



# MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**CANDIDATE**  
to the  
**UNITED NATIONS**  
**SECURITY COUNCIL**  
for the term 2015-2016

*(Please check against delivery)*

**STATEMENT BY  
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PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL OPEN DEBATE ON  
“SECURITY SECTOR REFORM: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES”  
NEW YORK, 28 APRIL 2014**

Madam President,

First and foremost, I wish to commend you for convening this important meeting on “Security Sector Reform: Challenges and Opportunities”. I wish to also thank you for preparing the concept note which forms the basis of today’s debate.

2. Malaysia would like to associate itself with the statement delivered by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

3. My delegation takes note of the Secretary General’s report as contained in document S/2013/480 on Strengthening the United Nations Comprehensive Support to Security Sector Reform. The report highlights the on-going work, as well as recommendations on how to strengthen the work of the United Nations in supporting security sector reform (SSR).

4. My delegation wishes to also commend the efforts and important progress made by the United Nations in SSR over the years, particularly in implementing the recommendations in the report of January 2008 entitled “Securing Peace and Development: the Role of the United Nations in Supporting Security Sector Reform.” Indeed, we have seen much progress and improvement in the area of SSR. This notwithstanding, the rapid changes in the complexity of today’s conflict necessitates continuous reviewing and enhancement on how the United Nations could support SSR.

Madam President,

5. My delegation would like to reaffirm that SSR must be premised on the principle of national ownership. This principle is fundamental and must not be overlooked. Only through a process of dialogue, reconciliation and consultation would SSR succeed. This is important as the views, sentiments and sensitivities of the people should not be replaced by an approach that negates the legitimacy of local stakeholders.

6. In this regard, Malaysia concurs with the recommendations contained in the Secretary General's report that national ownership of SSR processes must be inclusive, so as to increase the confidence in and legitimacy of security institutions. It is essential for SSR to be led by legitimate authorities of the respective Member States, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, including all levels of government, security sector institutions, civil society, as well as other non-State actors. Apart from lending credibility to the SSR process, involvement of national stakeholders in negotiations on SSR would also play a pivotal role in ensuring related SSR provisions are better tailored to respond to specific national circumstances and challenges.

Madam President,

7. While the importance of national ownership reigns above all, Malaysia is all too aware that SSR would require financial resources. We have seen such initiatives on SSR under the Peacebuilding Commission. In this regard, the training of personnel, the development of skills, the formulation of legal framework and the building of national security infrastructure require substantial funding. Thus, sufficient funding must be made available to ensure SSR succeeds.

8. These externally funded SSR processes often risk undermining sustainability and neglecting national ownership. The Security Council could do its part in this regard by engaging national authorities in formulating the appropriate Security Council mandates, which would be tailored and better suited to national circumstances.

Madam President,

9. Experience has shown that having sufficient funding alone may be half the solution. Capacity and expertise are also important aspects that would contribute to SSR. Countries which are emerging from conflict could learn from the experience of successful ones. Such partnership through South-South Cooperation in identifying civilian experts would be beneficial when developing a system wide SSR. We feel that Member States should seriously consider developing links in identifying civilian capacities in support of SSR and institution building.

10. Considering the amount of work and resources that has, and will continue to be channeled to SSR processes, the Security Council should also place appropriate emphasis on monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. While it is easier to measure quantitative output, qualitative impact, more often than not, contributes more significantly to addressing inherent social issues and contributing to the long-term development of SSR processes. In this regard, Malaysia supports the call for the United Nations to enhance its monitoring and evaluation capacities. Again, monitoring and evaluation priorities and mechanisms must be drawn up according to the different circumstances and complexities faced by the respective countries undergoing reform.

Madam President,

11. Turning to prioritization on SSR, Malaysia is of the view that planning should be undertaken early when peacekeeping missions are formulated. Experience has shown that countries which are in transition require continued engagement even after the initial stage of stabilization. In this connection, my delegation would call for better coordination between the Special Representative of the Secretary General, Force Commanders and respective UN agencies when developing a comprehensive approach on SSR.

12. To conclude, my delegation welcomes the Security Council Resolution on SSR initiated by Nigeria. The resolution is indeed timely, considering the increasing significance and immense contribution of SSR to the work of the United Nations in peacekeeping, peacebuilding and conflict prevention. Malaysia is certain that the resolution would reaffirm the United Nations' commitment towards a comprehensive approach in supporting SSR processes.

I thank you, Madam President.