



Permanent Mission of
Malaysia
to the United Nations

STATEMENT BY COLONEL NG CHIN HUAT, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA ON AGENDA ITEM 33: COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL ITS ASPECT, AT THE FOURTH COMMITTEE OF THE 64TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 28TH OCTOBER 2009

Mr. Chairman,

Let me begin by expressing our appreciation to Mr. Alain Le Roy, Under-Secretary General for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and Ms Susana Malcorra, Under-Secretary General for the Department of Field Support, for their comprehensive briefing to the committee on UN peacekeeping operations.

2. My delegation aligns itself with the statement made by Morocco on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) as well as the statement made by Thailand on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). This is the first ASEAN statement on this subject and we therefore consider it as historical milestone in our regional cooperation.

Mr. Chairman,

3. Malaysia wishes to reiterate our firm belief in the United Nations central role in the maintenance of international peace and security. Certainly recent history has proven once and for all the detrimental effects on the international system as a whole of unilateral military actions. At the same time, we consider that the United Nations peacekeeping operations are an indispensable instrument that has contributed immensely to the resolutions of many armed conflict both within and among states. Indeed, among the many roles performed by the United Nations, peacekeeping for all its imperfections, is an area which the United Nations could take pride in. Let us put peacekeeping in a broader historical context. It represents the first time in human history that nations of the world have chosen to pool its military personnel for the sake of a common peace and not war. It is therefore an experiment that needs to be retooled from time to time.

4. We are mindful of the daunting responsibility and expectation placed on the United Nations. We view this positively as it demonstrated the desire of the international community to do more to secure durable and sustainable peace in countries until now affected by conflict, some of them longstanding. However, to match desire with outcome, it is critical for members of the United Nations to continue to provide firm and unwavering support especially in the area of human, financial and vital logistical resources to ensure the timely and successful implementation of peacekeeping operations. We reaffirm our belief that economic and social progress would only be possible through maintenance of peace and stability and in this regard, peacekeeping operations play an important role in conflict affected countries.

Mr. Chairman,

5. We note the statement made by the Under Secretary-General DPKO emphasizing that United Nations peacekeeping is getting increasingly more complex and dangerous and that it is a shared endeavour. We are also encouraged and concur with his statement that peacekeeping rests on the

partnership between Member States of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Secretariat. We therefore, look forward and are ready to engage in consultations aimed at contributing to peace and security as been spelt out in the New Horizon. Having said that, we believe that it is important for these discussions to be consistent with the agreed principles, guidelines and terminology governing peacekeeping.

6. Meanwhile, my delegation has also taken note of the briefing by the Under Secretary-General for DFS and is concerned that, while the annual budget in peacekeeping exceed \$8 billion per annum, peacekeeping mission are still lacking in vital logistics support and resources to conduct its operations effectively. My delegation is aware of the difficulties faced by DFS in trying to reach out for those vital resources and we hope that the able leadership of the Under Secretary-General of DFS would be able to find a solution to this in the near future. In this connection, it is important that arrears related to peacekeeping operations are paid.

Mr. Chairman,

7. In light of the many challenges confronting UN peacekeeping operations and as an active troop contributing country, Malaysia reiterate our commitment to zero tolerance policy on all forms of misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuses by any UN personnel. As a manifestation of this commitment, Malaysia will continue its effort to emphasize this matter in our training conducted by our Peacekeeping Training Centre. The Malaysian Peacekeeping Training Centre located in Port Dickson established in 1996, has provided training to our personnel, and has also trained more than 300 foreign participants from 41 countries. Our Peacekeeping Training Centre has been well received and in January 2010 we will be hosting the Senior Mission Leaders course. To this end, we would like to thank the United Nations for the confidence in us and we are certainly proud to be given the honour to host this senior course. Additionally, our Police personnel have also been assisting the UN Police Division in the 'train the trainer' programmes'.

Mr. Chairman,

8. My delegation joins others in offering our highest tribute and honouring the memory of those who have made the supreme sacrifice in the service of the United Nations and for the noble cause of peace. Again like others, we are concerned with the increasing challenges and threats to the security and safety of UN peacekeepers serving in conflict regions. Indeed, Malaysia condemns in the strongest terms the killing and targeted attacks of UN peacekeepers and all acts of violence against them. These acts of violence against UN peacekeepers must be checked and those perpetrators must be held accountable for their actions. However, condemnations alone are insufficient. We must investigate the causes of these attacks and draw the necessary lessons from them. A similar exercise has been made with regard to humanitarian workers. The lessons learnt must then be shared with all Member States in order for the Member States to be more vigilant in an attempt to reduce the casualty rate.

Mr. Chairman,

9. Let me end my statement by reiterating Malaysia's commitment towards the collective attainment of global peace through its unwavering support to the central role of United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security. We remain ready to work under the banner of the United Nations with other member states toward meeting this objective.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.



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