



MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



CANDIDATE
to the
UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY COUNCIL
for the term 2015-2016

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**STATEMENT BY
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PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 108: CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND
AGENDA ITEM 109: INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL
OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE**

**68TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
NEW YORK, 9 OCTOBER 2013**

Mr. Chairman,

Malaysia believes that transnational crime is a global concern that needs to be addressed, as it poses genuine threat to stability and security of nations, affecting the social, political and economic development of societies globally. Align with the Work Programme from 2013 to 2015 that was recently adopted at the 9th ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC), in September 2013, as highlighted earlier in the ASEAN's statement this morning, Malaysia's crime preventing efforts are constantly reviewed to meet the growing challenges of transnational crime in eight priority areas, namely counter-terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, money laundering, sea piracy, arms smuggling, international economic crime, and cybercrime.

2. Malaysia made it a top priority on the importance of crime prevention, underscoring it as one of our six National Key Result Areas (NKRA) in our Government Transformation Programme (GTP). Building from the encouraging outcomes on crime prevention for the period of 2010 to 2012 which Malaysia achieved recognitions, among others : Malaysia is ranked number one among countries in the 'Upper Middle Income' category, and number 16 in the overall global rankings under the 'Order and Security' index , according to the World Justice Project Rule of Law Index 2012 Report, Malaysia has launched the second phase of the Government Transformation Programme (GTP) which aims to achieve a 65 per cent rate in public safety perception index by 2015.

Mr. Chairman,

3. Combating transnational crime requires the cooperation among countries through exchanges of information, capacity-building, mutual legal assistance and joint investigations. It is clear that no country can be excluded from the scourge of

transnational organised crime and nor can any legal system on its own be capable of fully controlling the growth of this type of crime.

4. In this regard, apart from participating actively in regional efforts through ASEAN and its external partners, Malaysia at the same time further enhances its security cooperation bilaterally. Recently, Malaysia further enhances cooperation with Singapore through the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to Fight Against the Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, their Analogues and Precursor Chemicals on 26 June 2012, and with the United States of America through the signing of MoU on Assistance in the Field of Transnational Crime on 17 July 2012. These MoUs enable cooperation that would mutually benefit relevant agencies from both countries to address transnational crime and drug related issues.

Mr. Chairman,

5. With regard to the issue of drug trafficking, Malaysia views it as a serious problem that continues to plague most nations, including Malaysia. Despite all our commitments and various efforts, the world drug problem continues to pose a serious threat to public health, in particular young people. Every year on 26 June we are reminded of the threat posed by drug abuse as we participate in the UN's initiative, the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. Malaysia fully supports the UN on this year's theme - "Make health your 'new high' in life, not drugs", on the importance to disseminate information to the public about the harmful effects of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS). These substances add new threat to the public, as they are believed to be far more dangerous than traditional drugs, and they are sold openly, including through the internet.

6. In Malaysia, there are three major drug related challenges; smuggling of drugs into the country for local consumption, abuse of drugs by the local population, and the transit of drugs through Malaysia for third countries. Drug abuse and trafficking is our number one public enemy. Combating drug abuse has been one of the priority areas for Malaysia and the Government has proclaimed it as a threat to national security since 1983.

7. Through our National Anti-Doping Agency, Malaysia endeavours to fully accelerate the implementation of the body's Strategic Plan 2011-2015 with the aim to achieve our national goal in combating drug abuse, which is to stop the supply and demand of illicit drugs via a four-step approach: combating illicit drugs, treatment and rehabilitation, law enforcement and international cooperation.

Mr. Chairman,

8. During the General Debate session, we heard from many Member States of the challenges they faced in the fight against drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking in their respective countries. There were also calls by some of the Member States for re-evaluation of the agreed international policies and the importance to look for more

effective solutions against drug trafficking, by approaching it from the perspective of health, respect for human rights, and the perspective of impact reduction.

9. To conclude, Malaysia agrees with the view that prevention efforts are the best way to tackle issues of illicit drugs and we also believe that combating this menace is a shared responsibility that requires effective and holistic approach through national, regional and multilateral efforts. We therefore welcomes exchanges of views, lesson learnt and best practices among Member States in eliminating the imminent threat of drugs abuse.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.