



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 9: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL;
AGENDA ITEM 14: INTEGRATED AND COORDINATED IMPLEMENTATION OF
AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE OUTCOMES OF THE MAJOR UNITED NATIONS
CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND RELATED
FIELDS;
AND AGENDA ITEM 118: FOLLOW-UP TO THE OUTCOME OF THE
MILLENNIUM SUMMIT**

**AT THE PLENARY OF THE 68th SESSION OF
THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
NEW YORK, 11 NOVEMBER 2013**

Mr. President,

At the outset, I wish to convey my condolences to the Government of Philippines over the tragic event that took place arising from typhoon Haiyan. I wish to thank you for holding this joint debate. I also would like to express our appreciation to the Secretary General for the reports submitted under this agenda item.

2. Improving the quality of life of a growing population in a sustainable manner remains the most urgent development priority for the international community. However, pursuing poverty eradication and sustainable development together is a formidable challenge both for national Governments and for the multilateral system. The world is changing rapidly and is confronted by economic, social and environmental challenges that cannot be addressed effectively without enhanced international cooperation. As recognized by world leaders at the Rio+20 Conference, there is a need for effective multilateralism and efficient intergovernmental arrangements, including a strengthened Economic and Social Council.

3. In the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), entitled "The future we want", world leaders envisioned an enhanced multilateral system to better address the global challenges of sustainable development. Within the framework of the review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16, member states had deliberated extensively on how to make

ECOSOC more relevant, through series of consultations, and coming up with specific recommendations that was captured in the SG's report. In line with the recommendations in the report, the General Assembly adopted on 20 September 2013, a resolution containing the most far-reaching reforms of ECOSOC since 1991. Malaysia views that this reform process will make ECOSOC a stronger, more issue-oriented body, responsive to the mounting global economic, social and environmental pressures. ECOSOC can be a bystander or an active intergovernmental body that engages Member States and other stakeholders to deliberate and contribute to an effective and timely multilateral response addressing immediate demands and longer-term development needs.

Mr. President,

4. Strengthening the ECOSOC will require significant transformation and an overhaul of its methods of work. The expected emphasis of the Post-2015 development agenda on sustainable development, which will be universally applied, will have a significant bearing on how the global partnership for development should be reoriented. The principle of "*Common But Differentiated Responsibility*" should be upheld by all Member States and the UN system in implementing the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Ensuring that an internationally agreed Post-2015 Development Agenda is followed by effective action will require international institutions to adapt to the increasingly global, multidimensional and interconnected nature of development challenges.

5. Institutional coherence depends to a large degree on the quality of interaction among intergovernmental bodies. The activities of the high-level political forum established by the outcome of the Rio+20 Conference should complement the work of ECOSOC, and the forum should benefit from the strengths of the ECOSOC as decided in paragraph 84 of the Rio+20 outcome document, which states that the forum should avoid overlap with existing structures, bodies and entities in a cost-effective manner. There should be coherence between the themes addressed by the ECOSOC and those addressed by the High Level Political Forum.

Mr. President,

6. The ongoing global financial and economic crisis had reversed much of the world's economic growth that badly affected the much-needed development particularly in the developing countries. This crisis has threatened the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. Against this backdrop, at the national level, Malaysia has adopted forward-looking macroeconomic policies through the Tenth Malaysia Plan, aimed at delivering high economic growth in a sustained, inclusive and equitable manner, to ensure that Malaysia is on track in becoming a high income nation by 2020. At the global level, Malaysia would continue to share its knowledge and experience in economic and social developments with other countries, especially the Least Developed Countries, through capacity building initiatives conducted through the

Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) and other similar initiatives in conjunction with development partners, including the United Nations.

Mr. President,

7. Malaysia is also of the view that the efforts to eradicate extreme poverty should be the over-arching goal for the Post-2015 Development Agenda. It has to be complemented with improved access to basic infrastructure. And equal priorities should be given to improving access to basic services. Towards this, our partners from the developed countries can continue to assist in poverty eradication in the developing world by continuing to fulfill their Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitments. While we recognize that our partners might be facing economic difficulties back home, we are confident that these difficulties would not hinder them from fulfilling their ODA commitments as agreed in many UN Conferences.

Mr. President,

8. The 2010 MDG review showed Malaysia has achieved or is on track to attain the MDGs at aggregate level by 2015. The latest figures show that the poverty rate in Malaysia has decreased to 1.7%. Just last year, 63,147 poor households have been elevated under the 1Azam Programme, a hard-core poverty eradication program of the Malaysian Government. In order to plan, implement and monitor poverty eradication programs, Malaysia introduced a monitoring system called e-Kasih in November 2007. E-Kasih was awarded the first prize in the United Nations Public Service Awards for year 2012, in recognition of its significant contribution in poverty eradication. The e-Kasih is a database system created at the national level to collect data of poor families in Malaysia. This database allows for fair distribution of assistance as well as to avoid overlapping aid programmes by multiple government agencies.

Mr. President,

9. I would like to conclude by reaffirming Malaysia's commitment to implement the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields by pursuing a development policy framework that is focused on high growth through a sustained, inclusive and equitable economic, social and environmental policies, guided by the principles and objectives of sustainable development.

I thank you, Mr. President.