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# FRIM seeks world heritage listing

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) is vying to list its forest as a United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) World Heritage site.

It's director-general, Datuk Dr Abd Latif Mohmod, said the Selangor government would be submitting a report seeking the Unesco declaration on the forest reserve alongside the Klang Gates Ridge in the next few years.

"If all goes well, they should be submitting an application in 2017," he told the *New Straits Times* yesterday.

It is learnt that the state recently told FRIM to hold its own application so both parties could make the application together. Latif said to be listed as a world heritage site, the proposed area must have Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).

The institute is conducting a

study on the significance of the 86-year-old forest covering nearly 550ha, making it the oldest and largest tropical forest reserves in the world. There are rare and experimental plants growing in the area, as well as an arboretum and reforested plots of land.

The leading forestry research institute in the region had also embarked on a digital forest initiative to map out its tree species.

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**Datuk Dr Abd Latif Mohmod**  
FRIM  
director-general

Latif hoped the conferment of the status would end efforts to develop or encroach into the facility. FRIM staff had petitioned against a proposed highway project which they claimed would cut through the forest reserve.