

WUACD Executive Board Meeting 2026

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Johor Bahru, Malaysia

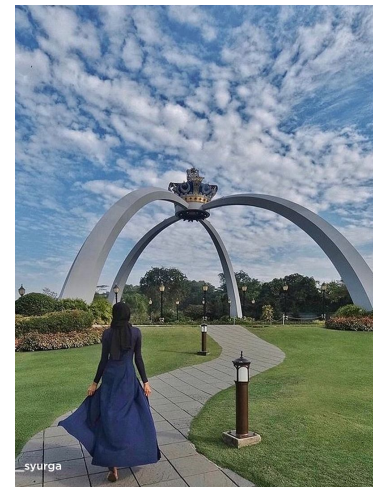
13 – 17th October 2026

THEME

"Empowering Humanity Through Global Sustainable Partnerships"



Handbook of Arrival for WUACD Delegation Selamat Datang!



Welcome to Johor Bahru (JB). This handbook is compiled to assist the WUACD delegation in navigating their 4-day community engagement program smoothly.

Duration

4-days community engagement program

Host

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia,
Johor Bahru

Delegates

ASEAN & international WUACD members



Entry & Visa Information



What to Bring to the Counter

- A valid passport (minimum 6 months validity)
- A printed or digital copy of the MDAC confirmation PDF
- A confirmed return ticket

Citizens of all ASEAN/SEA nations enjoy **visa-free entry** into Malaysia for social visits (typically up to 30 days). However, entry requirements have a critical digital component that must be completed individually before arrival.

⚠ **Mandatory Pre-Arrival Requirement: The MDAC**

All foreign delegates must submit the **Malaysia Digital Arrival Card (MDAC)** online within **72 hours (3 days)** prior to arrival. Group submissions are not allowed — every individual must have their own confirmation form. Please visit:

- [MDAC Portal Link](#)
- [Official Immigration Department of Malaysia Portal Link](#)

Program Tentative: 13 – 16 October 2026

DAY 1 (13 Oct)

3.00 - 6.00 pm

Arrival & Hotel Check-in

Pulai Spring Resort. Delegation arrival, registration desk check-in, and reception.

Note:

Shuttle bus to Pulai Spring Resort will standby from 2.00 to 4.00 pm only to pick up delegates at the airport. For delegates arriving earlier or later this time are advised to take e-hailing or other transportation to the hotel.

DAY 2 (14 Oct)

8:00 - 8:30 pm

Registration at Pulai Springs Resort

8:00 - 10:15 am

Opening Remarks & Morning Receptions

10:30 am - 12:15 pm

QS Ranking Talk/Key Address

Sharing on Qs Ranking At UTM dan continued Key Addresses by distinguished professors at pulai Springs

12:15 - 5:30 pm

Networking Lunch, WUACD Board Meeting & Sharing Sessions

Networking Lunch followed by the WUACD Board Meeting 2026 at Faculty of Computing.

6:30 - 9:30 pm

Welcoming Dinner

At Melor House by Nurul Restaurant

DAY 3 (15 Oct)

08:30 am - 12:00 pm

Community Engagement Day

Field Trip to Sg Melayu Ecotourism.

12:00 - 2:00 pm

Johore Heritage Lunch

Cultural dining experience.

2:00 - 5:00 pm

Johor Bahru City Tour

Exploring the historical landmarks of JB. (Dinner not provided).

DAY 4 (16 Oct)

08:30 - 09:00 am

Breakfast at Hotel

Breakfast before check-out.

09:00 am - 1:00 pm

UTM Eco-Campus Tour

Guided visit to UTM's living lab project sites (Kelah Conservation & Stingless Bee Farm) and scenic campus grounds.

1:00 - 2:00 pm

Networking Farewell Lunch

2:00 - 3:30 pm

UTM Innovation & Commercialisation Centre (ICC)

Final networking and departure preparations.

Note:

Shuttle bus to the airport will be ready to pick up delegates at 3.00 pm.

Community Program Itinerary (15th October 2026)

Community Engagement Day & JB City Tour | Location: Kampung Sungai Melayu, Johor & Johor Bahru City

MORNING SESSIONS

08:45 AM – 09:00 AM

Gathering at Pulau Springs

All participants assemble at the main lobby/entrance.

