



MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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

**ON AGENDA ITEM 24: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES
FOR DEVELOPMENT AND
SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT**

AT THE SECOND COMMITTEE

OF THE 69th SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NEW YORK, 29 OCTOBER 2014

Mr. Chairman,

Malaysia wishes to align itself with the statement made by distinguish Permanent Representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, on behalf of G77 and China and the statement made by the distinguished Permanent Representative of Viet Nam on behalf of ASEAN.

2. I also wish to thank the Secretary General for his report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review (QCPR) of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and on the state of South-South cooperation.

Mr. Chairman,

3. It has been two years since the completion of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process for operational activities for development of the United Nations system. We are already half way in the implementation of the resolution 67/226. Malaysia welcomes the effort made by UN funds and programs and other UN specialized agencies who aligned their new strategic plans to the ambition of the QCPR.

4. My delegation however is still concerned with the state of funding of the development programmes, which is the core issue of the UN operational activities. The growing imbalance between core and non-core resources threatens the effective operation of the UN development system, especially at the country level. Malaysia wishes to reiterate our call on donor countries to honour their commitment to provide financing for UN operational activities, particularly for the 'core resources'. The trend of increased earmarked funding will be more acceptable, as long as core funding follows the same pattern. This is critically important for the UN to achieve the critical mass and adequate cost recovery in their operational activities.

Mr. Chairman,

5. While Malaysia recognizes that developing countries have the primary responsibility of promoting and implementing economic and technical cooperation among themselves, it is incumbent upon the traditional development partners to support the efforts of the developing countries to expand South-South cooperation. In this regard, Malaysia welcomes the increasing importance of Triangular cooperation that has greatly facilitated South-South initiatives through the provision of funding, training and management of technology and systems as well as other forms of support. We also welcome the opportunities to cooperate with developed countries and other multilateral development agencies in assisting other developing countries in need of technical assistance to implement their development goals.

6. The increasing success enjoyed by developing countries in assisting each other's development programmes under the framework of South-South cooperation should not be viewed as an alternative to Official Development Assistance (ODA). We would like to emphasize that ODA remains critical to the needs of developing countries, in particular countries in vulnerable situations, in order to effectively implement the MDGs and the upcoming Post-2015 Development Agenda. We, therefore, urge traditional development partners to fulfil their ODA commitments without further delay.

Mr. Chairman,

7. Malaysia remains committed to South-South cooperation as we strongly believe it can contribute significantly for the social and economic development of developing countries. It is with this in mind that Malaysia has become an increasingly active international partner for development. We have been sharing our knowledge and experience with fellow developing countries, through the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) in areas where we have the comparative advantage.

As of 2014, more than 27,000 participants from 143 developing countries have benefited from this programme.

8. Since 1980, the Government of Malaysia has spent over USD200 million for MTCP, a big amount, in comparison to our modest economy. Further to this, during the SIDS Conference in Samoa last September, Malaysia has pledged for an additional USD 1 million to be allocated beginning from 2015 under the MTCP. This additional funding will be used to conduct courses and suitable programmes to support genuine, enduring and sustainable partnerships with SIDS in the fields of public administration and management, tourism, the environment and other areas based on the developmental needs of SIDS.

Mr. Chairman,

9. The encouraging trends of economic activities and overall development under the framework of South-South cooperation is a mark of the solidarity among the South-South nations. It is clear to us that South-South cooperation has gone beyond rhetoric and into the realm of practical achievement. We therefore hope that this will provide more opportunity for us to foster closer cooperation with other developed partners through the framework of Triangular cooperation.

I thank you.