



Permanent Mission of
Malaysia
to the United Nations

STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. HAMIDON ALI, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS TO INTRODUCE THE DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/C.1/64/L.51) ENTITLED “FOLLOW-UP TO THE ADVISORY OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE ON THE LEGALITY OF THE THREAT OR USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS” UNDER AGENDA ITEM: 96 (L) AT THE FIRST COMMITTEE OF THE 64TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEW YORK, 22 OCTOBER 2009

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, let me on behalf of my delegation express our appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report on “Follow-up to the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*” as contained in document A/64/139, submitted under agenda item 96 (l). We also extend our appreciation to those delegations that have submitted the information requested pursuant to resolution 63/49 (2008).

Mr. Chairman,

2. The Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality and Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons constitutes a significant milestone in international efforts aimed at achieving nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation by lending a powerful moral argument for the total elimination of such weapons. In no uncertain terms, the World Court declared that all Member States are obliged to “*pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control*”.

3. Given the multitude of complexities surrounding international disarmament negotiations at present, it is imperative that we muster the requisite political will and moral courage to achieving the goal of total elimination of nuclear weapons. In this regard, Malaysia has since 1997 tabled a resolution on the “Follow-up to the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*”. It is our honour to once again introduce to the Committee a draft resolution entitled “Follow-up to the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*.”, which appears as document L.51. With a view to achieving the broadest support possible, important decisions of the International Court of Justice have been retained in their existing form, specifically in Operative Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the draft resolution, accompanied by the necessary technical updates.

4. On a related note, my delegation is of the view that in supporting the draft resolution, Member States would also be reaffirming their continued commitment to the multilateral processes in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation and that such expressions of commitment would go a long way towards dispelling the notion that nuclear disarmament could best be achieved through unilateral or bilateral efforts alone.

Mr. Chairman,

5. The advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons remains a significant contribution in the field of nuclear disarmament and lends much weight to the moral argument calling for the total elimination of such weapons. Support for this resolution is a reaffirmation of our commitment to the multilateral process in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. We thank the co-sponsors of this draft resolution and we invite others to join in co-sponsoring it. We hope that the draft resolution will continue to receive the support of all Member States.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.