



MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



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

(Please check against delivery)

**STATEMENT BY
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CHARGE D' AFFAIRES A.I.
PERMANENT MISSION OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 22: GROUP OF COUNTRIES IN SPECIAL SITUATION
22(A): FOLLOW UP TO THE FOURTH UNITED NATIONS ON THE
LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND**

**22(B): COMPREHENSIVE 10-YEAR REVIEW CONFERENCE ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALMATY PROGRAMME OF ACTION
AT THE SECOND COMMITTEE OF THE 68TH SESSION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
NEW YORK, 21 OCTOBER 2013**

Mr. Chairman,

Malaysia wishes to align itself with the statement made by Fiji, on behalf of G77 and China and the statement made by Singapore on behalf of ASEAN.

2. I also wish to thank the Secretary General for his comprehensive report on the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries (LDC) for the decade 2011 to 2020. Malaysia welcomes the Secretary-General's report as contained in document A/68/157 on comprehensive 10-year review conference on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC) within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries.

3. Malaysia also welcomes the decision to convene the Second UN Conference on LLDCs in 2014 to comprehensively review the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, and to adopt a new development framework for the next decade. In addition, the Third International Conference for Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in 2014 in Samoa will be an important occasion to assess development gaps and address the special needs and vulnerabilities of SIDS. Malaysia looks forward to the successful deliberations and outcomes of both events.

Mr. Chairman,

4. While we are experiencing the cooler breeze of autumn at this moment, rest assured that most of us, together with the rest of the world are still feeling the heat of the fragility and uncertainty of the current global economy. There are still many out there wondering where their next meal would be coming from. This is the main reason why we are here today, trying to deliberate solutions to alleviate their sufferings, expand the prosperity value to improve the living conditions of those vulnerable, especially women and children. Furthermore, given the potential impacts of the possible natural disasters and the effects of global climate change on the LDCs and LLDCs, it is pertinent for the international community to diligently implement the Istanbul Programme of Action.

5. Two years into the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, LDCs have made some progress on many of the goals and targets agreed in Istanbul. Despite these progresses, poverty continues to be stubbornly high with almost half of LDC citizens living with less than USD 1.25 a day. Progress has been modest on education while gender inequalities remain high. Physical infrastructure continued to be largely below international standard. Generation, diffusion and application of knowledge and ICT are very limited partly because of a narrow base of science-literate citizens. More disturbing is that the deteriorating global economic environment is being transmitted to the LDCs through declining FDI, ODA and increasing volatility of commodity prices.

Mr. Chairman,

6. Malaysia remains steadfast with our vision, efforts and commitment, through the spirit of South-South cooperation, for the success of the Istanbul Programme of Action, with the view of assisting the LDCs in meeting the MDG targets, the post-2015 Development Agenda and other internationally agreed development goals beyond 2015. We call upon all relevant stakeholders to act now and give due priority to LDCs as well as to double their efforts in implementing the programme of action, as the year 2015 is fast approaching.

7. My delegation recognizes the crucial role of developed countries as development partners in the effective implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action. Malaysia also views that the LDCs ownership and leadership in formulating its own policies based on national priorities, conditions and requirements, are also equally important in the success of this Programme.

Mr. Chairman,

8. Malaysia remains committed towards the common endeavor of assisting LDCs to further uplift its socio-economic development level that remains a global concern. Since the inception of the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) in 1981, more than 26,000 participants from 141 developing countries have benefited from the programme, in which more than 10,000 participants were from 49 LDCs and former LDC countries. Apart from attending technical capacity building short courses in

Malaysia, we have also provided the services of experts, to LDCs, under the MTCP in areas where Malaysia has the proven expertise.

9. Malaysia views positively the increasing importance of triangular cooperation, involving both the developed partners and the recipient countries as part of the South-South cooperation framework. On this score, Malaysia has worked with governments, and institutions from Japan, Australia, Denmark, Germany and the Commonwealth, through the Third Country Training Programme (TCTP), collaborating through funding for participants from developing countries, in particular the LDCs, to attend short courses under the MTCP programme.

10. In 2012 alone, 16 short courses have been earmarked to be implemented through triangular cooperation with international development partners. This is an example of the MTCP's collaboration with international development partners in our efforts to increase the outreach of our programmes. We would like to further strengthen this cooperation in the future and in this connection, Malaysia would welcome extended cooperation with new development partners through this triangular cooperation programme that would benefit the LDCs.

Mr. Chairman,

11. Malaysia will continue to support concerted efforts and actions by the LDCs and international development partners in achieving the goals and targets of the Istanbul Programme of Action. On our part, Malaysia will continue to share its development experience particularly in the field of poverty eradication and capacity building with the LDCs both at the regional and international levels. Malaysia looks forward for the successful implementation of both the Istanbul and the Almaty Programme of Actions.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman