



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

(Please check against delivery)

**STATEMENT BY
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PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ON SAFETY AND SECURITY OF PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS
AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL
MONDAY, 3 JUNE 2013**

Mr Chairman,

Malaysia supports the central role of the UN in the maintenance of international peace and security as well as the promotion of a more equitable international political and economic order. Malaysia is of the view that the UN, and the UN Security Council in particular, must continue to shoulder the responsibilities in the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the principles and purposes enshrined in the Charter of the UN and the relevant international laws.

The challenges faced by the peacekeepers in missions have evolved from the traditional concept of peacekeeping work towards a more robust peacekeeping approach. Peacekeepers are facing bigger challenges in confronting asymmetric threats which is not in their favour. The recent incidents of attacks on UN peacekeepers, as well as kidnapping and detention of the blue helmet personnel in some mission areas, are disturbing. Peacekeepers today, hence, are faced with more dangerous challenges and we have to seriously ponder on how we are going to face these challenges.

Looking at the current trend and in order to ensure the effective implementation of the Security Council's mandates, Malaysia is of the view that DPKO must undertake studies and prepare a report on how best to ensure the safety and security of UN personnel on missions. This study should be incorporated into the study that is currently undertaken on Military Capability Studies. A case in point is the deployment of the Intervention Brigade in MONUSCO where the robust peacekeeping actions are taken, aimed to neutralise the armed groups in the Kivus. We worry that these robust actions may create a war within a war, involving UN peacekeepers. To avoid these possibilities, the UN should go back into the basic role of peacekeeping and not get embroiled in local conflicts, as by doing so, we lose our legitimacy as a neutral organization.

Although we have our reservations on the Intervention Brigade and the extend of robust peacekeeping, we wish to reaffirm our commitment to continuously support various UN efforts and measures to strengthen and improve the safety and security of all UN personnel.

Mr. Chairman,

As a member-state that supports the peacekeeping work of the UN, Malaysia reaffirms its commitment on the continuous efforts for a transparent triangular cooperation between the UN Security Council, the Secretariat and the troop and police contributing countries to further foster the spirit of partnership, cooperation and confidence. We are now in interesting times where peacekeeping efforts are concerned. While wanting our role to evolve with the new challenges that we face, we should not forget that we, the UN, are guardians of international peace and security, and not party to conflicts worldwide.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.