Note: Participants from other hotels kindly assemble at Pulau Springs Resort by own transportation. Bus will depart at 9.00 AM.

09:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Bus Journey to Kampung Sungai Melayu

Bus departs from Pulau Springs. Travel time ~30-45 minutes.

10:00 AM – 10:15 AM

Arrival of Guests & Registration

Welcome reception and proceeding to the briefing area.

10:15 AM – 10:45 AM

Briefing Session

Village background & safety. Briefing by Datuk Pandak Ahmad (MLA Iskandar Puteri).

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Boat Exploration (1-Hour Tour)

Crab catching demo, mangrove cruising, and visiting mussel (kupang) farm.

AFTERNOON & EVENING SESSIONS

12:00 PM – 12:15 PM

Return to the Jetty & Move to Restaurant

Boat docks. Participants freshen up and head over to the restaurant.

12:15 PM – 01:45 PM

Lunch at Restoran Asam Pedas Sri Pantai

Enjoying authentic Johor Asam Pedas and fresh seafood.

01:45 PM – 02:15 PM

Photo Stop at Istana Bukit Serene

Visiting the iconic giant crown archway and royal palace grounds.

02:15 - 05.00 PM

Johor Bahru City Tour

Johore Premium Outlet (JPO)

(Dinner is not provided)



Campus Tour Itinerary (16th October 2026)

**Community Projects Tour Day | Kelah Project Site at UTM Orchard (Dusun UTM),
Stingless Bee (Madu Kelulut) Project Site and Sightseeing drive around campus**

08:45 AM – 09:00 AM

Gathering at Pulai Springs

Participants assemble at the main lobby/entrance.
Attendance check & boarding.

09:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Visit to the Kelah Project Site at UTM Orchard (Dusun UTM)

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Visit to the Stingless Bee (Madu Kelulut) Project Site

Refreshment

11:30 AM – 01:00 PM

UTM Campus Tour (Sightseeing drive around campus)

01:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Networking Farewell Lunch

2.30 - 4.00 pm

UTM Innovation & Commercialisation Centre (ICC)

Final networking and departure preparations.



Suggested Dress Code & Attire Guide

Ensuring your comfort throughout the WUACD Executive Board Meeting & Program Activities

DAY 1 (13 Oct)

Travel & Arrival

Smart Casual

Comfortable attire for flights, airport transit, registration, and initial hotel check-in at Pulau Springs.

Recommendations:

- Polo shirts, knitwear, or casual shirts
- Chinos, slacks, or comfortable trousers
- Walking shoes or loafers
- Encouraged to wear Face Mask

DAY 2 (14 Oct)

Board Meeting & Dinner

Formal / Business Attire

Professional wear for keynotes, executive discussions, and the formal Welcoming Dinner.

Recommendations:

- Lounge suit or blazer with tie
- Office wear or traditional formal dress
- Long-sleeved batik shirt (highly encouraged for dinner)
- Encouraged to wear Face Mask

DAY 3 (15 Oct)

Ecotourism & City Tour

Outdoor / Casual Wear

Light, breathable clothes for mangrove boat cruises, outdoor walking, and evening shopping at JPO.

Recommendations:

- Light t-shirts, polo shirts, or breathable tops
- Jeans, cargo pants, or activewear slacks
- Sports shoes with good grip
- Hat, sunglasses, and umbrella/raincoat
- Encouraged to wear Face Mask

DAY 4 (16 Oct)

Eco-Campus & Departure

Casual / Walking Friendly

Comfortable clothing for visiting the Kelah Project Site, Stingless Bee Farm, and final departure.

Recommendations:

- Cotton shirts, breathable polo tops
- Comfortable trousers or dark jeans
- Walking or athletic shoes
- Sun protection (sunscreen & caps recommended)
- Encouraged to wear Face Mask

Air Quality Caution & Delegate Guidelines

CURRENT STATUS

Hazardous IPU Level

Program Adjustments: The Secretariat is continuously tracking real-time IPU levels. Please be advised that outdoor itineraries remain subject to air quality conditions and may be relocated or adjusted to ensure everyone's health and safety.



PRECAUTION 01

Wear Masks Outdoors

Wear N95 or KN95 respirators for all outdoor movement.



PRECAUTION 02

Stay Well Hydrated

Drink clean water regularly to soothe respiratory irritation.



