



Permanent Mission of
Malaysia
to the United Nations

**STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. RADZI RAHMAN
ALTERNATE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS AT THE 14TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
NEW YORK, 11 May 2006**

Mr. Chairman,

Let me begin by congratulating you on your election as Chair of the 14th Session of the CSD and by aligning ourselves to the statement made by South Africa on behalf of G77 and China.

Mr. Chairman,

Malaysia has embarked on a National Mission, a policy and implementation framework that outlines the country's priorities in its quest of becoming a developed nation by 2020. The National Mission gives substantial focus to socio-economic development and to uplifting the quality of life of all Malaysians. For example, we have set a target of completely eliminating hardcore poverty and halving the incidence of poverty to less than three per cent by 2010.

In addition, Malaysia's National Environment Policy, launched in 2002, provides an impetus in addressing environmental issues in an integrated manner. Among others, these efforts resulted in our air quality remaining at good to moderate levels. With regard to electricity coverage, national electricity coverage has expanded from 80 per cent in 1990 to 93 per cent in 2005, with rural electricity coverage rising from 67 per cent in 1990 to 92 per cent in 2005.

Within this development context, Malaysia's policy focus in the energy sector is to ensure a secure, reliable and cost-effective supply of energy. Emphasis is being given to increasing the use of alternative fuels, particularly renewable energy, and by increasing energy efficiency. We have formulated a road map for the development of solar, hydrogen and fuel cells, and are actively promoting the development of biofuel from palm oil for the transportation sector.

Mr. Chairman,

We believe that national efforts are crucial in achieving the goals and Malaysia has invested considerable effort in enhancing sustainable development of its energy sector including establishing a COM institutional framework that gives priority to EE and RE projects. However, we also believe that these national initiatives have to be reinforced with additional resources, resources that the international community, in particular the developed partners have promised but not delivered, be it finance, technology or capacity building.

The Secretary General's report also did not project a promising picture. ODA still hovers at 0.3 per cent of GNI, developing countries continued to face difficulties to secure the required technologies and that affordability remains a challenge. It is our view that focus must be given to accelerating the development, dissemination and deployment of affordable and cleaner and more efficient energy use, in particular the transfer of related technologies to developing countries on favourable terms. Only then can we make substantial progress towards meeting the objectives of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and promote the achievement of Agenda 21 and the Millennium Development Goals.

Lastly Mr. Chairman, let me assure you that Malaysia stands ready to share its development experience with other developing countries through its Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme, in particular on human capital development, project-type cooperation and advisory services.

Thank you.