



# Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

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**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR HUSSEIN HANIFF  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA  
ON AGENDA ITEM 64: REPORT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

**AT THE PLENARY OF THE 67<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF  
THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
NEW YORK, 14 NOVEMBER 2012**

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Mr. Chairman,

My delegation warmly welcomes Her Excellency Ambassador Laura Dupuy Lasserre, President of the Human Rights Council, to address the General Assembly and to present the report of the Council.

2. Malaysia together with the international community, places high expectations on the work of the Council. Events around the world particularly in the Middle East and North Africa, highlighted the magnitude of work that is facing this Council. Now that the dust has beginning to settle, the citizens of the affected countries are starting to enjoy greater freedom in their lives. However, there is a realization that there is more to be done. The nascent governments, while trying to not follow the missteps of the previous fallen leaders, are currently faced with the delicate task of juggling the call for progress and the need to retain support. Malaysia believes the Council can play a prominent role in supporting these governments, especially by guiding them towards a human rights standard that is acceptable by the international community.

Mr. Chairman,

3. Allow me to touch on a few matters relating to the Council.

4. Firstly, on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). Malaysia is pleased to note the success of the first cycle of the UPR. The UPR is a primary human rights mechanism, premised upon equal treatment of all countries. Malaysia wishes to inform that the country is in the process of preparing its report for the second review of the UPR in June 2013. Consultations have been undertaken with government agencies and further discussions with civil societies will also take place before the final report is prepared.

5. To ensure the full participation of all countries to the UPR process, Malaysia is of the view that the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance, established by the Council in its resolution 6/17, should be strengthened and put to work in order to provide a source of financial and technical assistance to help countries. This in particular will benefit the least developed countries and will help them to implement the recommendations emanating from their review.

6. Secondly, my delegation notes the role played in supporting the process of state building and national reconciliation in various parts of the world. We wish to reiterate our view that such processes must be driven at the domestic level. It is important that any involvement of external parties must have the consent of the concerned states and should be based on the principles of cooperation and constructive dialogue.

7. Thirdly, Malaysia welcomes the Council's continued attention on the human rights situation of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Territory inflicted by Israel. We must never forget that the core issue for the Palestinians is their inalienable right to statehood. In this instance, Malaysia strongly supports the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people for an independent State of Palestine, based on the two-state solution, taking into account the security concerns of both parties. We urge the Council to continue to press on this issue and to ensure that the Palestinians are afforded their basic rights as human beings, and this include their right to an independent state.

8. Fourthly, on the process of strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system. Malaysia appreciates the High Commissioner's initiative in conducting consultations with Member States on the subject. Nevertheless, we wish to emphasize that the process should be an inter-governmental one, where involvement by States Parties in every stage is of paramount importance. We thus look forward on the open-ended intergovernmental process that is taking place within the framework of the General Assembly to address the challenges pertaining to strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system.

Mr. Chairman,

9. We hope that the Council will carry on its good work in promoting and protecting human rights for all, and to not yield to the agendas of certain quarters. The many achievements to date, among which include the successful implementation of the UPR mechanism, put the Council in good stead especially in its promotion and protection of human rights for all. However, Malaysia believes that more can always be done to ensure the promotion and protection for the victims of human rights violations. Malaysia is committed to this end and will continue to strongly support the work of the Council.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.