



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

STATEMENT BY MR. LOH SECK TIONG, REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA, ON AGENDA ITEM 22 (a): "GROUP OF COUNTRIES IN SPECIAL SITUATIONS: FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES," AT THE SECOND COMMITTEE OF THE SIXTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, 20 OCTOBER 2011

Mr. Chairman,

Malaysia would like to associate itself with the statement made by Argentina on behalf of G77 and China, and Indonesia on behalf of ASEAN.

2. Malaysia wishes to thank the Secretary General for his comprehensive report relating to this agenda item, and welcomes the adoption of the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) for the Decade 2011-2020 at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries held in Istanbul last May.

3. Malaysia also would like to commend Mr. Cheick Sidi Diarra, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, for his insightful remarks.

Mr. Chairman,

4. Our deliberations today comes on the heels of the uncertain global financial and economic situations. Given the vulnerability of the LDCs to economic shocks and natural disasters and the effects of climate change, it is important that the international community successfully implement the Istanbul Programme of Action.

5. In this regard, Malaysia, through the spirit of South-South cooperation, remains committed to the success of the Istanbul Programme of Action, with the view of assisting the LDCs to meet the MDG targets by 2015 and other internationally agreed development goals beyond 2015. We therefore, call upon all relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the programme of action, given the crucial role of developed countries as development partners.

6. On the same token, it is important to bear in mind that the success of the Istanbul Programme of Action is highly dependent on LDCs taking ownership of policy choices, each according to its own conditions and requirements.

Mr. Chairman,

7. As a demonstration of Malaysia's commitment to the plight of the LDCs, it has positively considered the Secretary General's call for high level participation at the LDC IV Conference in Istanbul, where the Honourable Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, led the Malaysian delegation.

8. Malaysia too, remains committed towards the common endeavor of assisting LDCs to uplift its socio-economic development that remains a global concern. Since the inception of the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) in 1980, more than 20,000 participants from 138 countries have benefited from the program, in which 45 out of the 140 participating countries, are from the LDCs. Malaysia also provided experts, under the MTCP, to LDCs in areas where Malaysia has expertise.

9. In this regard, we welcome the initiatives of development partners to sponsor participants to Malaysia, to fund the experts sent to LDCs and to support the study visits as well as practical attachments in Malaysian institutions under the triangular cooperation modality. We would like to further strengthen this cooperation in the future due to the successes achieved.

10. Malaysia firmly believes that efforts to strengthen South-South cooperation through the involvement of the countries of the North should be supported under the triangular cooperation modality. To this end, Malaysia has been implementing this arrangement with both bilateral and multilateral agencies.

Mr. Chairman,

11. Financing for Development of LDCs is important in promoting international development cooperation and to enhance future development. In this respect, technical aid should be disbursed along the line of Paris Declaration and aid effectiveness principles such as coherence, sustainability and alignment.

Mr. Chairman,

12. To conclude, Malaysia welcomes the report of the Secretary-General on this agenda item and looks forward for the successful implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the LDCs for the decade 2011-2020.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman