



# Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

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**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR HUSSEIN HANIFF  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
AT THE INFORMAL MEETING OF THE PLENARY  
ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS  
ON THE QUESTION OF EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION ON  
THE INCREASE OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL  
NEW YORK, 10 APRIL 2012**

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me at the outset to express our appreciation to you, Mr. Chairman, for your continued and untiring efforts in providing leadership in our long drawn efforts to reform the Security Council. It has been a journey that has seen ups and downs, but your stewardship has kept us back on track. The debate on the Security Council reform has garnered great interest amongst all member states, as we all want to see the Security Council reformed to reflect the geopolitics of today. Malaysia too shares this aspiration as we would like to see the creation of a peaceful, and stable international environment.

2. The reform of the United Nations, which is an evolving process, will not be complete without the reform of the Security Council that is long over due. Reform of the Council is intended to make the Council more representative, more accountable, more democratic, more transparent, more effective and more fair and even-handed. It is a process for the long haul and not a quick fix. It must be based on ideas for a more democratic global future, not worn-out concepts from the past of great power oligarchies. This process cannot be seen as a zero sum game. It is time to start with small incremental steps towards reaching the outcome that we are all seeking.

3. Malaysia, in principle, supports the expansion of both categories of the membership of the Security Council. Malaysia sees the provision of new permanent seats for the developing countries in consideration for equitable geographical representation in the enlarged membership positively. In this context, we share similar views with the proposal by the C10, for the provision of new permanent and non-permanent seats for Africa which has its merit and should be considered favorably by all Member States. Africa as well as several other developing regions must have a voice in the reformed Security Council.

Mr. Chairman,

4. Malaysia believes that the issue of the Security Council reform will only achieve tangible results should there be a strong political will among the Member States to undertake serious commitment in moving the process forward. On the question of veto, Mr. Chairman, Malaysia has been among the countries that have consistently called for the abolishment of the use of the veto in conformity with the principle of sovereign equality as envisaged in the Charter. Alternatively, the exercise of the veto should be regulated so as to prohibit that such power being the sole discretion of its holder to unjustly overrule the wish of the majority. There have been many proposals on how we can regulate this. Malaysia had previously suggested that a modified veto system be put in place, whereby two veto powers backed by three other members of the Security Council would be needed to block any Security Council resolution. The use of a veto must be explained and could be overridden by two thirds affirmative votes.

Mr. Chairman,

5. In conclusion, I wish to reiterate once again Malaysia's position for an early but meaningful conclusion of the reform process of the Security Council. We must recognize and accept that the final objective of the Security Council reform efforts must result in a strengthened multilateral system, rather than one which merely amplifies the prevalent power asymmetries. In this manner, Malaysia agrees in principle to the C10's initiative, on the expansion of both categories of membership, which also addresses our concerns and aims of the same process. Malaysia believes that the C10's proposal which would definitely be discussed further with many other proposals on the table, would positively contribute to the ultimate aim of ensuring the effectiveness of the Security Council. Once again we would like to call upon member states to unite in strengthening the UN and restore to the Organisation its prestige and effectiveness. It is only by achieving this that the UN can be more relevant for the entire world.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.