

3.0 OBJECTIVE

The objective of this project is to apply molecular techniques to the taxonomic study of *Sargassum binderi* and *S. oligocystum*. The specific objectives of the work are:

- i) to optimise DNA extraction methods for *S. oligocystum* and *S. binderi* collected from intertidal coral reef flat bed at Cape Rachado and Teluk Kemang, Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan.
- ii) to evaluate the use of RAPD in the molecular characterisation of *S. oligocystum* and *S. binderi*.
- iii) to correlate data from DNA analysis with morphological characteristics in order to produce a clearer and better defined taxonomic relationship between the two *Sargassum* species.