



*Permanent Mission of*  
**Malaysia**  
*to the United Nations*

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**STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. HAMIDON ALI, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 100: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION AT THE 63rd SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 6 OCTOBER 2008**

Mr. President,

My delegation wishes to thank the Secretary-General for his Report on the Work of the Organization, contained in Document A/63/1.

2. Despite the increasing demand on resources of the United Nations, the Secretary-General has succeeded in ensuring the Organization remains relevant and committed to the purposes for which it was created. In this regard, my delegation would like to congratulate the Secretary-General for his tireless efforts.

Mr. President,

3. It is heartening to note that the work of the United Nations, and its specialised agencies, continues to be acknowledged. Last year, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was jointly awarded the Nobel Prize for its efforts in the field of climate change. This being the sixth time the Nobel Foundation has awarded the Peace Prize to the United Nations lends recognition to the UN for its contribution to the world community.

4. The United Nations is also recognized for its humanitarian assistance. The United Nations has managed to deliver assistance to those most affected by calamities through the CERF and flash appeals. In all this, for an Organization such as the United Nations, delivery, therefore, becomes key. Central to the work of the Organization, over and above whatever else the Organization is seized with, is the impact of the work undertaken, overseen or executed by the Organization, on the people who need it most. In this connection, my delegation welcomes the intention of the Secretary-General to strengthen the Organization's overall accountability framework, both within the Organization as well as the Secretariat's accountability to member states. We also welcome the continued periodic briefing by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on his most recent activities, which we view as, among others, an avenue for direct interaction with the Secretary-General while keeping abreast on developments involving the Organization.

Mr. President,

5. An Organization which has been around as long as the United Nations cannot but undergo certain changes in itself. This process of reform must be undertaken in order to strengthen the Organization and address its shortcomings. But change does not come easily to any entity. Indeed, as the inventor Charles Kettering once said, "The world hates change, yet it is the only thing which has brought progress".

6. My delegation therefore commends the Secretary-General's ongoing efforts on management reform. We agree with the Secretary-General that a results-based management approach requires managers to clearly state their intended target. This will in turn afford the Organization the opportunity to formulate a better strategic plan that will enable Member States to make a better informed decision. However, these management reforms must be tackled holistically, with full emphasis on:

- i. a clear understanding of the process, in that it must be transparent, inclusive and open-ended;
- ii. full adherence to the Rules and Procedures and the United Nations Charter; and
- iii. A clear understanding of the priorities we intend to achieve.

7. On peacekeeping, there had been much discussion on the restructuring of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), which eventually saw the creation of a new Department of Field Support, the establishment of the Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions in the DPKO, Integrated Operational Teams and a number of new shared mechanisms. This restructuring was intended to streamline peacekeeping activities in order for a more effective and efficient delivery, in line with the increase in the number of missions and personnel deployed in missions all around the globe. Yet despite this restructuring, there have been instances when troop contributing countries (TCC) have been left out of the loop in matters of communication and information. We view this with concern. The DPKO should maintain the primacy of disseminating information to TCCs, particularly when the personnel of these TCCs are involved on the ground.

Mr. President,

8. The Report of the Secretary-General that we have before us today starts off with the work of the Organization in helping Member States achieve the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals. Malaysia commends the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in this respect, in particular the recent convening of a High Level Meeting on the MDGs. While the High Level Meeting itself has resulted in new and additional pledges to the tune of US\$16 billion, we hope that the funding and resources to attain the MDGs should also be made available in a systematic and predictable manner, and not in an ad hoc way and as a response to specific events. Malaysia trusts that the Secretary-General's full report on these pledges will not be long in its coming.

9. On the MDGs itself, we need to understand that these goals represent the barest minimum objective. The United Nations should encourage those countries in a better placed position, to further achieve the MDG Plus objectives. It is with this end in sight that Malaysia pledges a higher level of cooperation with the United Nations in its South-South cooperation.

10. The achievement of Millennium Development Goal No. 6 remains a major question-mark for many countries of the world, Malaysia included. We note the many efforts launched both within and outside the Organization in cognizance of this problem. Despite all this, the number of people who suffer from HIV/AIDS as well as malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases continue to rise. This merely means that more needs to be done, and we hope that the Secretary-General's target of 2010 to ensure universal coverage against malaria will be echoed in the fight to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases.

Mr. President,

11. It would be amiss if we do not address the Question of Palestine. This is an issue which has been on the UN agenda for over 50 years and remains one of the most vital components in the agenda of peace and security. The Security Council has adopted important resolutions on this question, which should have accorded Palestinians a restoration of their rights. Unfortunately, there has been no follow-up action to compel Israel to respect international law and thus end the illegal occupation and illegitimate practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

12. Today, the violations of the human rights of the Palestinian peoples still continue, and the daily life of the ordinary people in Gaza is made difficult by the economic blockade. Illegal settlements are still on the increase, despite widespread condemnation. Thus, the Organization has not delivered on its potential in this situation, at least not to the millions of Palestinian refugees caught in the conflict, nor to those whose human rights continue to be violated.

Mr. President,

13. My delegation believes in the multilateral, inclusive feature of the United Nations. With so many of the world's peoples looking to the United Nations for leadership, for coordination, and for hope, Member States must ensure that the United Nations is able to deliver on its promise of a better tomorrow. Deliverables can be achieved only if there is strong political will to see the matter through. An Organization which can effectively deliver to the people, and uphold the promise which it was mandated to do, will be a strong, viable and relevant organization, able to respond to the challenges of the future. Malaysia is committed to this vision, and pledges its support for the Secretary-General's endeavours in this matter.

Thank you, Mr. President.

