



MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



CANDIDATE
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SECURITY COUNCIL
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**STATEMENT BY
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PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL OPEN DEBATE ON THE
WORKING METHODS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
NEW YORK, 29 OCTOBER 2013**

Mr. President,

I wish to commend the Azerbaijan Presidency on its initiative in convening today's meeting on the working methods of the Security Council. Malaysia would also like to express its appreciation to Ambassador Maria Cristina Perceval, Chairperson of the Informal Working Group on Documents and Other Procedural Questions (IWGDP) for her invaluable work. Today's meeting-the sixth open debate convened by the Council on this issue reflects the importance the Council attaches to the issue of improving its working methods. This debate comes at a time when the world is witnessing the deterioration of several crisis in various part of the globe, particularly the situation in the Middle East. Malaysia also wishes to align itself with the statement delivered by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

2. The debate on this pertinent issue held last year was very useful, with many relevant input by Council members and non-members alike, focusing on ways to enhance transparency, efficiency and interaction of the Council with the wider membership. Malaysia is a strong supporter of initiatives aimed at improving the working methods and takes note of the various proposals including those proposed in recent years by the group of five small countries or better known as 'S5'. Additionally, Malaysia also follows with interest another initiative by a cross-regional group known as the Accountability, Coherence, and Transparency Group (ACT) launched in May 2013 in the UN comprising of 22 countries. ACT endeavours to improve the working methods by advocating and promoting efforts to increase the participation of non-members of the Council to enhance its accountability to the UN membership, and increase transparency of its work.

3. In this context, Malaysia welcomes the Note by the President of the Security Council S/2010/507 which remains as a landmark document aimed at developing and improving the Council's work. Malaysia acknowledges that the Council's working methods have evolved continuously. The most recent Note on working methods was published on 28 August 2013 namely S/2013/515 and focused on ways to improve the

Council's dialogue with non-Council members and bodies. The document continues a series of commitments on the part of the Council including among others making more effective use of public meetings, expanding consultation and cooperation with regional and subregional organisations, provide opportunities to hear the views of the broader membership on the working methods of the Council including in open debates, maintaining regular communication with the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) and country specific configurations, convening wrap-up sessions and informal briefings, as well as to improve consultations with troop contributing countries (TCCs) and police contributing countries.

4. One critical issue that has marked much of the working methods discourse between the Council and the membership at large is the debate surrounding Article 30 of the UN Charter. Article 30 stipulates that the Council shall adopt its rules of procedure. On the other hand, Article 10 of the UN Charter states that the General Assembly may make recommendations to the Council on its powers and functions. Key to resolving this debate is whether all members are willing to ease this tension and work together towards improving the effective functioning of the Council. Members must be prepared to move away from their entrenched national interest to allow the issue to progress and make the Council an organ that serves the wider membership.

5. In taking steps to increase transparency and to improve the efficiency of its working methods, the Council must also address the shortcomings voiced out by the non-Council members. Among the important issues that the non-Council members had raised in the past include early distribution of draft Council documents to non-members, encouraging the Council to convene more public meetings and increasing the frequency and types of formats used for informal interactions with non-members.

Mr. President,

6. Malaysia appreciates the practical measures taken by the Council to provide frequent dialogues and exchanges between the Council members and non-members. In this regard, we welcome the holding of Arria Formula meetings as a means to ensure closer interaction with non-Council members and regional and subregional organisations. We also commend the Council for the continued briefings and consultations with the TCCs. The Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations should get the TCCs' involvement more frequently in its deliberations through timely and regular interaction. The Council's request in Resolution 2076 (2012) that the Secretary-General consult with TCCs to the UN Organisation Stabilisation Mission in Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO) is a clear example to illustrate the benefits of consulting TCCs.

7. Malaysia is of the view that given the linkages between peacekeeping and peacebuilding, the Council has benefited tremendously from its increased interaction with the PBC. Due to the advisory nature of the role of the PBC, its views should be duly considered when the mandates of the peacekeeping are being deliberated.

Mr. President,

8. The issue of the use of veto is equally important. It has led us into the deadlock as how the international community should address and resolve conflicts in the different regions, particularly in the Middle East. The fact remains that the veto is a double edge sword. Permanent members of the Council have realized that the veto on many occasions, is being used against them by other permanent members. Malaysia wishes to reiterate again that the use of veto should not be allowed in situations involving genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. If the permanent members can come to an agreement on this, the working methods of the Council can be improved considerably. However, if consensus agreement on this is too remote, then the working methods of the Council are still the one of 1946.

9. In concluding, Malaysia believes that more measures are needed, accompanied with the necessary political will on the part of member states, particularly the permanent members of the Council, to improve the working methods of the Council. It is incumbent upon all of us to put aside our individual political agendas and work for practical changes that are attainable. The reform of working methods is part of a larger comprehensive reform. What is required is a structural reform of the Council – a reform that makes it more representative of the UN membership, thereby ensuring greater effectiveness and legitimacy in its work.

I thank you Mr. President.