



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

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**Statement by Ambassador Hussein Haniff,
Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations,
at the Plenary Meeting of the 67th Session of the United Nations General Assembly,
on Agenda Item 85: Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency,
New York, 05 November 2012**

Mr. President,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Yukiya Amano, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), for his presentation of the annual report of the Agency, for the period of 1 January to 31 December 2011. Malaysia also wishes to commend the Director General for his commitment and stewardship of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

2. At this juncture, Malaysia wishes to welcome the Republic of Fiji, the Republic of San Marino and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago as new Member States of the Agency. The latest addition has resulted in a total of 155 countries becoming Member States of the Agency. This, in turn, has further strengthened and universalized the membership of the Agency, and has helped in enabling it to carry out its role and mandate in assisting in the development and practical application of atomic energy for peaceful uses, technology transfer to developing countries and on nuclear safety, verification and security. It is indeed pleasing to note that despite its limited resources, the Agency has not only managed to successfully carry out its work, but in fact, its work has expanded in recent years.

Mr. President,

3. As with other developing countries, Malaysia fully supports the peaceful use of nuclear power as a source of energy by member states. Currently, the Government of Malaysia is undertaking an in-depth study on developing a nuclear power programme, including on its legal and regulatory frameworks, in the country. The overarching objective of the study is to ensure that the highest standards of nuclear safety and security are observed at all times.

4. It is without a doubt that Malaysia has always viewed nuclear safety with utmost importance. This has resulted in the Fukushima Daiichi incident weighing heavily on Malaysia's mind before it embarks on a nuclear power programme for the country. There are certainly valuable lessons to be learnt. In this regard, Malaysia welcomes the formulation and implementation of the IAEA Action Plan on Nuclear Safety following the unprecedented Fukushima accident.

5. Malaysia also welcomes the report entitled '*Highlights of the Lessons Learned from the IAEA Integrated Regulatory Review Service in 2006-2010*', which was presented at the Third Workshop on Lessons Learned from IRRS Missions in October 2011. The report addresses areas that need improvement such as the governmental, legal and regulatory framework, certain areas of core regulatory practices, and the efficiency and effectiveness of the Missions themselves. It also provides recommendations on how countries can meet the Agency's safety requirements for national safety infrastructures.

6. Malaysia wishes to extend our support in enhancing nuclear safety and looks forward to participating in the Nuclear Safety Conference, which will be held in Fukushima later this year.

7. For our part and in response to the Agency's request, Malaysia hosted a number of events related to nuclear radiation, transport and waste safety. In light of the newly revised IAEA's Basic Safety Standard (BSS), Malaysia hosted a Regional Workshop on the IAEA General Safety Requirements in April 2012. We stand ready to assist in hosting similar events in the future as well.

Mr. President,

8. Malaysia has consistently put the issue of nuclear security as an inseparable component of nuclear energy. To this end, we have implemented various legal mechanisms and conventions including the Convention on Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM), and its 2005 Protocol, the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT), the Additional Protocol to the IAEA Safeguards Agreement, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), and the various IAEA Codes of Conduct.

9. Malaysia is appreciative of being given the opportunity to share its knowledge on nuclear security as well as its expertise with a few selected Member States. In this regard, Malaysia will host a Regional Workshop on Radioactive Source Security for Industrial Radiography with various donor Member States by the end of 2012. Malaysia also looks

forward to discuss the possibility of Malaysia being recognized as a Centre of Excellence for nuclear security training in the region and beyond.

Mr. President,

10. Malaysia continues to stress the importance of the Technical Cooperation Programme in promoting the peaceful use of nuclear technology. The extension of this programme should obviously be based upon the needs and request of Member States. On this, we believe that the programme should take into account the evolving requirements of Member States as well as the issue of funding.

11. During the last NPT Review Conference Preparatory Commission meeting, some State Parties had called for the Technical Cooperation programme to be supported by the regular budget instead of relying on the Technical Cooperation Fund (TCF). My delegation joins this call and we look forward to further discussions on the matter under the Working Group for Financing the Agency's activities.

12. Malaysia has indeed benefited from the Technical Cooperation Programme. At the same time, it has also contributed 'in-kind' to the programme. This is in addition to Malaysia providing training and sharing expertise with other Member States.

13. As for the new project cycle for the period of 2013-2014, my delegation hopes to work closely with the Agency to ensure that the projects under the Programme will be adequately funded. My delegation also appreciates the confidence that the Agency has in Malaysia continuing to host the Post Graduate Education Course (PGEC) in Radiation Protection, which we would execute to the best of our abilities.

Mr. President,

14. Malaysia accords high importance in the peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology in agriculture, biotechnology, industrial, environment and medical applications. In this context, Malaysia has always believed that Research and Development (R&D) and knowledge sharing are key to successful and sustainable development of nuclear technology in any Member State. Therefore, Malaysia attaches great importance to R&D activities under the Coordinated Research Activities (CRAs), which are an important avenue for multilateral cooperation and the sharing of knowledge among scientists and engineers across the globe.

15. On the issue of cancer treatment and research, Malaysia is committed to further upgrade its cancer detection, monitoring and treatment system. Malaysia recognizes and appreciates the role of the IAEA on nuclear techniques in this regard. As such, we have

decided to join the WHO-IAEA Joint Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT) by requesting an Integrated Mission for Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (IMPACT) mission to Malaysia. We wish to thank the Agency for acceding to our request.

Mr. President,

16. As a State Party to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), Malaysia will continue to play a constructive role in both the bilateral and multilateral cooperative arrangements in ensuring the security of nuclear materials. Malaysia commends the consensus reached in the Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference. We believe that efforts to convene a Conference on the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East in 2012 should be supported by all. The Conference will put an impetus in the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons in the Middle East, which will undoubtedly contribute to greater peace and security in the region. Malaysia welcomes the appointment of Mr. Jaako Laajava of Finland as Facilitator for the Conference and wishes him success in this regard.

Mr. President,

17. In conclusion, my delegation wishes to reaffirm Malaysia's commitment to continue its longstanding cooperation in the work of the Agency in fulfilling its mandate. Malaysia is confident that the Agency can play a greater role in responding to all the needs of its Member States in the future if it is provided with greater resources. Nevertheless, we wish to once again express our appreciation to the Director General of the IAEA, as well as to the IAEA secretariat for their significant and valuable work that has been carried out thus far. In this regard, Mr. President, Malaysia is pleased to co-sponsor the draft resolution on the Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the 67th Session of the General Assembly.

I thank you.