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**STATEMENT BY  
H.E. AMBASSADOR HUSSEIN HANIFF  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 63:  
NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT: PROGRESS IN  
IMPLEMENTATION AND INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT**

**AND AGENDA ITEM 13:  
2001 – 2010: DECADE TO ROLL BACK MALARIA IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES,  
PARTICULARLY AFRICA**

**AT THE PLENARY OF THE 68<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF  
THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
NEW YORK, 25 OCTOBER 2013**

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Mr. President,

I wish to thank you for convening this joint debate. Malaysia wishes to align itself to the statements delivered by the distinguished Permanent Representative of Fiji on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and the distinguished Permanent Representative of Brunei Darussalam on behalf of ASEAN. I also would like to express our appreciation to the Secretary-General for his comprehensive reports submitted under the agenda item 63.

2. Malaysia also would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our African friends, on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and on its achievements so far. This ten-year celebration is more significant as it coincides with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the African Union, and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa tasked with global advocacy and support for Africa's development, in particular the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

Mr. President,

3. Malaysia attaches great importance to its relation and cooperation with Africa especially in the area of peace and security, trade, investment and holistic development of the region. We truly believe that under the solidarity of the South-South Cooperation, the relations between Malaysia and countries in Africa have been enhanced through cooperation and mutual respect. As reflected in the UNCTAD Report on the Rise of

BRICS and Africa in March 2013, Malaysia is the biggest Asian source of foreign direct investment (FDI) to Africa. Malaysia was the third biggest investor in Africa in 2011 after the United States and France, with a total of USD19.3 billion of investment in the continent. The investment from the Malaysian private sector has led to the creation of more decent jobs, transfer of knowledge and technology, and has assisted in projecting Africa as a vibrant investment destination in the world.

Mr. President,

4. While we welcome the progress made by many of the African countries, Malaysia also acknowledges the challenges and difficulties faced by African countries in achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. The fresh call for accelerating the implementation of MDG, made during the Special Event on MDG last September, needs to be answered by the United Nations development system and the developed partners. The decline of ODA for two years in a row has seriously undermined efforts to attain the MDGs especially to the LDCs including those in Africa. In this regard, Malaysia wishes to reaffirm our support and continue to be an active dialogue partner to Africa, under the framework of South-South cooperation.

5. Malaysia cooperates with African countries through specific technical courses under the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) and through a triangular cooperation such as the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) - Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) - Africa (MTCP-JICA-Africa). Malaysia has also entered into specific cooperation programme with African countries through dialogue platforms such as the private sector involvement through Malaysian South-South Association (MASSA) and Malaysian South-South Cooperation (MASSCORP). As of end of 2012, a total of 6797 participants, from 45 African countries have benefitted from the MTCP. And in conjunction with the 68<sup>th</sup> United Nations Day celebration held in Kuala Lumpur on 24 October 2013, MTCP has been accorded with the MDG "Global Partnership for Development" award, a recognition for its outstanding contribution to the United Nations development goal.

Mr. President,

6. Malaysia remains committed to promoting the South-South Cooperation in Africa, and in this regard, the Prime Minister led the Malaysian delegation to the Global Smart Partnership Dialogue (GSPD) 2013 held in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania from 28 June to 1 July 2013. The theme for GSPD 2013 was "*Leveraging Technology for Africa's Socio-economic Transformation: The Smart Partnership Way*". The Dialogue was attended by 14 Heads of State / Government from the African and Asian regions. During the Dialogue, Malaysia shared with others its policies and direction towards achieving its vision to become a fully developed nation by the year 2020. The new policies and directions are Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), Government Transformation Programme (GTP), Economic Transformation Programme (ETP), National Key Results Area (NKRA) and Key Performance Index (KPI). Malaysia was pleased to participate in

the GSPD 2013 and looks forward to participating in the next GSPD scheduled to be held in South Africa in 2014.

7. Malaysia also wishes to reaffirm its commitment to host the future Smart Partnership Dialogue through the Langkawi International Dialogue (LID) at a date to be announced in due course. Malaysia believes that the Smart Partnership Dialogue is a good platform for Malaysia to continuously engage with other African countries besides bilateral engagements. Malaysia's presence during the Dialogue in Africa and our commitment to host LID demonstrates our continuing support for Africa's economic development.

8. Malaysia has, since 1995, organized the LID. The Dialogue has been successful in forging smart partnership between the governments and private sectors of the South. Since its inception, a total of nine such dialogues have been held, aimed at the fostering of Smart Partnerships at all levels in society, engaging the political leadership, civil service, business, labour, civil societies, media and the population at large. The success of the LID has prompted African countries to organize a similar dialogue in Southern Africa, known as Southern Africa International Dialogue (SAID).

Mr. President,

9. Malaysia welcomes the progress made by African countries during the last 10 years of implementation of African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), an initiative established under NEPAD. It has succeeded to fulfill its objectives to encourage and build transformative leadership and constructive national dialogue among African countries, through an inclusive and participatory self-assessment process. APRM has successfully fostered policies and practices that would lead to attainment of the NEPAD objectives of political stability, high economic growth, and sustainable development and accelerated sub-regional and continental economic integration. Though it is voluntary in nature, the increasing number of countries participating in this process, signifies the importance that African countries attach to strengthening their institutions of governance. Malaysia hopes that more African countries will participate in this process in the future, hence further enhancing the development of Africa as a whole. We hope all these consolidated efforts will assist our African friends to achieve their goals.

Mr. President,

10. Turning now to the issue of malaria, Malaysia welcomes the launching of a road map on shared responsibility and global solidarity for AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria response in Africa for 2012-2015. Malaysia also has its fair share of experience on the malaria disease. However, we are pleased to report that Malaysia has achieved major success in virtually eliminating malaria from urban and other densely populated areas in the country.

11. Over the past 50 years, the number of malaria cases in Malaysia has declined dramatically. In 1961, there were 243,470 malaria cases in Malaysia and in 2010, the

cases further decreased to 6,650. The continuous decline is the result of several effective strategies adopted by the government, which began with the Malaria Eradication Programme in the 1960s.

12. Malaysia has built on its experience and past achievements to strengthen current efforts and secure further commitments towards malaria elimination by 2020. In order to achieve this, the National Strategic Plan for the Elimination of Malaria (2010-2020) was formulated with the objective of eliminating locally acquired malaria by 2020.

13. Malaysia is committed to malaria elimination as such elimination brings many benefits to the population and the economy of the country such as reduction in health sector cost, reduced absenteeism, and improved level of education, productivity and foreign investments. The elimination programme will also ensure equality as activities are required to be implemented at all levels, to include those who are impoverished, marginalized and vulnerable.

Mr. President,

14. To conclude, Malaysia recognizes that while a lot has been achieved, there is still more work required to halt and reverse this epidemic. We are prepared to share our national experience in this regard.

I thank you Mr. President.