PRECAUTION 03

Secretariat Assistance

Request complimentary masks or medical aid at the desk.



Experiencing breathing discomfort or need extra masks?

Contact Sohailah (UTM Secretariat Desk)

Hotel Information

1. Official Host Hotel - Pulau Springs Resort

- **Hotel Name:** [Pulai Springs Resort, Johor Bahru](https://pulaيسprings.com)
- **Address:** 20km, Jalan Pontian Lama, 81110 Skudai / Pulau, Johor, Malaysia
- **Distance to UTM JB Campus:** ~10 minutes drive (~5 km)
- **Website:** pulaisprings.com
- **Contact Number:** +60 7-521 2121
- **Secretariat Support:** Complimentary event shuttles to and from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) campus will be provided **exclusively** for delegates staying at Pulau Springs Resort according to the program schedule.
- **Price:** RM 220 per night for Deluxe Suite and 1 Bedroom Suite



Venue & Hotel Information

2. Nearby Alternative Hotels (Self-Booking & Self-Transport)

Budget & Boutique Hotels (~3–10 mins to Pulai Springs / UTM)

- [Hotel Austin Paradise \(Taman Pulai Utama\)](#)
 - Distance: ~1.3 km (3–5 mins drive)
 - Features: Affordable 2-3 star boutique hotel located in a commercial area with walking access to eateries and convenience stores.
- [Ir Inn Hotel / I Harmony Hotel \(Skudai / Pulai\)](#)
 - Distance: ~1.3 km – 3 km (5 mins drive)
 - Features: Budget-friendly, basic amenities for short stays.
- [GoodHope Hotel Skudai](#)
 - Distance: ~6.3 km (~10 mins drive)
 - Features: 3-star hotel along the main Skudai highway with larger room options.

Mid-Range & Business Hotels (~10–15 mins to Pulai Springs / UTM)

- [Impiana Hotel Senai](#)
 - Distance: ~6 km – 10 km (~12 mins drive, close to Senai Airport)
 - Features: Full-service 4-star business hotel near the airport highway.
- [Hyatt Place Johor Bahru \(Paradigm Mall\)](#)
 - Distance: ~12 km (~15 mins drive)
 - Features: Modern 4-star business hotel connected directly to Paradigm Mall Johor Bahru.

Venue & Hotel Information

Logistics & Transport Disclaimer for Self-Booking Delegates

Delegates who choose not to stay at the official host hotel are required to **manage their own accommodation reservations and daily local transportation** (via Grab e-hailing or rental vehicles) to Pulau Springs Resort or the UTM Campus.

Important Notice on Local Transport:

- **Shuttle Service Exemption:** Official secretariat shuttle buses will only pick up and drop off at Pulau Springs Resort and official UTM program venues.
- **E-Hailing Availability:** Delegates staying at off-site hotels can easily use **Grab** (Malaysia's primary e-hailing app) to travel to UTM or Pulau Springs Resort. Estimated fares within Skudai range between MYR 8 to MYR 20 depending on peak hours.
- **Punctuality:** Self-booked delegates are advised to schedule their Grab rides at least **30 minutes prior** to session start times to ensure timely arrival at the meeting venues.

Getting Around Johor Bahru

Johor Bahru is a rapidly expanding city. While a high-capacity Elevated Autonomous Rapid Transit (E-ART) system is currently being planned for the city's major corridors, **private or on-demand transport remains the most efficient choice.**



E-Hailing

Grab is the dominant platform in Malaysia. AirAsia Move and Maxim are also available. Cheap, reliable, and removes the language barrier for specifying destinations.



Public Buses

Local buses operate out of **JB Sentral** (the main transit hub) to various suburbs, but schedules can be unpredictable.



Charters for the Program

For community engagement activities, **transportation will be provided** to keep the delegation moving together safely and on time.

Quick Guide: Getting Around Via Grab E-Hailing

For delegates staying at non-official/off-site hotels, **Grab** is the easiest, safest, and most reliable way to travel between your hotel, Pulau Springs Resort, and the UTM Johor Bahru campus.



Step 1: Download & Set Up the App

- **Download:** Get the Grab app from the App Store (iOS) or Google Play Store (Android) before arriving in Malaysia.
- **Account Verification:** Set up your profile and link your credit/debit card so you don't need to carry exact cash.
- **eSIM / Mobile Data:** Ensure your phone line has active mobile data upon arrival in Malaysia to book rides on the go.

