



# MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



CANDIDATE  
to the  
UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY COUNCIL  
for the term 2015-2016

*(Please check against delivery)*

**STATEMENT BY  
MR. RAJA REZA RAJA ZAIB SHAH  
CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES AND DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
AT THE FIRST PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MEETING FOR THE THIRD  
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES,  
UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS,  
NEW YORK, 24-26 FEBRUARY 2014**

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Co-Chairs,

At the outset, Malaysia wishes to align itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished Permanent Representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. We also would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you and other members of the Bureau for the successful election.

2. Malaysia welcomes the decision reached at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to convene the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in 2014 which will be an important occasion to identify development gaps and address the special needs and vulnerabilities of SIDS.

3. My delegation, in this regard, welcomes this opportunity to engage in this first preparatory process and the declaration of 2014 as the International Year of Small Island Developing States. We remain fully committed to assist SIDS in the pursuit of their sustainable development goals. Since the inception of the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) in 1981, more than 2,934 participants from 41 small island developing states have benefited from the programme. Apart from attending capacity building short courses in Malaysia, we have also provided the services of experts, to SIDS, under the MTCP in areas where Malaysia has the proven expertise.

4. The overarching theme of the Conference “Sustainable development of SIDS through genuine and durable partnerships” captures it well as it empowered collaborative partnerships between SIDS and the international community based upon mutual trust, equality, respect, and accountability. My delegation believes concretizing the theme will result in a higher level of international solidarity for the accelerated implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and Mauritius Strategy for the further implementation of the programme of action for the sustainable development of small island developing states.

5. Malaysia recognizes SIDS' efforts to achieve sustainable development and build sustained resilience in overcoming climate change challenges. We reaffirm that SIDS face emerging constraints in meeting economic, social and environmental challenges. Indeed, those with low-lying, and with large coastal areas are facing continuous challenges of climate change and sea level rise.

6. It is therefore important that, in addition to this process which will culminate in the Conference in Samoa, the international community undertakes greater political commitment at the UNFCCC processes in addressing the adaptation needs of SIDS, including the provision of new, additional and predictable financial resources.

7. While Malaysia acknowledges some progress that has been made thus far to address the challenges faced by SIDS, the international community needs to adopt a more integrated approach in providing the necessary assistance to strengthen SIDS' abilities to address their vulnerabilities, structural challenges and respond to external shocks.

8. In closing, Malaysia will participate actively in the discussions of the preparatory process for the Conference, and looks forward for a focus, ambitious and action-oriented outcome document that will effectively address the special needs and vulnerabilities of SIDS.

I thank you, Co-Chairs.