



MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



CANDIDATE
to the
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SECURITY COUNCIL
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**STATEMENT BY
H.E. AMBASSADOR HUSSEIN HANIFF
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AT THE 2014 SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT COMMISSION
NEW YORK, 7 APRIL 2014**

Mr. Chairman,

Malaysia extends our warm congratulations to you, Ambassador Vladimir Drobnyak, Permanent Representative of Croatia, on your assumption as Chair of the 2014 substantive session of the United Nations Disarmament Commission. Allow me also to congratulate other Bureau members, as well as the Chairpersons of the respective Working Groups, Ambassador Naif bin Bandar Al-Sudairy of Saudi Arabia and Mr. Knut Langeland of Norway, on their elections.

2. I would also like to thank Ambassador Christopher Grima of Malta, for his contribution and constructive efforts as Chair of last year's Disarmament Commission. Malaysia associates itself with the statement made by Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

3. Malaysia reaffirms the continuing relevancy of the Disarmament Commission as the sole specialised body with universal membership in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation. The UNDC provides a comprehensive and deliberative approach, which is important in order to achieve an outcome which enjoys the broadest possible support. As such, my delegation welcomes the progress made in the 2013 substantive session of the UNDC, where for the first time in eight years, we were able to send forward three Working Papers as a starting point for the final session of the current cycle.

4. Now that the stage has been set for this year, we should capitalise on this momentum and fulfil our collective responsibility by adopting recommendations leading toward general and complete disarmament. Malaysia reiterates its call for all parties to renew their commitment to this process, and to demonstrate the necessary flexibility, compromise and political will, in order to come up with a successful substantive outcome.

Mr. Chairman,

5. In three weeks' time, many of us here will participate in the Third Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to be held here in New York. Malaysia is of the view that this year's Prepcom should continue the momentum towards greater cooperation in achieving the NPT's objectives in nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, bearing in mind the targets we had agreed upon in the Action Plan of the 2010 NPT Review Conference.

6. In achieving a world free of nuclear weapons, Malaysia is of the view that all parties should heed the obligation to pursue in good faith and to bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects, under strict and effective international control, as reflected in the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice. This was also espoused by The Honourable Dato' Sri Mohd. Najib Tun Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia, in his remarks during the first ever High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament last year. Through this landmark event, as well as through the pronouncements of many of our leaders, it is clear that nuclear disarmament remains the highest priority of the international community.

7. My delegation is also heartened by the growing interest of member States on a humanitarian approach to the consequences of nuclear weapons. In this regard, we congratulate Mexico for the successful hosting of the Second International Conference on Humanitarian Consequences of Nuclear Weapons held on 13-14 February 2014, and we look forward to further progress on this matter during the next conference to be hosted by Austria.

8. Pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, my delegation reiterates our call for the urgent conclusion of a universal, unconditional, non-discriminatory and legally binding instrument on negative security assurances. We also remain concerned on the lack of progress in the reduction of strategic and non-strategic nuclear weapons, and we are deeply disturbed on the modernisation and upgrading of nuclear arsenals by Nuclear Weapon States.

Mr. Chairman,

9. Turning to nuclear weapons free zones, my delegation is deeply disappointed on the continued failure to convene the Conference on the establishment of a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone in the Middle East. As with many others, we anticipated last year that this delay would have serious implications in the run-up to the 2015 NPT Review Conference, and unfortunately this prediction turned out to be right.

10. Malaysia therefore strongly urges the Secretary-General as well as the concerned States to convene the Conference without any further delay, and with the active participation of all states in the region, so as to avoid any further possible

negative repercussions on the credibility of the Treaty itself. All States should approach the Conference with an open mind and without prejudice on the different security concerns of others.

11. Malaysia continues to believe that such zones contribute significantly to global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation objectives. In this connection, my delegation also looks forward to the conclusion of negotiations between ASEAN and the five Nuclear Weapons States on the Protocol to the Treaty on Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ). We hope that the Nuclear Weapon States will commit to the signing of the Protocol to the Treaty and its related documents at the earliest possible opportunity.

Mr. Chairman,

12. With regard to conventional weapons, Malaysia welcomes the adoption by the General Assembly of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), and we had subsequently joined the ranks of signatory states to the ATT on 26 September 2013. Malaysia had always supported the ATT process, and while recognising that although the Treaty may not satisfy all the concerns of all states, we are convinced that it will develop and evolve into a common understanding.

13. Malaysia will continue to support confidence building measures in the field of conventional weapons at all levels, as this would contribute to strengthening international peace and security. My delegation further reaffirms the validity, importance and the need for full and effective implementation of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. Malaysia is of the view that the Programme of Action should promote and facilitate international cooperation, which will enhance its effectiveness and complement existing bilateral, regional and international agreements. In this regard, we see the upcoming Fifth Biennial Meeting of States on the Implementation of the Programme of Action as an important forum where confidence building measures can be deliberated and consensually agreed upon.

Mr. Chairman,

14. On that note, my delegation expresses its hope for a results-oriented UNDC session in 2014, and we call on all member States to rejuvenate our negotiations to move forward on substantive matters and towards a successful conclusion. I wish to conclude by reaffirming Malaysia's support to you and to the other members of the Bureau for this session.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.