owner can subdivide or partition or amalgamation the land or building and can transfers, leases, charges and surrenders the land or building. As stated above, we propose to add a new statement as "the rights exercisable by any person or body to whom State land has been alienated under final title shall also include the rights for three dimensional property unit and space".

The Section 92A of NLC 1965 reads stratum land as land that below the earth surfaces. Stratum land comprises dimension below surface for 3D property unit and space. So, the interpretation should be corrected and reads as "underground land means land which lies below the surfaces of the earth and that shall also include three dimensional property unit and space".

Strata Titles Act 1985 (STA 1985) and Strata Management Act 2013 (SMA 2013) stated that any two or more storeys building on alienated land may be subdivided into parcels. Furthermore, land also can be subdivided into land parcels. New laws should be added for allowing the creation of 3D property and read as "three dimensional property unit and space mean a property unit which in its entirety is delimited both horizontally and vertically". Also, to add new statement and reads as "from the aforesaid it follows that a building or land, as a rule, also includes three-dimensional property unit and space". In addition, new interpretation of three dimensional property should be given as "parcel volume in relation to a parcel means the volume occupied by that parcel", "land parcel volume in relation to a parcel means the volume occupied by that land parcel", "accessory parcel volume in relation to a parcel means the volume occupied by that accessory parcel".

STA 1985 and SMA 2013 specified the power and duty of Management Corporation and subdivided building or land. New laws should be added to allow the formation of 3D property. Consequently, a new wording to be added as "from the aforesaid it follows that the duties and powers, as a rule, also include in three dimensional property unit and space".

## 4 FINDING OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN PLAN

Minor changes are propose to certified land parcel plan, 3D property lot can be indicated with backslash to the lot numbers (\(\begin{align\*} 17018 \end{align\*}\)). The 3D property boundaries are identified by the specific line type of points on a dotted dash lines whereas the 3D property spaces are demarcated and hatched by a surface polygons.

At the same time, minor changes are propose on certified strata plan, such as to the parcels ((I)) or land parcels ((I)) or accessory parcels ((I)) or mezzanine floors ((I)) number. The 3D property boundaries are specified by the specific line type of points on a dotted dash lines while the 3D property spaces are hatched and demarcated by a surface polygons. Furthermore, it is recommended that related building plan in digital format to be attached to related government agencies upon submission.

Express conditions also recommended for minor changes. Title documents that involve are Form 4A(K), 4(K), 11AK, 11BK, 5EK, 5DK, 5CK and 5BK. It can be designed as "the land comprised in this title is a three dimensional property unit that in it is entirely is delimited both horizontally and vertically" or "the land comprised in this title is a three dimensional property space included in a property unit and delimited both horizontal and vertically".

Besides above-mentioned, final title, qualified title land plan (Form B1, Form B2), strata title plan (Form S(K)) respectively would follow the propose format 3D certified plan. A 3D property land plan is showed with

backslash to the lot numbers ((106)). In the meantime, proposed backslash to the parcels ((1)) or land parcels ((1)) or accessory parcels ((1)) or mezzanine floors ((1)) number. The 3D property boundaries are itemized by the specific line type of points on a dotted dash lines. Meanwhile, 3D property spaces are demarcated and hatched by a surface polygons.

#### 5. CONCLUSIONS

The purpose of this paper is to recommend some generalize concepts of 3D property rights and to propose the potentials of implementing these formation into current land laws and related documents. Hence, many organizational, technical and legal matters should be examined. In conclusion, so as to establish 3D system based information database, such land related laws and regulations need to be amended accordingly.

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