Step 2: Key Drop-off & Pick-up Locations

When setting your destination in the app, search using these exact location names:

- **Pulai Springs Resort:** Type Pulau Springs Resort (Select Lobby / Main Entrance).
- **UTM Main Entrance / Venue:** Type UTM Johor Bahru followed by your specific venue:
 - Sultan Ibrahim Chancellery Building: Type Dewan Sultan Iskandar UTM or Canselori UTM.

Step 3: Booking Your Ride

1. Open the app and tap Transport / Car.
2. Set your Pick-up point and Drop-off destination.
3. Select **JustGrab** (standard passenger car) or **GrabCar** 6-Seater (if traveling with a group of up to 5-6 delegates).
4. Tap Book Grab to match with a driver. You will see the driver's license plate, vehicle model, and live location on the map.



Pro-Tips for delegates using Grab E-Hailing



Factor in Peak-Hour Traffic

Morning peak hours in Johor Bahru run from **7:30 AM to 9:00 AM**. Drivers may take 5–10 minutes longer to arrive. Please book your ride **at least 30–45 minutes before** the scheduled meeting time.

- **Average Fares:** Fares within the Skudai/Pulai area range between **MYR 8 to MYR 20** depending on distance and demand pricing.
- **Cashless Convenience:** Fares are fixed prior to booking and auto-deducted from your card, eliminating the need to negotiate prices.
- **In-App Chat:** Use Grab's built-in translation chat to communicate with drivers if you do not speak Malay. You can also send them photos of your exact pickup point.

The Dining Experience & Food Culture

Johor is a food lover's paradise, famous for its distinct culinary identity. Because this is a community engagement trip, **food is a fantastic bridge to the locals.**



Laksa Johor

Unlike other Malaysian laksas, this version uses **spaghetti noodles** drowned in a thick, rich fish paste gravy. Traditionally eaten using your bare right hand!



Kacang Pool

A thick, savory stew of fava beans, minced meat, and spices, topped with a fried egg and raw onions. Eaten by dipping thick, toasted local bread into the bowl.



Mee Rebus Johor

Yellow noodles served in a **sweet, spicy, sweet-potato-based gravy**. A beloved Johor classic that perfectly balances bold flavors.



Halal Food is the Norm

Most local Malay and general commercial establishments are certified Halal or Muslim-owned. Delegates can dine with confidence at local eateries.



Water Safety

Do **not** drink tap water directly. Stick to bottled or filtered water, which will be provided throughout the program.

Cultural Insights, Do's & Don'ts

Malaysian society is a beautiful blend of Malay, Chinese, Indian, and Indigenous cultures. Johor also holds deep pride in its royal heritage (**Bangsa Johor**).



Dress Appropriately

Wear modest clothing for community engagement work. Ensure shoulders and knees are covered, especially when visiting community centers, kampungs, or religious sites.



Remove Your Shoes

Always take off your shoes before entering a Malaysian home, community hall, or mosque. Look for a pile of shoes at the entrance as your cue.



Use Your Right Hand

When passing items, shaking hands, or eating, always use your right hand. The left hand is traditionally associated with personal hygiene.



The "Malaysian Handshake"

A traditional greeting (Salam) involves lightly touching both hands together, then bringing your right hand to your chest. Only initiate with the same gender unless they extend their hand first.

Practical Essentials



✓ **You're all set!** Keep this handbook handy throughout your stay in Johor Bahru. The organizing team at UTM wishes you a safe, enriching, and memorable experience. *Selamat Datang ke Malaysia!*

Item	Details
 Currency	Malaysian Ringgit (MYR). Cash is still king in smaller local stalls, though cashless options like Touch 'n Go eWallet or credit cards are ubiquitous in malls.
 Weather	Hot and humid (28°C to 33°C), with sudden tropical afternoon downpours. Pack an umbrella or light poncho for field activities.
 Power Plug	Type G (three rectangular pins, UK standard). 230V, 50Hz.
 Emergency	Dial 999 for Police, Ambulance, or Fire Department.

Contact Details

Please do not hesitate to contact the persons in charge (PIC) if you have any questions. Below are the contact details:

Arrival and Registration

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