



# Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

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**STATEMENT BY  
THE HONOURABLE SENATOR CHEW LEE GIOK  
MEMBER OF THE MALAYSIA SENATE AND REPRESENTATIVE OF  
MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
AT THE GENERAL DEBATE OF THE FIRST  
COMMITTEE DURING THE 67TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK  
11 OCTOBER 2012**

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Mr. Chairman,

I wish to extend my warmest congratulations to you, on your election as Chairman of the First Committee for the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly. My congratulations also go to the other members of the Bureau.

At the outset, my delegation associates itself with the statement made by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and the statement made by Myanmar on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Mr. Chairman,

2. Malaysia is concerned that developments in the reduction of nuclear weapons have remained dormant over the past year. Indeed, our work to rid of the world of the destructive force of nuclear weapons has continued without much progress. We believe that more effort is required by all States in order to achieve a general and complete disarmament under effective international control with the goal for the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

3. In the field of disarmament, the Conference on Disarmament entered its fourteenth consecutive year of absolute paralysis. This lack of development cannot continue forever. We call on all concerned parties to renew their positions with a view of having progress in this field.

4. Malaysia reaffirms the crucial role of the NPT in nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. We welcome the outcome of the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) that took place in Vienna. We will continue to call for the urgent conclusion of a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances.

5. On a related note, the fate for the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty remains unchanged. Malaysia would continue to call on all States to work together towards the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, particularly the Annex 2 States, whose signature and ratification of the CTBT are necessary for the Treaty's entry into force. We welcome the recent ratification by Indonesia, Guatemala and Guinea, but nevertheless, it has been 16 years since the CTBT was opened for signature and yet it still remained non-operational.

Mr. Chairman,

6. Despite these setbacks, there have been encouraging signs of development at the regional level. Malaysia is encouraged at the on-going consultations between ASEAN and the nuclear-weapon States on the Protocol of the Southeast Asian Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty. We look forward to the developments of these consultations with the objective of signing the Protocol by the nuclear-weapon States.

7. Malaysia also extends its full support for the establishment, in the Middle East a zone free of all weapons of mass destruction. We call for the timely implementation of the steps towards the convening of the Conference, which could provide the necessary impetus to the creation of such zone.

Mr. Chairman,

8. Multilateralism continues to be an important platform for the global effort to eliminate dangerous conventional weapons. In this regard, Malaysia welcomes the convening of the Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty last July. Malaysia participated actively in the negotiations, hoping to achieve a desired outcome of a legally binding international treaty. It is unfortunate that the negotiations did not reach its intended outcome. We believe that Member States should continue to push ahead for a continuance of its negotiations with the view of adopting the Treaty as soon as possible.

9. Similarly, Malaysia welcomes the successful outcome of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradication the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects held recently in New York. We call for the full implementation of the International Instrument to enable Member States to identify and trace, in a timely and reliable manner, illicit small arms and light weapons. We firmly believe that the UN Programme will promote and facilitate international cooperation. Such cooperation will enhance the effectiveness and complement existing bilateral, regional and international agreements to prevent, combat and

eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

Mr. Chairman,

10. The destructive nature of nuclear weapons with its far and wide ranging consequence is an impetus for all Member States to take this threat seriously. With such horrible consequences, Malaysia places great importance on nuclear disarmament and the threat such weapon poses on human civilization. As such, Malaysia will highlight this threat by submitting our traditional draft resolution on the “Follow-up to the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*”. Malaysia’s draft resolution would serve as a basis for negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control. Malaysia calls on all States to fulfill this obligation by commencing multilateral negotiations leading to the conclusion of nuclear weapons convention at the earliest possible date. Towards this, we look forward to more support from Member States to co-sponsor and support this draft resolution.

11. As a member of the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Malaysia has continued to promote the effective implementation and compliance of the Convention. The Chemical Weapons Convention, is the first multilateral instrument, which is non-discriminatory, and provides for comprehensive and verifiable prohibition of a whole category of chemical weapons. In the past 15 years, the OPCW has successfully facilitated the elimination of more than 70 percent of world’s declared chemical weapons stockpile. In this pursuit, Malaysia assures of its full cooperation in strengthening the works of the organisation.

12. Malaysia has always supported the efforts by the international community to press for universal adherence to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and compliance with its provisions. In line with Article IV of the Convention, Malaysia is in the process of introducing legislation concerning Biological Weapons Bill, which will ensure effective implementation of the BWC.

Mr. Chairman,

13. In conclusion, Malaysia’s has remained committed in the global effort of a general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control. My delegation is ready to work with you and other Member States towards achieving a positive and successful outcome of the work of the First Committee.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.