



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 INFORMAL MEETING OF
THE PLENARY OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
NEW YORK
TUESDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2005**

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Mr. President,

I have the honour to speak on behalf 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 UN in keeping with the roadmap that you have outlined for us. 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. NAM supports the approach that you, Mr. President, have suggested through your letter dated the 16th of February 2005 as we continue our journey in this process.

3. NAM certainly looks forward to work actively, constructively and closely with you, in accordance with your plans, as well as with 18 of our distinguished colleagues, namely: the ten facilitators that you have appointed for the substantive phase of the preparatory process for the High-Level Plenary Meeting; the two Vice-chairpersons of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters related to the Security Council; the five facilitators that you have appointed for the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly; as well as with the facilitator that you have appointed for the High-level Dialogue for Financing for Development.

4. The Non-Aligned Movement shares your assessment, Mr. President, that we will have limited time at our disposal to complete our work as we embark upon the second phase of the preparatory process soon. Indeed, we are facing a formidable task ahead of us as we prepare our leaders for the High-Level Plenary Meeting. NAM recalls operative paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 58/291 of 17 May 2004 and preambular paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 59/145 of 13 January 2005 which have set out the objective of the High-Level Plenary Meeting to undertake a comprehensive review 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. This comprehensive review on the progress in the two aspects is to be based on the comprehensive report to be submitted by the Secretary-General. 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.

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

6. The Non-Aligned Movement recalls the statement delivered by its Chairman of the Coordinating Bureau at the 4th Informal Meeting of the Plenary of the General Assembly on the 27th of January 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 that statement. The Member Countries of NAM associate themselves with the statement that will be delivered shortly by the Chairman of the Group of Seventy-seven and China concerning the Millennium Project Report.

7. The Member Countries of NAM, as with the rest of the Member States of this Organization, have been engaged in intensive and extensive consultations concerning the Report of the High-Level Panel immediately upon its publication almost three months ago. We have keenly studied the observations and recommendations contained therein with great interest, a sense of urgency and importance. I am pleased to inform you, Mr. President, that NAM has concluded its work on preparing its comments on most of the key questions raised in the Report of the High-Level Panel. NAM will be submitting shortly to you and the Secretary-General a position paper containing those comments. We hope that the comments coming from the Non-Aligned Movement which comprise 114 Member Countries, representing almost two-thirds of the membership of this Organization, would be given the due consideration they deserve by the Secretary-General as he prepares his comprehensive report due to be published in late March. NAM is also prepared to share its comments on the Report of the High-Level Panel with other delegations and to subsequently engage them in dialogue and discussion to further enrich our understanding of the questions at hand.

8. In conclusion, may I state that the Non-Aligned Movement considers that the remaining six months leading up to the High-Level Plenary Meeting in September 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 in the areas of development and social advancement as well as peace and security. 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.

I thank you, Mr. President.