



# Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

*(Please check against delivery)*

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR HUSSEIN HANIFF,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA,  
ON AGENDA ITEM 9: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL;  
AND AGENDA ITEM 14: INTEGRATED AND COORDINATED IMPLEMENTATION OF AND  
FOLLOW-UP TO THE OUTCOMES OF  
THE MAJOR UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS IN THE ECONOMIC,  
SOCIAL, AND RELATED FIELDS;  
AT THE PLENARY OF THE SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF  
THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
NEW YORK, 22 OCTOBER 2012**

Mr. President,

On behalf of my delegation, I wish to thank you for holding this joint debate. I also would like to express our appreciation to the Secretary General for the report submitted under this agenda item.

Mr. President,

2. The ongoing global financial and economic crisis had reversed much of the world's economic growth that badly affected the much-needed development particularly in the developing countries. This crisis has threatened the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. Against this backdrop, at the national level, Malaysia has adopted forward-looking macroeconomic policies through the Tenth Malaysia Plan, aimed at delivering high economic growth in a sustained, inclusive and equitable manner, to ensure that Malaysia is on track in becoming a high income nation by 2020. At the global level, Malaysia would continue to share its knowledge and experience in economic and social developments with other countries, especially the Least Developed Countries, through capacity building initiatives conducted through the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) and other similar initiatives in conjunction with development partners, including the United Nations.

Mr. President,

3. Malaysia is grateful and elated by the selection of the Federation of Reproductive Health Associations of Malaysia (FRHAM) as recipient for the 2012 United Nations Population Award under the institutional category in recognition for its outstanding achievements in advocating reproductive health and in advancing the health and status of women and children in Malaysia.

4. The Federation has played an important role in bringing visibility to family planning not only in Malaysia but also in other parts of Asia. It has also demonstrated a high level of commitment to improve the lives of disadvantaged communities, including refugees, sex workers, and transsexual and marginalized youth at juvenile homes and orphanages. Given its outstanding contributions, the UN recognition is very timely and apt.

Mr. President,

5. Malaysia concurs with the two functions entrusted by the World Summit to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) namely the Annual Ministerial Review and the Biennial Development Cooperation Forum with the aim for effective implementation of the development agenda. It is important also that the ECOSOC to work as a system and continue to adopt the theme of the reviews well in advance in order to give different actors sufficient time to actively contribute to its deliberations.

6. Going forward, Malaysia believe that ECOSOC should review its role within the United Nations system in the integrated follow up to conferences and the modalities through which actors within the Organizations contribute to such follow-up. To promote coherence, coordination and integration of the United Nations apparatus, ECOSOC should also continue to look into the most appropriate modalities for follow-up to major conferences and summits.

Mr. President,

7. The deadline for achieving the Millennium Development Goals targets is fast approaching. While some progress has been made, it is a known fact that many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, are still far from achieving their development goals by 2015. The challenges we face today are different from it was many years ago. The current global landscape, financial and economic pressures and environmental issues are hampering countries efforts to achieve the development goals. In this regard, we urge all countries to re-strategize and realign in their approach towards economic and social development.

8. Malaysia is also of the view that the efforts to eradicate extreme poverty should also be complemented with improved access to basic infrastructure. Equal priorities should be given to improving access to basic services. Towards this, our partners from the developed countries can continue to assist in poverty eradication in the developing world by continuing to fulfill their Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitments. While we recognize that our partners might be facing economic difficulties back home, we are confident that these difficulties would not hinder them from fulfilling their ODA commitments as agreed in many UN Conferences.

Mr. President,

9. The 2010 MDG review showed Malaysia has achieved or is on track to attain the MDGs at aggregate level by 2015. In 2009, the poverty rate in Malaysia decreased to 3.8% and just last year, 63,147 poor households have been elevated under the 1Azam Programme, a hard-core poverty eradication program of the Malaysian Government. In order to plan, implement and monitor poverty eradication programs, Malaysia introduced a

monitoring system called e-Kasih in November 2007. E-Kasih was awarded the first prize in the United Nations Public Service Awards for year 2012, in recognition of its significant contribution in poverty eradication. The e-Kasih is a database system created at the national level to collect data of poor families in Malaysia. This database allows for fair distribution of assistance as well as to avoid overlapping aid programmes by multiple government agencies.

10. The progress made in the course of achieving the MDGs have encouraged Malaysia to further improve other key areas of development in the rural populace, through the adoption of effective policy actions. The Government of Malaysia has also established the necessary framework comprising four main pillars as drivers of change. These pillars are the six National Key Result Areas (NKRAs) as outlined in the Government Transformation Programme; the twelve National Key Economic Areas (NKEAs) of the Economic Transformation Programme; the strategic economic reforms in the New Economic Model; and the Tenth Malaysia Plan. These four pillars, which put emphasis on inclusiveness and sustainability, are aimed to propel Malaysia to be a high-income nation by 2020.

Mr. President,

11. As the deadline for achieving the target set for MDGs is less than three years away, Malaysia would like to reaffirm its commitment in joining the rest of the international community to further accelerate the progress in achieving the MDGs by 2015 and to actively contribute to the advancement of the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015, including the development of sustainable development goals. In this respect, we are pleased to note that Malaysia has become an increasingly active international partner for development and would continue to share its knowledge and experience in economic and social development with other developing countries. Being an active player in South-South Cooperation, Malaysia has offered its expertise in areas of capacity building and the human capital development to fellow developing countries, mainly through the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP). Since it's launching in 1980, more than 25,000 participants from 140 countries have benefited from this programme.

Mr. President,

12. I would like to conclude by reaffirming Malaysia's commitment to implement the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields by pursuing a development policy framework that is focused on high growth through a sustained, inclusive and equitable economic, social and environmental policies, guided by the principles and objectives of sustainable development.

I thank you, Mr. President.