



Permanent Mission of

Malaysia

to the United Nations



STATEMENT BY

**H.E. AMBASSADOR RASTAM MOHD ISA
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND
CHAIRMAN OF THE COORDINATING BUREAU
OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT**

ON BEHALF OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT

**AT THE 85TH PLENARY MEETING OF
THE 59TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**ON AGENDA ITEMS 45 AND 55:
INTEGRATED AND COORDINATED IMPLEMENTATION
OF AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE OUTCOMES OF THE MAJOR
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS IN
THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND RELATED FIELDS;
FOLLOW-UP TO THE OUTCOME OF THE MILLENNIUM SUMMIT;
REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ENTITLED
“IN LARGER FREEDOM: TOWARDS SECURITY, DEVELOPMENT
AND HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL” (A/59/2005)**

**NEW YORK
WEDNESDAY, 6 APRIL 2005**

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Mr. President,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Member Countries of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

2. At the outset, NAM expresses its sincere appreciation to you for continuing this process of consultations with the Member States of the United Nations in keeping with the roadmap that you have outlined for us. The Member Countries of NAM wish to go on record to also express their sincere appreciation to you for beginning consultations on the Report of the Secretary-General entitled "In larger freedom: towards security, development and human rights for all" two weeks upon its publication. NAM reiterates its pledge of full cooperation and support to you as you continue to lead us in the process of preparing for the High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly in September 2005.

3. The Non-Aligned Movement supports the approach that you, Mr. President, have suggested through your letter dated the 24th of March 2005. NAM remains committed to continuing to work actively, constructively and closely with you, in accordance with your plans, as well as with the Facilitators that you have appointed for the substantive phase of the preparatory process for the High-Level Plenary Meeting. NAM welcomes your approach and commitment towards ensuring that the preparatory process would remain inclusive, open-ended and transparent. We hope that this approach will be maintained until September under your skilful, wise and able guidance. We look forward to your ideas on the negotiations that might ensue in this inter-governmental preparatory process.

Mr. President,

4. The Non-Aligned Movement recalls operative paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 58/291 of 6 May 2004 and preambular paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 59/145 of 17 December 2004. These have set out the objective of the High-Level Plenary Meeting. We are all aware that a comprehensive review would be undertaken in September of the progress made in the fulfilment of all the commitments contained in the Millennium Declaration, and of the progress made in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes and commitments of the major UN conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields. The Report of the Secretary-General is now before us in document A/59/2005. The Report should provide an important input for the comprehensive review together with other inputs, including from Member States.

5. The Non-Aligned Movement would like to thank and compliment the Secretary-General for discharging the mandate given to him in General Assembly resolution 58/291 to prepare the Report and for presenting it to Member States in good time. The Member Countries of NAM are studying this important Report with great interest as well as a sense of common responsibility. The fact remains that we only have five months left to finalize the preparations on the outcome of the High-Level Plenary Meeting. We believe that some of those recommendations made by the Secretary-General will require time and careful consideration before they can be implemented. Member States will no doubt take into consideration the Secretary-General's point about the need to act in September. NAM Member Countries will give their full cooperation towards achieving a successful outcome at the High-Level Plenary Meeting.

6. The Non-Aligned Movement has taken note of the assessment made by the Secretary-General in paragraph seven of his Report that "new circumstances demand that we revitalize our consensus on key challenges and priorities and convert that consensus into collective action".

However, NAM maintains its position that the questions of development and social advancement should remain the centrepiece of the deliberations at the United Nations. In this context, NAM stresses that the outcome of the High-Level Plenary Meeting should provide a proper balance on all questions, in particular the balance between questions relating to development and social advancement and the questions relating to peace and security, bearing fully in mind the mandate as adopted in General Assembly resolutions 58/291 and 59/145 as well as the need to review the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

Mr. President,

7. The Secretary-General has in his Report raised important questions and made many valuable and interesting observations and recommendations which would have far-reaching implications and ramifications. The Secretary-General, in presenting his Report to the General Assembly on the 21st of March 2005, has, *inter alia*, expressed his hope that the proposals contained therein will be adopted as a single package by Member States. In his view an approach to treat them as an *à la carte* menu and selecting those that Member States especially fancy will not work. The Secretary-General further mentioned that his proposals amount to a comprehensive strategy by giving equal weight and attention to the three principles of the Organization: development, security and human rights that must be underpinned by the rule of law. NAM has duly taken note of these comments by the Secretary-General. We welcome the subsequent clarification by the Deputy Secretary-General in briefings to regional groupings on the inter-connectedness of the issues raised by the Secretary-General in his Report and that a "single package" did not imply a take-it-or-leave-it proposition. NAM believes that it would be up to Member States to respond to the Secretary-General's Report and the recommendations contained therein with a view to achieving a balanced outcome. NAM also believes that it would be necessary to assess each recommendation according to its merit.

