



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

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STATEMENT BY MR. SAIFUL AZAM ABDULLAH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL OPEN DEBATE ON “MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY: THE INTERDEPENDENCE BETWEEN SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT, 11 FEBRUARY 2011

Madam President,

I wish to align my delegation with the statement made by Egypt on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

2. Security and development, in the context of nation building and the maintenance of international peace and security, are two sides of the same coin. Nations cannot prosper without internal security and stability. A nation facing collapse of its national security, and subsequently its economy, becomes a threat not only to its people, but the region as a whole. The world has seen such tragedies in the past. We should not allow repetition of these tragedies.

3. Towards addressing the need for development, with security being the utmost prerequisite, the Security Council can play a vital role. Peace keeping missions mandated by the Security Council, in tandem with the Peace Building Commission and the other development agencies of the UN system, should be equipped with development components. While the peace keepers carry out their mandated peace keeping tasks, the Peace Building Commission, together with the other development agencies of the UN system, can work on projects and activities that generate employment and income. Such efforts, when successfully implemented, can help to sustain the peace and stability of the state.

4. Malaysia fully supports the role of the Peace Building Commission and the mandate provided to this important organ of the United Nations. No effort should be spared in enabling the Peace Building Commission to fulfill its mandated tasks. The Security Council, the General Assembly and the ECOSOC must work together, in a coherent way, to assist the PBC, and not impede it. The Peace Building Commission is the bridge that links security and development. This bridge must be reinforced in order to bring lasting and durable peace to nations emerging from conflict.

Madam President,

5. The world today is witness to internal strife faced by member nations, which is caused, mainly, by the rising price of food, high rate of unemployment among the youth, and poverty. The specter of high oil prices and sudden rise in the price of commodities, which

we witnessed in the summer of 2008, is back. The price of wheat has shot up by almost 80 percent in the past 6 months, while the price of rice has increased by almost 50 percent in the same period. These increases resulted in high inflation rates in many countries. The developing world, again, is facing the brunt of this jump in staple food prices. This rising cost of living impact heavily on the internal stability of the most vulnerable least developed and developing countries.

6. We are of the view that the Security Council can play a role through its **Horizon Scanning** consultations. In tandem with the PBC, ECOSOC, the World Bank, IMF, the FAO and other relevant agencies of the UN system, the Council can examine and analyze the prevailing scenarios, and come up with suggestions and proposals on ways for affected member states to tackle those sources of instability. Recent events in the Middle East show how a sudden rise in price of food, combined with widespread unemployment, can destabilize nations.

7. To conclude, Malaysia strongly believes that political stability is of *sine qua non* to achieving economic development and prosperity. Stable and prosperous nations can bring about regional and global peace. The Security Council can play a major role in this regard.

I thank you, Madam President.