



# Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

*(Please check against delivery)*

**STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR HUSSEIN HANIFF,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
AT THE 16<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT  
TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 51/210 TO ELABORATE ON A DRAFT  
COMPREHENSIVE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM  
NEW YORK, 8 APRIL 2013**

Mr. Chairman,

First and foremost, I wish to welcome you back as Chair of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee established by resolution 51/210. I also wish to thank you for your efforts, as well as those by the coordinator, Ms. Maria Telalian, in facilitating discussions in order to achieve an agreed draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism. Allow me this opportunity to also congratulate members of the Bureau on their recent election for this meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee.

2. I wish to align my statement with that delivered by Egypt on behalf of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and Iran on behalf of the Non Aligned Movement (NAM).

Mr. Chairman,

3. The occurrences of terrorist acts are showing no signs of abating. In fact, it is becoming a norm to the point of many readily accepting it as an everyday occurrence. It happens in all corners of the world. It is because of this that my delegation, as with others in this room, condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Terrorist acts cannot be justified on any grounds and irrespective of any motivations and objectives.

Mr. Chairman,

4. Malaysia has ratified nine of the 13 international conventions and protocols as well as taken various measures to fulfill its obligations that have been set forth by the General Assembly and Security Council. We are in the midst of amending relevant national laws to enable us to accede to the remaining conventions and protocols.

5. The only remaining legal framework that eludes us is the draft comprehensive convention, which would fill the gaps in the existing sectoral conventions and enhance

efforts to bring perpetrators to justice. It would serve as a useful tool in the prevention and suppression of international terrorism and provide a practical framework for cooperation and coordination among States. It is against this backdrop that Malaysia supports the conclusion, at the earliest possibility, of a draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism.

Mr. Chairman,

6. For Malaysia, the definition of terrorism must be all encompassing in that it would need to cover terrorist acts committed by States and non-State actors alike. It is equally important to distinguish between terrorism and the legitimate struggle of people under foreign occupation for liberation and self-determination. By the same token, terrorism should not be associated with any religion, race, culture, ethnic group or nationality.

7. Malaysia reiterates the importance of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations and in this regard supports Egypt's proposal. We are of the view that the conference will serve as an important way forward to address the challenges handicapping global counter terrorism efforts. While the convening of the conference should not be made to hinge on the conclusion of the draft comprehensive convention, it could nonetheless, in our view, assist in resolving outstanding issues in the draft comprehensive convention.

Mr. Chairman,

8. The decision not to convene the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee in 2012 has allowed all delegations to take a step back to think of how to move forward on the draft comprehensive convention. I hope we are all prepared to do just that. I also hope that this meeting will see all of us revisit outstanding differences with renewed vigor and political will in finalizing the comprehensive convention on a consensual basis. On this, I wish to assure you of my delegation's commitment and active participation in efforts to achieve substantive progress during this meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee.

I thank you.