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Statement by Colonel Nazari Abd Hadi, Representative of Malaysia, on Agenda Item 54: Comprehensive Review of the Whole Question of Peacekeeping Operations in all its aspects, at the Fourth Committee of the 67th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, 08 November 2012

Mr Chairman,

Let me begin by expressing my appreciation to you, H.E. Ambassador Noel Messone and your committee for organizing this event today. It comes at the time when the United Nations is facing numerous challenges in its peacekeeping operations. Malaysia continues to maintain our firm belief in the United Nations central role in the maintenance of international peace and security and that the United Nations peacekeeping operations are an indispensable instrument that has contributed immensely to the resolutions of many armed conflicts both within and among states.

Malaysia, with a current total of 1265 Military and Police personnel serving in various capacities in 8 UN peacekeeping missions is supportive of the capability driven approach to peacekeeping as proposed under the New Horizon by the UN Secretariats, as well as the implementation of the Global Field Support Strategy to support the current and future peacekeeping operations. We are cognizant that of the fact the UN is currently involved in 16 missions involving more than 120,000 personnel supported by a budget in excess of \$7.5 billion.

Mr Chairman,

Over the years, the United Nations peacekeeping operation have expanded its role from traditional peacekeeping operations to a multi-dimensional role, from helping to build sustainable institutions of governance, to human rights monitoring, to security sector reform, to the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants. Peacekeeping is now seen as one of the core function of the United Nations and constitute a critical step towards achieving sustainable peace. We firmly believe that the United Nations peacekeeping operations are an indispensable instrument that has contributed immensely to the resolutions of many armed conflicts, both within and among states. Indeed, among the many roles performed by the United Nations, peacekeeping for all its imperfections, is an area which the United Nations could take pride in.

Mr Chairman,

We are very mindful of the heavy responsibility and expectation placed on the United Nations. We view this positively as it demonstrates the desire of the international community to do more to secure a durable and sustainable peace in countries affected by conflict, some of them longstanding. However, to match desire with outcome, it is critical for members of the United Nations to continue to provide firm and unwavering support for the UN peacekeeping works, especially in the area of personnel, financial and vital logistical resources to ensure the timely and successful implementation of peacekeeping operations.

We reaffirm our belief that economic and social progress would only be possible through maintenance of peace and stability and in this regard, peacekeeping operations play an important role in conflict affected countries. Peacekeepers are often said to be "early peace builders" and in this regard, we will continue to uphold our commitment through this approach towards the attainment of global peace. Peace and stability will enable countries to focus their resources in the pursuit of socio-economic development for the well-being of their people. With this in mind, Malaysia has the experience and the training and is also undertaking activities, whenever it is permitted, in order to "win the hearts and minds" of the local people that would eventually create a conducive environment for socio-economic development. However, we are mindful that socio-economic development plans are still the sole responsibility of the host nations but Malaysia is there merely to facilitate and wherever possible, to assist the host country toward achieving peace, stability and sustainable prosperity.

Mr Chairman,

My delegation would also like to join other member states in offering our highest tribute and honoring the memory of those who have made the supreme sacrifice in the service of the United Nations and for the noble cause of peace. Similarly, we are concerned with the increasing challenges and threats to the security and safety of UN peacekeepers serving in conflict regions. Indeed, Malaysia condemns, in the strongest terms, the killing and targeted attacks of UN peacekeepers and all acts of violence against them. Since Malaysia is an active troop-contributing country, we again reaffirm our highest commitment to zero tolerance policy on all forms of misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuses. As a manifestation of this commitment, Malaysia will continue with its long standing effort to emphasize this priority in training of peacekeepers organized and conducted by the Malaysian Peacekeeping Training Centre.

Mr Chairman,

To conclude, I wish to reiterate Malaysia's commitment towards the collective attainment of global peace through its unwavering support for the central role of United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security. We stand ready to be engaged under the banner of the United Nations together with other member states, toward meeting this noble objective.

I thank you, Mr Chairman.