



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

**STATEMENT BY MR. ABDUL RAZAK SHARIF
REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA
ON
AGENDA ITEM 68: RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION**

**THIRD COMMITTEE
66TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
NEW YORK, 31 OCTOBER 2011**

Mr. Chairman,

1. The principle of self-determination is clearly enshrined in Article 1, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations. The report of the Secretary-General on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination (A/66/172) made reference to the human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories. Malaysia would like to reiterate its unwavering support in the restoration of Palestinian's inalienable right to self-determination, self-rule, right to national independence and sovereignty, right to return to their homes and property from which they have displaced and uprooted.

2. Year after year after year, we have hoped for a peaceful and just resolution of the Palestinian issue. And yet year after year, we have been lead to hope that there would be a tangible outcome, as there has been none. In the time that we have hoped, we have also realized that mediation is the only means of providing sustainable resolution to all conflicts and crises. Malaysia thus continues to support all efforts by the international community to find a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful settlement to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

3. In this regard, we fully support the application of the Palestinians to the United Nations and welcome the readiness of both parties to hold talks on the basis of the existing international legal framework. In this connection, Malaysia strongly supports the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people for an independent State of Palestine, based on the two-state solution, taking into account the security concerns of both parties.

Mr. Chairman,

4. Malaysia consistently expresses its concern and condemnation over Israel's continuous military aggression in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. Any form of violence, even on the pretext of ensuring security, would not contribute towards positive developments of the peace process, but rather fuel further violence and reprisals. We call on Israel to immediately fulfill all of its obligations, including refraining from provocation. The recent Israeli settlement plans in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, are deplorable and illegal under international law. Such provocative acts have put the two-state solution in jeopardy. Hence, we call on Israel to fulfill its international obligations by stopping its settlement activities completely and to abrogate all policies

and practices that contravenes international law and minimum standards of internationally accepted basic rights of human beings, including the immediate lifting of the unlawful blockade of Gaza.

Mr. Chairman,

5. The global community has made it very clear that they yearned for an early and lasting resolution of the conflict based on the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. These resolutions have provided the basis and guiding principles for a permanent settlement of the problem. The Malaysian Government and its people are committed to a just and peaceful resolution of the conflict. The only way forward is to ensure that the Palestinians are afforded their basic rights as human beings, and this include their right to an independent state.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.