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STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR HUSSEIN HANIFF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

ON AGENDA ITEM 145: SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF EXPENSES UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

AT THE FIFTH COMMITTEE 67TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEW YORK, 9TH OCTOBER 2012

Mr. Chairman,

Since this is the first time I am speaking at the Fifth Committee, allow me to begin by congratulating you on your election as the Chairman of this Committee. Our congratulations also go to the other members of the Bureau. My delegation is confident that with your experience and leadership you will be able to steer the work of the Committee to a successful outcome.

2. I wish to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Chandru Ramanathan, Deputy Controller, Office of Programme Planning, Budgets and Account for the comprehensive briefing and introduction of the report of the Secretary-General, on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 55/235 and 55/236, contained in document A/67/224.

Mr. Chairman,

- 3. My delegation aligns itself with the statements made by the distinguished representative of Algeria on behalf of Group of 77 and China, and the distinguished representative of the Republic of the Philippines on behalf of ASEAN, on this agenda item.
- 4. Malaysia has always been a strong believer of the United Nations and its peace efforts, and that we have participated actively in several peacekeeping missions all over the world, since its inception. This is attested through Malaysia's longstanding commitment in which more than 20,000 troops had served in several United Nations missions, dating back to 1960. Towards this, Malaysia acknowledges the undeniable fact of peacekeeping operations becoming more complex, relevant and challenging in today's world. We also believe that all

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peacekeeping operations should be afforded with the necessary and required resources, in allowing the United Nations missions to carry out their activities effectively.

- 5. During this sixty-seventh session, the General Assembly is tasked to consider the reviewing of the methodology of the scale of assessments for the period 2013 2015. My delegation notes that determination of the corresponding rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations depend greatly on the adoption of a new scale of assessments for the regular budget. In light of this, we hope that this matter would be resolved accordingly, to maintain future sustainability of United Nations peacekeeping operations.
- 6. As enshrined in the Ministerial Declaration of the Group of 77 and China of 28 September 2012, the peacekeeping scale must clearly reflect the special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council in maintaining peace and security. My delegation is of the view that it would be incorrect for the permanent members to seek for shift of their rightful burden to developing countries. As such, no developing countries should be allotted to the same level of the developed countries on the basis of their per capita income and countries' capacity to pay.
- 7. In order to avoid any discriminatory practices in ascertaining the responsibility for the peacekeeping scale amongst the developing countries, a more comprehensive and definitive measures should be taken on board as called on by Member States.
- 8. My delegation remains concerned on the automatic application of the system of discounts under the current methodology, from Level C to Level B, would only impede the apportionment of the peacekeeping scale of assessments for several developing countries, including Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Thus, it is prudent for the current system to reflect a fair and just distribution of the levels of discounts amongst the developing countries, as well as the reassignment of all developing countries, be established according to their actual limitations and capacity to pay.

Mr. Chairman.

- 9. As stated in document A/67/224, according to effective rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations for 2013 2015, Malaysia's assessment rate may experience another increase, as previous years. In this regard, my delegation looks forward to the forthcoming negotiations on this item. Please be rest assured of Malaysia's continuous support in working towards achieving an outcome for the peacekeeping scale of assessments.
- 10. It is our hope that the deliberations of this item could be conducted in an open, inclusive and transparent manner within the Fifth Committee. In conclusion, I wish to express my delegation's full support in working with all Member States and the Secretariat, and we look forward to participate constructively in future discussion of this agenda item.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.