



Permanent Mission of
Malaysia
to the United Nations

STATEMENT BY MR. RAZIF MUBIN
REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA

ON AGENDA ITEM 53: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(a) IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 21, THE PROGRAMME FOR THE FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 21 AND THE OUTCOMES OF THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT;

(c) INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION;

(d) PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MANKIND;

(f) CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

AT THE SECOND COMMITTEE OF THE 60TH SESSION OF
THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK
TUESDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2006

Madam Chairperson,

Let me begin by expressing our utmost appreciation to the Secretary-General for all his reports submitted under this agenda item.

2. My delegation associates itself with the statement made by the Permanent Representative of South Africa on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Madam Chairperson,

3. We are pleased to note from the report of the Secretary-General that progress has been made in pursuing sustainable development over the past years. We also welcome his recommendations in the report that calls for Governments and organizations under the United Nations system and major groups to deepen their commitment to the implementation of Agenda 21 and of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI).

4. To continue with the momentum, my delegation agreed with the Secretary General that the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) should continue to function as the high-level body on sustainable development within the UN system, and serves as a forum for consideration of issues related to the implementation of the three pillars of sustainable development i.e. economic development, social development and environmental protection.

5. On our part, I wish to reiterate Malaysia's commitment to achieving the targets set out in the JPOI and Agenda 21 in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibility. Malaysia continues to take appropriate measures to ensure that its development is sustainable and balanced. The principles of sustainable development are in fact well integrated into our development policies and their implementation. We have also adopted a comprehensive approach, which takes into account the population's socio-economic needs as well as the enhancement of the quality of life through improvements in productivity and conservation of the natural environment.

Madam Chairperson,

6. With regard to the strategy for natural disaster reduction, we must recognize that majority of developing countries lack the capacity as well as the financial resources needed to minimize the impact of the disaster on the local population. We have witnessed that poorer countries often suffered most in term of casualties and destructions caused by natural disasters. Malaysia also urges relevant organizations of the United Nations to work

with better coordination with member states to ensure that international engagement in disaster management is sustained in the long term.

7. In addition to rehabilitation and reconstruction, Malaysia believes that close cooperation between countries in the region with relevant UN agencies and international organizations to further develop better early warning capacities is essential. This would ensure that communities are more resilient should disaster strikes. My delegation also feels that the bureaucratic methodologies, policy frameworks and government-to-government aid, are not adequate and sustainable to address the underlying problems. Poor nations need sustainable economic and social development that would enhance their resilience to cope with natural disasters.

Madam Chairperson,

8. The many natural calamities and disasters that we have witnessed in recent years clearly indicate that we need to pay serious attention to climatic change, in particular to global warming. We need to muster our collective political will to effectively implement what we have agreed upon and continue to find ways and means through international cooperation to prevent calamities. Changes in climatic conditions will, not only adversely impact human lives, health, food security and economic activities of many countries; but more importantly, it could even submerge many of the low-lying islands.

9. To mitigate the effect, Malaysia urges Annex 1 Parties to transfer their climate friendly technologies to the non-Annex 1 Parties as part of the measures in reducing GHG emission. With the availability of the climate friendly technology at affordable cost, non-Annex 1 Parties will be able to implement some of the mitigating measures in reduction of GHG emission. My delegation believes that with more positive and concrete efforts by Annex 1 Parties to implement various measures including Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects, the objective of the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol can be achieved in not too distant future. On our part, and in order to reduce carbon emission, we have taken measures, which include increase energy efficiency, reduction in burning of fuels, and increase usage of renewable energy.

Madam Chairperson,

10. The world is paying greater attention to the issue of biological diversity as the increasing exploitation biologically-diversed resources demands serious attention to be given to the issue of preservation and conservation of the environment. Malaysia believes international cooperation and collaboration is vital in assisting developing countries to fully explore the potentials of their biologically-diversed resources. In this connection, access to and the transfer of relevant technology and expertise especially from developed partners would be essential.

11. Malaysia is equally concerned with the issue of Bio-piracy since a large portion of the world's biodiversity resides in developing countries. We are of the view that an equitable solution should be developed among those with abundance biodiversity resources and those with the financial means, scientific knowledge and technological expertise, in order to maintain the integrity of the ecosystem. As a country blessed with dense tropical forest, Malaysia has taken steps to ensure its development strategies are carried out in a sustainable manner to protect the richness of its biological diversity.

12. We are also mindful of the need to ensure the involvement and participation of all members of our society. In particular, we recognize the role of local communities in the conservation, management and utilization of our biological diversity. We want to also ensure that these communities benefit from its development.

Madam Chairperson,

13. In conclusion, we must all agree that to continue benefiting from the resources that are found in our environment, we must act to conserve and maintain them. Sustainable development must be integrated in all our economic activities. By doing so, we will continue to benefit from the available resources of our common planet.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.