



Permanent Mission of
Malaysia
to the United Nations

STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

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At the outset, my delegation would like to align ourselves with the statement that was delivered by Cuba on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement yesterday. My delegation was one of the many delegations that welcomed the introduction of this item during the last session as it provides the General Assembly the avenue to discuss the issue of the rule of law, which is the cornerstone of this Organization. The proposal was timely as current world events clearly demonstrate a strong need to re-emphasize and re-invigorate awareness, understanding and respect for the rule of law particularly at the international level.

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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

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STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE SHIM PAW FATT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 86: THE RULE OF LAW AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2007

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, my delegation would like to align ourselves with the statement that was delivered by Cuba on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement yesterday. My delegation was one of the many delegations that welcomed the introduction of this item during the last session as it provides the General Assembly the avenue to discuss the issue of the rule of law, which is the cornerstone of this Organization. The proposal was timely as current world events clearly demonstrate a strong need to re-emphasize and re-invigorate awareness, understanding and respect for the rule of law particularly at the international level.

2. Malaysia on its part steadfastly upholds and adheres to the rule of law in the administration of the national-level criminal justice system. Malaysia's criminal justice system is anchored on the Federal Constitution, Criminal Procedure Code, Evidence Act 1950 and other penal laws. Thus crime, prosecution and punishment thereof are based on duly enacted laws and transparent procedures which give effect to due process. Suffice to say that the rule of law is the guiding principle of the Malaysian criminal justice system.

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Mr. Chairman,

6. Now this brings us to the other question that is before us. By this I am referring to the Rule of Law Assistance Unit. We note the desire of several delegations of wanting to discuss it under this agenda item. We have all agreed to support the idea of the establishment of the Unit in the 2005 World Summit Outcome [paragraph 134 (e)]. We all see the benefit of having such a Unit within the Secretariat as the Unit would enhance coherence and coordination across the Organization and with non-United Nations actors as well as deepen the required capacity. It is our delegation's view that discussions of the establishment or formation of the Unit should take place in the plenary of the General Assembly and not here in the Sixth Committee. The issue of rule of law and the Unit is a cross cutting issue and as such is best dealt with in the plenary of the General Assembly. This is in line with our desire to revitalise the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policy making and representative organ of the United Nations.

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