



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
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DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE / CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I OF
THE PERMANENT MISSION OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**INTERVENTION BY MALAYSIA AT THE INFORMAL MEETING OF
THE PLENARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ON THE SITUATION IN GAZA
6 AUGUST 2014, NEW YORK**

Mr. President,

Thank you for convening this timely meeting of the Plenary. My delegation thanks all distinguished Senior UN Officials for their presentations which we have listened to intently. My delegation associates itself with the statements delivered by Iran and Saudi Arabia on behalf of the NAM and the OIC, respectively.

Mr. President,

2. Malaysia shares the grave concern and outrage of the international community on the situation in Gaza. We are appalled and horrified at the wanton disregard shown by the Occupying Power for civilian lives and property as well as for public infrastructure in its latest attacks against Gaza.

3. We are deeply concerned and appalled that clearly designated, non-military, UN facilities were targeted by the Israeli war machine. Malaysia joins other delegations in expressing its deepest sympathy and condolences to the United Nations on the loss of 11 UNRWA personnel in Gaza.

4. The indiscriminate, disproportionate and excessive use of force by the Occupying Power in its latest attacks which has caused death and injury to thousands of innocent civilians, especially to children and women is deplorable and deserves strongest condemnation. Such illegal acts are totally unacceptable, unjustifiable and indefensible.

Mr. President,

5. Malaysia welcomes the latest ceasefire sponsored by Egypt, the US and the UN and urges all parties to commit themselves to this end. In this regard, Malaysia is closely following developments on the proposed Cairo talks towards achieving full cessation of hostilities and a more durable and sustainable truce.

6. Any return to the *status quo ante* is unacceptable, particularly in view of the fact that since the so-called Israeli withdrawal in 2005, Gaza continues to be subject to devastating attacks and humiliating treatment by the Occupying Power. As noted by the UNRWA Commissioner-General and others, the illegal blockade against Gaza compounds the suffering and hardship of its residents.

7. Malaysia welcomes and supports the outcome of the recently held Special Session of the UN Human Rights Council which among others, authorised the establishment of an independent international commission of inquiry to investigate all violations of international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law (IHRL) in the Occupied Palestinian Territory including in the Gaza Strip. We urge all parties to cooperate with the Commission in discharging its role.

Mr. President,

8. Malaysia wishes to reaffirm its solidarity with the Palestinian people and reiterate its supports for the legitimate rights of the Palestinians for an independent State of Palestine with the realisation of two states, Palestine and Israel, living side by side, based on pre-1967 borders.

9. However, Malaysia is deeply concerned to note that we are moving further and further away from the two-state solution of the conflict due to Israel's continued expansion of its illegal settlements and the illegal wall in occupied Palestinian territories. The illegal blockade of Gaza by the Occupying Power continues to strangle Palestinian livelihood. The continued aggression, discrimination and humiliation exercised by Israel over the occupied Palestinians further preclude the conditions necessary for both sides to negotiate in good faith for a permanent resolution of the conflict.

10. We need to ask ourselves, how could we let this grave injustice prevail? The international community, particularly the Security Council, bears the responsibility for allowing the rights of the occupied Palestinians to be usurped slowly but surely over the past six decades.

11. We are where we are today, due to the fact that Israel has been treated as a country above the law. It is because Israel knows it can escape with impunity and would not be held accountable for its actions, even as it embarked on state-sponsored terrorism and genocide.

Mr. President,

12. Since the Security Council appears to be in a state of paralysis on the question of Palestine; unable to enforce its own numerous resolutions and decisions, Malaysia urges the Secretary-General to thoroughly explore and favourably consider the Palestinian proposal to place Palestine under the United Nations protection system. The present situation cannot be allowed to continue indefinitely, at the expense of further victimisation of the Palestinian people.

I thank you, Mr. President.