



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

(Please check against delivery)

STATEMENT BY MR. SAIFUL AZAM ABDULLAH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE, PERMANENT MISSION OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ON AGENDA ITEM 11, GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, AT THE FINAL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE ARMS TRADE TREATY, NEW YORK, 18 MARCH 2013

Ambassador Wolcott,

My delegation congratulates you on your election as President of this Final United Nations Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty. We attach great importance to this Conference. We are heartened to hear, and agree on the goal of this Conference to be to reach consensus on an Arms Trade Treaty, and that the manner in which it will be conducted will be open, transparent and inclusive. This is a challenging, but not insurmountable, task. But we are confident of your ability to get us there. You can count on the cooperation and support of the Malaysian delegation.

Mr. President,

2. We are all fully aware of the outcome of the July 2012 Conference. The General Assembly has given the ATT process another lifeline. We need to grasp this opportunity. We need to fully utilize it. And we need to ensure that we work towards bringing convergence.

3. Malaysia has our positions and our views on the ATT. The specificities of these will be elaborated further in the subsequent sessions. At this stage, allow me to emphasise the following remarks:

- 3.1 Firstly, Member states were very close to agreeing to the ATT last July. The 26 July text was imperfect. In working together to improve that text and to reach a satisfactory outcome in this Conference, delegations need to refrain from unraveling the compromises and understandings agreed to last year, including on the goals and objectives, scope of covered items and activities, as well as the overall structure of articles related to the criteria and implementation;
- 3.2 Secondly, activities such as transit and transshipment remain particularly important, for all countries, and in particular for those countries with high volumes of international trade; and
- 3.3 Finally, the ATT should not be burdened with linkages to concepts that are immeasurable and broad in nature, or concepts that are not fully shared and agreed upon. We can have a good Treaty. We can have a strong and

robust Treaty. But it won't be such if we continue to insist on matters already extensively consulted upon last year.

Mr. President,

4. I will also briefly share here that on 27-28 February 2013, the Malaysian Government, together with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD), based in Kathmandu, had hosted the "Asia Regional Meeting to Facilitate Dialogue on the Arms Trade Treaty". Senior officials from twenty countries from the Asia and Pacific region had actively participated in the Regional Meeting. The meeting was a success. The message that we wish to convey from this Regional Meeting is that the countries in Asia and the Pacific have a strong interest in the ATT process - and that the viewpoints and positions of countries in this region are essential, necessary and need to be fully taken into account.

Mr. President,

5. My delegation looks forward to working closely with you and other delegations. We look forward to a successful outcome. And we look forward to a future Arms Trade Treaty that does justice to the problems that arise from the unregulated trade in conventional arms.

I thank you.