



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

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**STATEMENT BY
MR. SAIFUL AZAM ABDULLAH,
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS,
AT THE MEETING OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE
REVITALIZATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

NEW YORK, 10 MAY 2012

Co-Chairs,

I wish to commend the Co-Chairs for the leadership demonstrated as co-facilitators of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Revitalization of the General Assembly for its 66th session. Let me assure you of my delegation's fullest cooperation in your efforts to make further progress on this utmost important issue.

2. I also wish to thank all the Chairs of the main committees for the briefings provided on the working methods adopted at their respective committees in accordance with paragraph 15 of General Assembly resolution A/65/315. The briefings have enabled member States a greater understanding of the work, as well as the problems and challenges faced in each committee. At the same time, I wish to thank Mr. Magnus Olafsson, Director of Meetings and Publishing Division, for the briefing given on the work done by the division.

3. At this juncture, I wish to align my statement with that made by Algeria on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

Co-Chairs,

4. As mentioned before, my delegation believes that no other weakness of the General Assembly undermines its relevance or effectiveness more than the failure to implement its resolutions. While other aspects of revitalization are important, the failure to implement resolutions, which are painstakingly discussed and negotiated upon and which reflects the collective decision of the international community, undermines the

General Assembly's stature as the chief deliberative, policy making and representative body of the United Nations. Therefore, my delegation wishes to stress on the need to take corrective measures to address this situation.

5. We are under no illusion of the enormity of such a task. With the uncertain global financial situation, the timing of taking action could also be better. Nevertheless, we need to start somewhere in taking the first step to ensure that all resolutions of the General Assembly are implemented. Thus, we would welcome practical proposals or mechanisms that could be established to oversee the implementation of General Assembly resolutions, taking into account of the resources required and available for such an undertaking.

Co-Chairs,

6. Malaysia agrees that procedural improvements and enhancing the working methods is important in order to improve the efficiency of the General Assembly. On this note, we stand ready to look into issues such as rationalizing or clustering the list of agenda items. On the ever-increasing number of resolutions introduced in the General Assembly, a way forward could be the introduction of omnibus resolutions, which would reduce the number of resolutions and address some of the problems associated with their implementation. At the same time, we are open to consider the possibility of biennialization or triennialization of agenda items and resolutions. This, however, could only be done with the consent of the co-sponsoring State.

Co-Chairs,

7. We are willing to discuss various ways in improving the working methods of the General Assembly to make it more efficient. Be that as it may, in our view, enhancing efficiency is simply not enough to actually "revitalize" the General Assembly. We wish to reiterate that only when its rightful role as the principal policy making and norm-setting organ of the United Nations is restored can we truly make progress in "revitalizing" the General Assembly.

Co-Chairs,

8. My delegation wishes to reiterate our call for Member States to approach "revitalization" with openness and with the necessary political will in order to take concrete steps and make substantial progress on this front. My delegation stands ready in working constructively with you and other delegations in this regard.

I thank you.