



Permanent Mission of
Malaysia
to the United Nations

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**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR RADZI RAHMAN
ALTERNATE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AT THE
UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE**

ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

THURSDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2005

Mr. President,

1. Let me first join others in expressing our appreciation to you, and your delegation for convening this open debate of the Council on this important subject of Women, Peace and Security, especially in the context of the fifth anniversary of the adoption of resolution 1325 (2000) on women's participation in peace processes.

2. We would also like to thank the Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Peacekeeping Operation, Mr. Jean-Marie Guehenno for his remarks and also take this opportunity to thank Ms. Rachel Mayanja, the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, Ms. Noeleen Heyzer, the Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), Ms. Sweeta Noori, representative of the Women for Women International and Ms. Helene Dandi, representative of the Network of African Women for Peace for their important contributions.

Mr. President,

3. Resolution 1325 (2000) and the three subsequent presidential statements on women, peace and security constitute important landmarks and would provide practical framework for our action. This Council has clearly acknowledged the importance of bringing gender perspectives to the center of all United Nations efforts related to peace and security and has called for the appropriate actions under a number of thematic and cross-cutting areas. In this connection my delegation commends the efforts of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Women and Peace and Security, in partnership with Member States and non-governmental organizations in the preparation of the System-Wide Plan of Action that would offer greater

focus on enhanced collaboration for the full implementation of the resolution. In this regard, my delegation has taken note with interest the action plan annexed to the report of the Secretary-General as contained in document S/2005/636.

4. In the recent 2005 World Summit, the world's leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the full and effective implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). They underlined the importance of integrating a gender perspective and of women having the opportunity for equal participation and full involvement in all efforts to maintain and promote peace and security, as well as the need to increase their role in decision-making at all levels. We are disappointed that despite the adoption of Resolution 1325(2000) there seemed to be merely nominal increase, if at all, in the number of women participating in formal peace process. Women needs and concerns continued to be ignored in peace agreement and women organizations often not given the necessary support to enable them to influence lengthy peace negotiation. It is our hope that the adoption of the 2005 World Summit Document would provide new impetus leading to the actual realization of Security Council Resolution 1325(2000).

5. We call on all Member States, regional and sub-regional organizations and the United Nations system to enhance the role of women in decision-making with regard to all peace processes and post-conflict reconstruction and rebuilding of societies. In this regard, my delegation welcomes the various initiatives and actions undertaken by Member States, the United Nations entities, civil society organizations and other relevant actors focused on supporting and increasing the representation of women in peace negotiations and mainstreaming gender perspectives into peace agreements.

Mr. President,

6. While we share the concern on under-representation of women in formal peace processes we are equally alarmed on persistent obstacles and challenges posed to women resulting from situations such as violence against women, shattered economies and social structures, lack of rule of law, poverty, and limited access to education and resources. Malaysia believes that more need to be done in order to achieve greater participation and effective contribution of women at the negotiating table and the involvement of women in developing and implementing post-conflict strategies and programmes. In this regard, my delegation encourages the Secretary-General to maintain regular contacts with women organizations and networks, to utilize their knowledge, expertise and resources and to ensure their system-wide involvement in reconstruction processes, particularly at the decision-making level.

Mr. President,

7. We wish to express our abhorrence at the continuing victimization and violence against women and girls, especially in situations of armed conflict and the systemic use of abduction and rape by the parties to the conflict as an instrument of war. We would like States to take the necessary measures against all perpetrators of such acts in accordance with the principles of international law and domestic legislation as well as making provision for protection of women and girls in armed conflict. We wish to reaffirm the relevance of Chapter IV.E of the Beijing Platform of Action on Women and Armed Conflict.

Mr. President,

8. My delegation condemns in the strongest term, all acts of sexual misconduct by all categories of personnel in the United Nations Peacekeeping Missions. We welcomes the comprehensive report on sexual exploitation and abuse by the United Nations Peacekeeping Personnel as contained in document A59/710 and the report of the resumed session of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping (A/59/19/Add.1). In this connection, we join the Council in supporting the efforts of the United Nations to fully implement codes of conduct and disciplinary procedures to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation as well as to enhance monitoring and enforcement mechanisms. We are convinced that the strategies and actions included in the System-Wide Action Plan to fully implement the codes of conduct and disciplinary procedures may contribute to the reduction of the sexual exploitation and abuse.

9. Malaysia believes that the issue of women in relation to peace and security deserves the Security Council's sustained attention. It is our hope that the deliberation in this Council on the issue would contribute to the enhancement of women's roles on peace and security as well as ensuring the protection of women in situation of armed conflict. Other interlocutors within and outside the United Nations system could also serve as major and vital players to this endeavour and should be continuously engaged. Malaysia is committed to working with others who share the interest to advance this agenda and ensure the full mainstreaming of women in activities in the pursuit of securing peace and security.

Thank you, Mr. President