



MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



CANDIDATE
to the
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SECURITY COUNCIL
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**STATEMENT BY
H.E. AMBASSADOR HUSSEIN HANIFF
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AT THE OPEN DEBATE ON THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY
OF RESOLUTION 1540 (2004)
AT THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL
NEW YORK, 7 MAY 2014**

Mr. President,

1. Allow me to join the others in welcoming Your Excellency Yun Byung-Se, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, to New York. I would also take this opportunity to convey my congratulations to you and the Republic of Korea, on assuming the Presidency of the Security Council for this month.

2. My delegation wishes to thank you for convening this timely open debate in the Security Council to commemorate the tenth anniversary of Resolution 1540 (2004), as well as for the useful concept note to guide us in our deliberations today. I also wish to express my delegation's appreciation to Deputy-Secretary-General Jan Eliasson for his earlier briefing.

Mr. President,

3. The adoption of Resolution 1540 is in many ways a milestone for the Security Council. Ten years ago, the Council committed itself to combating proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery. By invoking Chapter VII powers, the resolution sent a strong political message that there was an urgent need to address this matter, and at the same time reaffirmed that there were legal obligations for States to uphold.

4. My delegation recalls that the sponsors of the draft resolution took the initiative to conduct informal consultations with the larger membership, in the course of finalising the text. As the-then Chair of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), Malaysia also conveyed the views and concerns of NAM member countries, underlining our collective support for international non-proliferation efforts. Ten years on, we have since moved forward, and it is indeed timely to take stock of the current state of play, and to forge a common understanding on the way forward.

Mr. President,

5. Malaysia is strategically located in one of the most important and busiest international shipping routes and our reliance on international trade necessitated a robust and clearly-defined approach to the implementation of resolution 1540. In 2010, we enacted

the Strategic Trade Act, in line with our commitments to ensure that Malaysia is a safe and secure trading partner, while at the same time shouldering our responsibilities in countering proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The legislation was also intended to protect Malaysian exporters from being exploited by proliferators and those that profit from their activities, without compromising legitimate trade in strategic items.

6. In the control and monitoring of export, bringing in-transit, trans-shipment and brokering of strategic items, the Strategic Trade Act specifically addresses major concerns related to global trade. This includes re-exports, munitions transshipment, and transshipment of dual-use controlled items to an end-user in or acting on behalf of destinations of proliferation concern. In order to ensure effective implementation across the board, outreach programmes were held with the business community and government enforcement agencies. This had resulted in an increased awareness of the obligations under the Act, as well as higher levels of compliance from the private sector.

Mr. President,

7. We realise that non-proliferation is a global concern that requires a global response. Therefore, Malaysia had also undertaken initiatives at the regional and sub-regional levels to complement and strengthen existing national efforts. Last year alone Malaysia hosted outreach events and capacity-building workshops, focusing on related topics ranging from establishing a bio-risk culture, implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention, and facilitating secure trade in the Asia Pacific.

8. I wish to also note that Malaysia has officially offered assistance through the 1540 Committee to other member States. We will consider such requests in the areas of legal and regulatory infrastructure, implementation and resources for fulfilling the provisions of the resolution. In this regard, my delegation wishes to suggest that Council members work with assistance providers within the larger membership to enhance the matchmaking mechanism under this resolution, in order to ensure that this assistance will be more effective.

9. Malaysia is a participant in the Nuclear Security Summit (NSS), and more recently the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI). We recognise that each approach has its own benefits and drawbacks. We have also observed that international non-proliferation efforts do not exist in a vacuum, and indeed one of the objectives of resolution 1540 is to bridge the gaps between the various measures. As such, my delegation is of the view that the 1540 Committee can play a useful role in coordinating its work with other multilateral non-proliferation initiatives. This is particularly important due to the resources needed for full and proper implementation in the cases of developing States.

Mr. President,

10. In conclusion, let me once again underline Malaysia's strong commitment to ensure that weapons of mass destruction do not fall into the hands of non-state actors. We will continue to undertake efforts at the national, regional, and international level towards this end. In this regard, we reiterate our support for the work of the Security Council on non-proliferation. We hope that the Council will continue to take into consideration the views of countries in the global supply chain as well as other developing countries on this important matter.

Thank you, Mr. President.