



# MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



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

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**STATEMENT BY  
THE HONOURABLE MR. ANIFAH AMAN,  
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF MALAYSIA**

**AT THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING  
ON THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY CAUSED  
BY TERRORIST ACTS: FOREIGN TERRORIST FIGHTERS**

**24 SEPTEMBER 2014, NEW YORK**

Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for convening this meeting and for the opportunity to address the Council. I wish to also express appreciation to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for his comprehensive briefing.

2. Malaysia welcomes today's meeting which aims to tackle head on the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters.
3. I wish to reiterate Malaysia's strong and unequivocal condemnation of all acts, methods and practices by individuals and groups that employ terror to coerce and strike fear in the hearts of others.
4. In line with our long-standing position against terrorism, we fully support Resolution 2178 adopted by the Council today, which Malaysia had co-sponsored.
5. We support the resolution's aims to strengthen and galvanise international action to combat terrorism in general, and the scourge of Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) in particular.

Mr. President,

6. Malaysia had in the past grappled with terrorism on its soil. At that time, terrorists stoked fear and hatred among the population in seeking to assert the claim that communism was superior to democracy and religion.

7. In countering such threat to national sovereignty, peace and stability, the Government responded by undertaking massive and broad based measures informed by the need to 'win the hearts and minds' of the people.

8. The Government's aims were simple: assure the population that they and their children and future generations will have a decent, secure life and a promising future and they will not join the ranks of the terrorists. In Malaysia's experience, such approach has worked.

9. My delegation believes that the hearts and minds approach must be fully considered in our common endeavour to combat the scourge of the FTFs.

Mr. President,

10. The growing FTF phenomenon suggests that ideologies rooted in violent extremism have and continue to spread around the globe.

11. In this regard, Malaysia is of the view that existing mechanisms under the UN framework including CTED (Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate), CTITF (Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force), the UNAOC (UN Alliance of Civilisations) and the relevant UNSC Sanctions Committees among others, could be further strengthened with a view to effectively address terrorism and violent extremism in all aspects.

12. In recent months, details have emerged concerning the possible participation of a small number of Malaysian nationals who have gone abroad and reportedly joined the so-called 'Islamic State' or IS in the mistaken belief that doing so would serve the cause of justice and jihad.

13. I wish to unequivocally stress that for Malaysia, there is nothing Islamic about kidnapping, raping, torturing and murdering civilians. We neither condone nor support the involvement of Malaysian nationals who commit terrorism or participate in conflicts abroad.

14. For its part, Malaysian Government authorities have designated IS as a terrorist organisation and will spare no effort to act against its members. We have also taken steps to review certain aspects of the legal and policy frameworks with a view to further strengthen national-level counter-terrorism capabilities.

Mr. President,

15. Malaysia strongly believes that terrorism needs to be addressed in a comprehensive manner and not necessarily through the use of force alone.

16. Countering terrorism effectively requires a multifaceted approach in addressing the underlying factors that support terrorism.

17. On this note, Malaysia believes that there is a serious need to look into the support mechanisms including funding and supply of weapons that sustain the FTFs.

18. Malaysia takes this opportunity to reiterate its call for greater cooperation and understanding among cultures, religions and civilizations. Some years ago, Malaysia had called for the establishment of a Global Movement of Moderates or GMM, aiming to drown out the voices of the extremists and their ilk.

19. In light of the threat posed by the FTF phenomenon and the need for a concerted and coordinated effort to counter it, Malaysia believes that it is imperative now, more than ever, for the GMM to be embraced by the international community.

I thank you, Mr. President.