



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

**STATEMENT BY
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MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA**

ON AGENDA ITEM 23: ERADICATION OF POVERTY AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT ISSUES,

**23(A): IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECOND UNITED NATIONS DECADE
FOR ERADICATION OF POVERTY (2008-2017),**

23(B): WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

23(C): HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

**AT THE SECOND COMMITTEE OF THE 66TH SESSION OF
THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
NEW YORK, 17 OCTOBER 2011**

Mr. Chairman,

Malaysia wishes to associate itself with the statement made by Argentina on behalf of G77 & China and Indonesia on behalf of ASEAN. We would also like to thank the Secretary General for the three comprehensive reports presented under this agenda item.

Mr. Chairman,

2. The report on Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty for the term 2008- 2017 acknowledged that the rapid growth in Malaysia for the past 20 years has helped significantly to reduce poverty in Malaysia.

3. We wish to inform that in our pursuit to achieve a sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, Malaysia has embarked on its own transformation programs. This is done through the introduction of the One Malaysia agenda, the Government Transformation Program, the Economic Transformation Program and the New Economic Model. These initiatives, launched in 2009, are now in its implementation stages, and we are confident that, Malaysia is on track to achieve a developed nation status by 2020.

4. Paragraph 11 of the Secretary General's report on poverty also highlighted that countries that have experienced strong growth have very often failed to sustain it for an extended period of time. While concurring with this analysis, Malaysia is of the view that a sustainable economic growth could be achieved with proper planning, ensuring durable political stability and the ability of a country to find its economic niche in this extremely competitive world today.

Mr. Chairman,

5. In order to sustain and enhance future Malaysia's economic growth, we are now focusing in accelerating the flow of investments into Malaysia. To ensure real economic growth, both in urban and rural areas, the Prime Minister of Malaysia in his budget speech on 7 October 2011 announced the introduction of the Rural Transformation Programme (RTP) that will further complement the national transformation initiatives mentioned earlier. The RTP will further transform the rural areas to attract more private investments, create more employment opportunities and economic activities for the benefit of the rural population.

6. The creation of RTP will also compliment the excellent work of Malaysia's Federal Land Development Authority (FELDA) that has successfully eradicated poverty in rural areas through its resettlement program of rural poor to newly developed areas comprising of rubber and palm oil plantations, since 1956.

Mr. Chairman,

7. Concerned with the current economic situation and the increase prices of food and medical services, the Government of Malaysia had also established the 1 Malaysia grocery stores and medical clinics to assist the lower income population to have access to quality and low cost medical treatment. These two initiatives have helped the rural and urban low income population to cope with the rising cost of living.

8. Malaysia is very much on its way in eradicating both urban and rural poverty, due to the economic progress that was achieved in the past 30 years. In this regard, I wish to inform that the hardcore poverty rate in Malaysia today is at all time low, where only 0.3% of its population fall into this category.

Mr. Chairman,

9. Malaysia launched the Malaysia Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) in September 1980 with the objective to share Malaysia's development experiences and expertise with other fellow developing countries. MTCP forms part of the commitment of the Malaysian Government towards the promotion of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC), strengthening of regional and sub-regional cooperation, as well as nurturing collective self-reliance among developing countries.

10. The MTCP emphasizes on the development of human resources through the provision of training in various areas essential for a country's development. These include fields such as public administration, good governance, health services, education, sustainable development, agriculture, poverty alleviation, investment promotion, ICT and banking. On average, about 70 short-term specialized courses are offered by more than 50 Malaysia MTCP training institutions, many of which are centres of excellence for training.

11. Since its launch in 1980, more than 20,000 participants from over 130 developing countries from Asia, Africa, Pacific Islands, Eastern & Central Europe, South America, and the Caribbean have benefited from the various programmes offered under the MTCP.

Mr. Chairman,

12. For the past five years, Malaysia has spent more than USD 66 million dollars for technical assistance and capacity building programs under the MTCP alone. Malaysia is also actively involved in similar cooperation with various groups such as D8, and the OIC

13. Malaysia strongly believes that sound policies and its implementations, coupled with continued political stability, is vital in achieving a sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth.

Nevertheless, good national policies should also be supported by regional and international political and economic stability.

14. It is to our hope that the United Nations would redoubled its efforts in assisting Member States to achieve political and economic stability in order to eradicate poverty and further achieve the internationally agreed development goals.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.