



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

(Please check against delivery)

**STATEMENT BY MS. FARHANI AHMAD TAJUDDIN, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA
ON AGENDA ITEM 78: CRIMINAL ACCOUNTABILITY OF UNITED NATIONS OFFICIALS
AND EXPERTS ON MISSION AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE 66TH SESSION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 7 OCTOBER 2011**

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, my delegation wishes to align itself with the statement made by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. Malaysia continues to take an active interest in the discussions and deliberations of the agenda item Criminal accountability of United Nations Officials and Experts on Mission. Malaysia welcomes the comprehensive Report of the Secretary-General on this topic (A/66/174) prepared pursuant to resolution 65/20. Malaysia reiterates its support on the UN's zero-tolerance policy regarding serious crimes including sexual exploitation and abuse committed by its officials and experts on mission.

2. As a consistent follower of the United Nations' peacekeeping missions and a participant in UN peacekeeping operations of 50 years, Malaysia views with concern any act which tarnishes the noble efforts and sacrifices of UN personnel and experts on peacekeeping and other missions. To promote integrity and credibility among its peacekeeping personnel in the performance of their duties, Malaysia established the Malaysian Peacekeeping Training Centre (MPTC) in 1996. The MPTC has become an internationally-worthy operational and training facility for peacekeepers emphasizing on international humanitarian law and respect for the rule of law.

3. Malaysia further shares the concern of the existence of the jurisdictional gap which allows impunity of those entrusted with responsibility and authority. In this regard, States as well as the other relevant international organizations must agree on the basic principle that criminal acts and misconduct should be addressed with the appropriate criminal and disciplinary sanctions. Hence, the importance of investigations and prosecutions that should be conducted without delay is pertinent. In light of this, Malaysia wishes to express its appreciation to the statement issued by the relevant quarters in the incident involving the death and injury to two Malaysian journalists serving in a conflict area recently. Malaysia further acknowledges the commitment made to ensure that those responsible will be brought to

justice. Such action sends a clear and positive signal that criminal misconduct by soldiers serving in peace mission or peacekeeping will not be tolerated and exempted.

Mr. Chairman,

4. Lastly, Malaysia looks forward for the continuing of consideration on the reports of the Group of Legal Experts, in particular its legal aspect, scheduled during the next session. In this respect, Malaysia reiterates its view that the work of the Group of Legal Experts which had proposed the elaboration of a Convention on this issue and has prepared a draft Convention for consideration in its Report, should not prevent the Sixth Committee's Working Group on Criminal Accountability of UN Officials and Experts on Mission from identifying substantive issues and exploring practicable solutions independent of the proposals in the draft text. This is especially in view that most of the target groups are already adequately regulated by domestic laws and the terms of UN Status of Forces arrangements as well as international humanitarian law.

Thank you.