



# Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

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**STATEMENT BY MS. ZALWANI ZALKAPLY, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA AT THE GENERAL DEBATE OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE OF THE 66<sup>TH</sup> SESSION ON THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 3 OCTOBER 2011**

Mr.Chairman,

Allow me at the outset to congratulate you and the members of your bureau on your election. Malaysia wishes to associate itself with the statement made by Argentina on behalf of G77 & China and Indonesia on behalf of ASEAN.

Mr. Chairman,

2. Malaysia is of the view that the deliberations of the Second Committee this year should focus and contribute to the expected outcome of the Rio+20 Summit next year. There are three important issues that need to be addressed before we embark on the negotiation of the Rio+20 outcome document.

- i. Firstly: We need to agree and acknowledge that there is a serious gap in the implementation of Agenda 21. Why is there such a gap, and what could we do to bridge this divide? These are questions that we hope to answer in the coming months.
- ii. Secondly: It is important for us to reaffirm the principle of common but differentiated responsibility, as it is a manifestation of general principles of equity in international environmental legal framework. It recognizes the historical differences in the contributions of developed and developing States to global environmental problems, and differences in our respective economic and technical capabilities to tackle the problems; and
- iii. Thirdly: We must urgently find solutions to address the means of implementation of sustainable development and financing for development. A failure to do so would relegate the Rio+20 Summit to just another international talkshop.

Mr. Chairman,

3. Malaysia had clearly pronounced in its National Statement at the General Debate recently its view that we seem to be losing focus in the field of environment. The lack of political will and the means to implement the agreed environmental agreements are obstructing the progress of attaining sustainable development.

4. As much as we are concerned about implementation failures, we are also concerned at the paralyzing differences in the areas of institutional framework and of sustainable development. The failure of the Commission on Sustainable Development to deliver a successful outcome last May clearly demonstrates this. The lack of progress and the unwillingness to honor commitments made under the

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations is another case in point. We must ensure that the principle of common but differentiated responsibility, coupled with historical responsibility, is enshrined in all our endeavors to reach a successful conclusion on climate change negotiations and sustainable development.

Mr. Chairman,

5. Malaysia joins other delegations before us in this august body to express our concerns over the fragility of the global economic and financial situation, and call for the strengthening of the international financial regulation, monitoring and supervision, on an urgent basis. The debt crisis in the developed nations have threatened to lead the world into another economic recession that would have adverse impact on the rest of the world, in particular the smaller economies.

6. In light of the above, solutions have to be urgently sought. The failure to do so would severely disrupt the global trading and monetary systems. This further underscores an urgent need for a comprehensive reform of global economic and financial mechanisms, including the Bretton Woods institutions. Developments in the world's financial markets recently has given rise to widespread calls for a new International Financial Architecture (IFA) that would allow global capital markets to function efficiently and ensure global financial stability. It is therefore important that the reform of IFA is implemented without further delay.

7. Apart from the Bretton Woods institutions, Malaysia too joins the clarion call for the early conclusion of the Doha Round. Malaysia believes, that the Doha Round must return to its original objective of ensuring free, fair and equitable trade among nations.

Mr. Chairman.

8. The importance of South-South cooperation in light of the fragility of the current global financial and economic situation cannot be overemphasized. While Malaysia reiterates its support for the strengthening of South-South cooperation vis-à-vis the current global economic situation, we would like to emphasize that it is a mere complement to, rather than substitute for, the North-South cooperation.

Mr. Chairman,

9. Again, Malaysia wishes to reiterate the importance of the work of the Second Committee this year and its implications on the outcome of Rio+20 next year. We need to set our targets clear, address the core issues heads on, and adhere to our set commitments in order to move forward in a progressive manner.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.