



Malaysia

Permanent Mission to the United Nations

**EXPLANATION OF VOTE BY
H.E. AMBASSADOR HUSSEIN HANIFF
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ON UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION A/67/262
ON THE SITUATION IN THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
15 MAY 2013, NEW YORK**

Mr. President,

For more than two years, the issue of Syria has remained in the agenda of the international community. For more than two years, the international community has remained in paralysis in finding a workable solution for the crisis. And for more than two years, the number of innocent victims who lost their lives have kept increasing in the tens of thousands. The violence in Syria must stop. The Syrian people have suffered enough. All parties concerned inside and outside Syria should refrain from any actions that would not only prolong the conflict but also contribute to further violence and killings in Syria. It would be important to recognise that there is no military solution to the conflict, and only a Syrian-led political transition can end the crisis.

Malaysia reiterates its full support to H.E. Lakhdar Brahimi, the Joint Special Representative of the United Nations and the League of Arab States, for his selfless determination to resume efforts in resolving any differences through negotiation, and we would continue to call and urge all parties involved in the conflict to support him in finding an amicable, peaceful and lasting political solution to the crisis. Malaysia encourages all parties to engage in moderation, good faith, compromise, understanding, rejection of extremism and peaceful dialogue in order to resolve this senseless conflict.

We urge the international community, in particular the United Nations, the League of Arab States, the influential nations and the regional players to seek ways and means to provide protection to the Syrian civilian population, to express grave concern on the issue of chemical weapons, as well as to extend humanitarian assistance to the Syrian civilians who are the real victims in this unfortunate bloodshed.

While Malaysia maintains its policy of non-interference in the domestic affairs and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of another country, we are nonetheless deeply concerned at the deterioration of the security situation in the country which would have grave consequences on the stability and the security of the region. We feel that a peaceful political solution is still viable and the only option to resolve the crisis.

Malaysia therefore decides to support this resolution on the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic as we have consistently supported the previous resolutions on Syria. This is because of our strong belief in the multilateral system and its ability to find an amicable and peaceful solution, and in negotiating in good faith. As before, Malaysia hopes that the implementation of the text tabled before the General Assembly today, would ensure that concrete and viable steps including those agreed to in the Geneva communiqué of 30 June 2012, for a transitional governing body formed by mutual consent, as well as an inclusive national dialogue be respected by all parties involved in the conflict. Malaysia also welcomes the recent announcement by Russia and the United States on the convening of an international conference on Syria, with the aim of finding a political solution to the conflict.

I thank you Mr. President.