



Permanent Mission of
Malaysia
to the United Nations

**STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. HAMIDON ALI,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED
NATIONS AT THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE PLENARY ON
MANAGEMENT AND SECRETARIAT REFORM,
NEW YORK, FRIDAY, 9 DECEMBER 2005**

Mr. Chairmen,

My delegation would like to thank you for convening these consultations to enable Member States exchange views on the various issues on management and secretariat reform. My delegation fully associates itself with the statement of the G-77 and China. However, I wish to offer Malaysia's own perspectives on a number of issues concerning management and secretariat reform.

2. We welcome your intention to continue to engage Member States in the process of follow-up and implementation of paragraphs 161-167 of the Summit outcome document. We recognize and fully understand that it is not an easy task to capture and accommodate the diverse views of Member States on these issues. We trust that under your able leadership and guidance, this process will be conducted in a transparent, inclusive and open-ended manner.

3. The Summit Outcome Document has outlined various proposals on secretariat and management reform, with a view to improving the system of accountability, transparency and efficiency of the organization. We certainly look forward to receiving further details and clarification on the proposals in order to guide us in our deliberation towards a more desirable outcome.

4. Malaysia supports the objective of the Organization to achieve the highest levels of competence, integrity, ethical behaviour, efficiency, transparency and accountability to better serve the international community and restore the faith of the international community in the multilateral process. To achieve these objectives, our leaders at the World Summit had reaffirmed our commitment to the various reform initiatives on the whole UN system.

5. We thank the Secretariat for the report A/60/568 on the details of the Ethics Office, the oversight and auditing review and the Independent Audit Advisory Committee. We share the emphasis on the need for measures to further enhance the oversight and to strengthen the accountability framework of the Organisation. To achieve effective management of the Organization, we firmly believe that Member States should continue to be engaged in reform initiatives and also to be kept fully informed of all activities of management and oversight reform.

6. On the proposal to create the ethics office, we welcome the role of the office in administering the financial disclosure, whistle blower protection policies as well as providing advisory and standard setting capacity within the United Nations. We note that the UN has already in place various measures to strengthen accountability, ethical conduct and management performance. We fully recognize the central role of the office to serve as a focal point within the Secretariat for ethics issues. Therefore there is a need for the mandate of the office to take into account the existing measures and to further enhance and complement the existing rules, regulations, policies, procedures and practices. We firmly believe that procedures and mechanisms of the office such as reporting, training and education as well as advisory functions should be further

elaborated to ensure that it serve as an effective mechanism in coordinating ethics related initiatives and policies.

7. On the Independent Advisory Audit Committee (IAAC), we note that the intention to create this committee is to increase the effectiveness of the oversight function. At the same time, we also note that the creation of IAAC is subject to the review in the context of comprehensive review of governance arrangements. We also understand that an Oversight Committee is also being established. We wish to seek further understanding on the mandate of IAAC and Oversight Committee. This is of important to us in ensuring the mandates of these bodies are better defined, so as to avoid duplication of efforts and role with other oversight bodies.

8. Regarding the proposals on the review of mandates older than five years, one time staff buy-out, review of the human resource and budget rules and policies, we share the concerns and views of other delegations that these are complex proposals, which have far-reaching implications and require a considerable time for discussion and deliberation before implementing them. On the implementation aspect, we should remain realistic about the timeline, but at the same time to ensure that any outcome arising from these proposals later on would not be counter-productive to the work of the Organisation.

9. On the requirement to *“review mandates older than five years originating from resolutions of the General Assembly and other organs, which would be complementary to the existing periodic reviews of activities”*, we wish to reiterate our understanding that the requirement does not apply to those mandates and programmes relating to the Occupied Palestinian Territory and the Occupied Syrian Golan. This is in view of the fact that the mandates and programmes relating to these two questions are renewed annually by the General Assembly. We welcome the clarification of the Secretary General that the decision on these matters rest with the members of the General Assembly. We request the Secretary-General to take this position into account in his analysis and recommendations that he is preparing for the consideration of the General Assembly. We also look forward to a further exchange of views and information with the Secretariat, as well as to receiving further information and clarification in this regard.

10. We also commend the Secretary-General's efforts to further enhance the effective management and delivery system of the Organisation. Malaysia agrees on the need to provide the Secretary General with sufficient authority and flexibility in carrying out his managerial responsibilities and leadership under relevant regulations established or to be established by the General Assembly. At the same time, the Secretary General is also expected to provide Member States with a full system of accountability in the work of the Organization.

11. At this 60th session, we are confident that Member States would continue to make collective efforts and renew their commitments to enable the United Nations to be better organized, to be provided with the necessary resources and fully equipped to fulfill its mandate and responsibility in the fields of security, economic, social and humanitarian issues as well as in other areas. It is therefore important for us to conclude the biennial budget in a timely manner to ensure that all activities and programs of the Organisation would be carried out in the expected efficient and effective manner.

In conclusion, let me reiterate Malaysia's commitment to provide its fullest cooperation to you to ensure the success of our common endeavor.

Thank you.