



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

**STATEMENT BY H.E. DATO' HUSSEIN HANIFF
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
FOR THE HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE
ON THE CENTRAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND (CERF)
NEW YORK, 16 DECEMBER 2011**

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me at this outset to express our appreciation to you and to the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs for organizing this High-Level Conference on the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). Indeed, we are faced with a global situation of increased climate-related natural disasters and complex emergencies requiring continued utilization of CERF. In this regard, the continued political commitment by the international community requires a complimentary show of solidarity through financial commitments.

2. We need to ensure that when faced with an emergency, the tools are in place for a rapid and effective response. The CERF has been that tool – and we have seen it utilized in many cases, including in our region. We have seen flexibility in the use of CERF to ensure that emergency funding can be provided in the interim while proceeding with the usually longer process of launching an appeal, and waiting for pledges to be honoured. Indeed, the fact that CERF has allowed for funding in humanitarian emergencies to be fast, reliable, and targeted according to need and not politics, is one of its greatest strengths.

3. For my Government, we are of the view that dealing with disasters requires a holistic, full-spectrum approach at the response stage, but also preceding from effective disaster risk reduction strategies. Notwithstanding the above, Malaysia will continue to extend its humanitarian assistance in terms of monetary, in kind or deployment of medical teams within its means to disaster affected countries. Malaysia hopes that this kind of humanitarian assistance would lessen the burden faced by some of the victims and assist them in their hour of need. As part of our continued solidarity with those affected by natural disasters around the world, I am pleased to pledge an amount of USD 50,000 from the Government and people of Malaysia to CERF.

Thank you.