



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
MR. RAJA REZA RAJA ZAIB SHAH
CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. AND DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 136 : IMPROVING THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS
AT THE FIFTH COMMITTEE
68TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
17 OCTOBER 2013, NEW YORK**

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to take the floor on behalf of the Malaysian delegation under agenda item 136 on Improving the Financial Situation of the United Nations.

2. My delegation wishes to thank Mr. Yukio Takasu, Under-Secretary General for Management for introducing the Secretary General's report on Improving the Financial Situation of the United Nations as contained in document A/68/524 and the briefing to the Fifth Committee on this item on 9 October 2013. Malaysia takes cognizant of the issue regarding the financial situation of the United Nations and concurs with the conclusion of the Under-Secretary General's report.

3. Malaysia aligns itself with the statement made by Fiji, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Mr. Chairman,

4. My delegation is of the opinion that the financial situation of the United Nations is important as we traverse into the challenges of international relations in the 21st century. As an inter-governmental body that is mandated to maintain peace and security and to develop friendly relations among nations and establish international cooperation, Malaysia holds a firm view with regards to the obligation of Member States in financing the United Nations.

5. Malaysia is concerned that the report by the Under-Secretary General showed a lower payment of contribution as at 1 October 2013. The unpaid assessed contribution of US\$945 million could jeopardise the smooth operations of the United Nations in implementing its mandate worldwide. What is even more startling is that the report also underscored that the cash flow currently available will not be able to cover the disbursement to the end of 2013.

Mr. Chairman,

5. Like all Member States, contributions to the United Nations changes according to various elements as agreed under the scales of assessments. Over the years, Malaysia too has seen large changes to its contributions. Malaysia's contribution has increased from 0.190 percent in 2009 to 0.253 percent in 2012 and to 0.281 percent for this year. Even with these assessed changes, Malaysia would continue to fulfil its obligations to the United Nations and will pay its contributions consistently. In this regard, Malaysia calls on all Member States to fulfil their financial obligations to the United Nations. We firmly believe that all Member States are legally obligated to finance the United Nations.

6. As peacekeeping operations is a major activity of the United Nations, my delegation is also concerned with the outstanding amount of US\$3.4 billion owed by Member States as at 1 October 2013. While we acknowledge that it is difficult to predict the demands for peacekeeping operations, Malaysia shares the view that the maintenance of international peace and security is a collective responsibility of all Member States.

7. My delegation would also like to emphasise that financing UN peacekeeping operations is equally important. With 16 peacekeeping operations world-wide and an approximate budget of US\$7.2 billion for the period of June 2013 to July 2014, Malaysia is of the opinion that the lack of financial support to the UN peacekeeping operations would affect international peace and security.

8. Malaysia firmly believes in collective international security arrangement and has a longstanding commitment to UN peacekeeping operations. With more than 20,000 Malaysian troops who had served in various United Nations missions, Malaysia would continue to fulfil its obligation to finance UN peacekeeping operations and we call upon UN Member States to fulfil their obligations to finance UN peacekeeping operations.

Mr. Chairman,

9. Malaysia is of view that addressing the financial situation of the United Nations demands each Member States to believe in our international obligation to finance this Organisation. We must believe that United Nations is an Organisation that contributes not only to international security, but also plays an important role in supporting international relations and cooperation that unites all of us to a common objective. We must acknowledge that the financial health of the United Nations depends heavily on the ability of Member States in meeting their financial obligations.

10. In concluding, we also wish to reiterate our call for deliberations on this agenda item to be conducted in good faith and in an open, inclusive and transparent manner.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.