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STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR HUSSEIN HANIFF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

ON AGENDA ITEM 171 ENTITLED "OBSERVER STATUS FOR THE DEVELOPING EIGHT COUNTRIES ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY" AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE SIXTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NEW YORK, 14 OCTOBER 2014

Mr. Chairman,

1. Malaysia would like to thank the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations who requested the inclusion of the item in the agenda of the current session of the Assembly for granting Observer Status For The Developing Eight Countries Organization For Economic Cooperation In The General Assembly.

Mr. Chairman,

- 2. As a member to the Developing Eight Countries Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8), my delegation recognizes the vast potential for development of the D-8 community given the large amount of lands owned, skilled labour force, diversified human capital, rich natural resources and a large market of more than 1 billion people populating each country.
- 3. Together with the other 7 members of the D-8 namely, Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey, Malaysia recognizes the opportunities and challenges faced by the developing countries and envisions this organization as a cooperative mechanism between its member States to improve the positions of developing countries in the world economy, diversify and create new opportunities in trade relations, enhance support at the national level not only within its member States, but to further strengthen the weight and voice of each member States at the regional and international levels.

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4. Aside from the efforts by the member States in hosting a vast number of technical meetings, Malaysia, in recalling the agreement which has been reached on the broadening of areas of economic and industrial cooperation between the D-8, further takes note of the importance to engage with both the public and private sectors of the D-8 member States to further promote private sector activities within the D-8, as was also highly emphasized by the Secretary General of the D-8 during his recent visit to Malaysia on 3 September 2014.

Mr. Chairman,

5. In view of the above, my delegation views that the D-8's contribution and cooperation with the United Nations and its programmes specifically regarding efforts of economic cooperation is timely and constructive and supports D-8 to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer.

Thank you.