



MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



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

**ON AGENDA ITEM 105: CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND
AGENDA ITEM 106: INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL
OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE**

**69TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
NEW YORK, 9 OCTOBER 2014**

Madam Chair,

My delegation wishes to associate itself with the statement delivered by my country Malaysia on behalf of the ASEAN member countries on the agenda item under consideration.

2. The main thrust of the statement delivered by the Prime Minister of Malaysia during the General Debate of the 69th Session of the UNGA was on violent extremism and religious intolerance. We believe violent extremism and religious intolerance attributed to the worrying and disturbing acts of terrorism and to a certain extent, transnational crime of late. Malaysia also believes that acts of terrorism and transnational crime are a global concern that needs to be addressed as it poses detrimental effect on the social, political and economic development.

3. As for Malaysia, crime preventing efforts are constantly reviewed to meet the growing challenges of transnational crime. Priority areas of focus included on counter-terrorism, illicit drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, money laundering, sea piracy, arms smuggling, international economic crime and cybercrime. Malaysia believes that transnational organized crime needs to be addressed in a more comprehensive manner. Possible approaches include strengthening the capacity of law enforcement agencies and enhancing inter-agency cooperation.

Madam Chair,

4. In combating transnational crime, it is crucial to realize that collective cooperation among countries through exchanges of information, capacity-building, mutual legal assistance and joint investigations remain key for us to triumph. We continue to believe that bilateral cooperation between countries on these issues is an important and

effective method. Sharing of information, as well as intelligence, needs to be done based on its necessity and on reciprocal basis.

5. On bilateral security cooperation, Malaysia had recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on International Security Programme with Canada. The MoU lays the foundation for Canada and Malaysia to reinforce and expand their cooperation on countering international crime and terrorism. Four projects have been identified to be implemented through this MoU, encompassing cooperation on trafficking in persons and maritime security.

6. The MoU signed with Canada compliments the already long list of bilateral cooperation forged between Malaysia and other countries, including Singapore, Australia, China and the US. We are convinced that these cooperation would mutually benefit the relevant agencies from both countries to address transnational crime.

Madam Chair,

7. Malaysia condemns in the strongest possible terms terrorism in all of its acts, methods and practices. We are even more perturbed by the irresponsible act of extremists committing acts of terror in the name of religion. We recognized that in fighting terrorism, the demands for effective international action in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and universally recognized principles governing international relations and international law could not be greater.

8. Malaysia subscribes to a multifaceted approach in combating terrorism. We need to address the underlying contributing factors that support terrorism; undertaking strict and firm enforcement measures; adopting and implementing legislative measures; enhancing the capacity of law enforcement agencies; and enhancing inter-agency cooperation.

9. At the national level, Malaysia has in place a national directive to manage and counter terrorism. The national directive or “National Security Council Directive No. 18 – Handling and Managing Terrorist Crisis” links the military, police and other civilian authorities for a more effective counter-terrorism effort.

Madam Chair,

10. Drug trafficking poses threats to a country’s social and economic structures, as criminals are never restrictive in their illicit endeavours. The problem is considered more challenging in South East Asia, largely due to its close proximity to the Golden Crescent, which is the main opium-producing region. Measures to control illicit drug trafficking are best carried out through concerted international efforts, including bilateral and regional arrangements, in view of the transnational nature of the crime. These should include providing technical assistance and engaging in capacity building programmes to provide alternative sources of income in drug-producing areas or countries.

11. In Malaysia, there are three major drug related problems; 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. Combating drug trafficking has been one of the priority areas for Malaysia and the Government has proclaimed it as a threat to national security since 1983.

12. In response to the threat, Malaysia had formulated the National Drug Policy in 1996 to deal with the problems of drug abuse and trafficking. The main objective of this policy is to eliminate the demand and supply of illicit drugs. As the challenges evolved, the Government, through the National Anti-Doping Agency had established National Anti-Doping Strategic Plan 2011-2015 in our efforts to fight this societal disease.

13. Stepping up cooperation to combat drug trafficking at the regional level, Malaysia and Singapore had signed an MoU on to Fight Against Illicit Trafficking of Narcotics Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, their Analogues and Precursor Chemicals on 26 June 2012. The MoU will see the enhanced cooperation between relevant agencies of both countries to address drug related issues.

Madam Chair,

14. In conclusion, let us acknowledge that transnational crime remains a scourge that requires effective and international cooperation. We realize that terrorism acts remain a menace to international peace and security. And drug trafficking remains a thorn in the development of a progressive society.

15. Moving forward, let us continue with our efforts combating these crimes in a balanced and holistic approach through national, regional and multilateral efforts, while maintaining respect for differences in the policies and situations of countries.

Thank you, Madam Chair.