



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

STATEMENT BY MR. SAIFUL AZAM MARTINUS ABDULLAH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS TO INTRODUCE THE DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/C.1/65/L.50)¹ ENTITLED “FOLLOW-UP TO THE ADVISORY OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE ON THE *LEGALITY OF THE THREAT OR USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS*” SUBMITTED UNDER THE AGENDA ITEM: 97(cc) AT THE FIRST COMMITTEE OF THE 65TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEW YORK, 15 OCTOBER 2010

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/65/137, submitted under agenda item 97 (cc). We also extend our appreciation to those delegations that have submitted the information requested pursuant to resolution 64/55 of 2 December 2009.

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 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 towards 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*” and will continue to do so this year. 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 positive updates, which take into account the recent progress on the nuclear weapons convention and on the application of international humanitarian law to nuclear weapons, particularly the reference to the nuclear weapons convention and the international humanitarian law in the “*Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*” on nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which has been adopted by consensus at the Review Conference this year.

¹ to be issued

Mr. Chairman,

4. 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.