8. The Non-Aligned Movement recalls the statements delivered by the Movement at the Informal Meetings of the Plenary of the General Assembly on the 27th of January 2005 and the 22nd of February 2005. NAM affirms the continued validity of the comments and pronouncements concerning a number of key questions raised in the Report of the High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change that were made through those statements. NAM further affirms the continued relevance of the document containing important ideas and observations of NAM on the Report of the High-Level Panel that was submitted to you, Mr. President, and the Secretary-General on the 28th of February 2005. This present statement must be read in conjunction with those earlier statements and document which I have just mentioned.

9. The Non-Aligned Movement has noted that a number of observations and recommendations made by the High-Level Panel and the Millennium Project have been incorporated by the Secretary-General in his Report. However, the Report has not reflected to a significant extent the comments and views of the membership of this Organization, including NAM, on the Reports of the High-Level Panel and the Millennium Project despite the rich and stimulating debate during the Informal Meetings of the Plenary of the General Assembly in January and February 2005, which you, Mr. President, have very ably summarized and presented to the Secretary-General. The Member Countries of NAM, which represent almost two-thirds of the membership of this Organization, have noted that generally the ideas and observations submitted by NAM have not been taken into consideration in the Secretary-General's Report.

10. The Non-Aligned Movement fully understands that in preparing his Report the Secretary-General has drawn upon his eight years' experience as Secretary-General, on his own conscience and convictions, and on his understanding of the Charter of the United Nations. The Secretary-General has also said that the Report has been inspired by the Reports of the High-Level Panel and the Millennium Project. In this connection, NAM would like to reserve the right to table its position and comments on the questions raised by the Secretary-General. NAM intends to do so during the consideration of these questions under the four clusters which you have suggested in the following weeks and as we proceed towards the event in September. NAM also intends to submit to you detailed comments under these four clusters in due course. NAM, like others, would not be in a position today to present an in-depth response to or proposals on the Report of the Secretary-General. We believe that at this stage of the preparatory process it is important for us to continue to identify issues on which Member States think they can find common ground. We believe that we should do so by, *inter alia*, striving to maintain the consensus achieved previously, not least at the Millennium Summit five years ago; maintaining the inviolability of the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and principles of international law; upholding the Millennium Declaration and abiding by the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, Security Council and ECOSOC, which should serve as important underpinnings.

11. The Non-Aligned Movement maintains its preparedness to share its position, comments and ideas concerning what we envisage should be the outcome of the High-Level Plenary Meeting with other delegations. We would be prepared to subsequently engage our partners and interlocutors in dialogue and discussion to further enrich our understanding of the questions at hand with a view to achieving a positive and constructive outcome.

12. Indeed, Mr. President, we agree with you that UN Member States shoulder a heavy and collective responsibility to ensure a genuinely meaningful and successful outcome of the High-Level Plenary Meeting. Rest assured that NAM would play its part in this connection. We want to be as constructive as possible, bearing in mind our commitment to the principles and purposes embodied in the UN Charter and our interests, concerns and priorities based on our adherence to the fundamental principles, purposes and goals of the Movement.

13. The Non-Aligned Movement considers that the remaining five months leading up to the High-Level Plenary Meeting will be a critical one for all Member States of this Organization. We envisage that our leaders would be taking bold decisions on fundamental questions confronting the UN and the international community. Those decisions could entail wide-ranging and far-reaching implications in many aspects, in particular in the way we conduct our affairs here at the UN and in the relations amongst States. In this connection, NAM emphasises that any new measures concerning the UN and its reform should be decided by the UN Member States themselves.

14. Finally, Mr. President, we must recognize that reform of the UN is an ongoing process and UN Member States are the major stakeholders in this endeavour. While we should aim for our leaders to being able to collectively make major decisions in September, we have to expect the process of transforming the UN into an organization able to meet the threats and challenges of the 21st century to continue thereafter.

I thank you, Mr. President.