



MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**STATEMENT BY
H.E. AMBASSADOR RAMLAN IBRAHIM
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AT THE HIGH-LEVEL FORUM ON CULTURE OF PEACE
NEW YORK, 9 SEPTEMBER 2015**

Mr. President,

At the outset, I wish to thank His Excellency Mr. Sam Kutesa, President of the General Assembly for convening today's High-Level Forum on a Culture of Peace.

2. We are pleased to participate in this meeting, which provides an important platform for all partners and stakeholders to exchange views, ideas and proposals on ways to further build and promote the Culture of Peace at national, regional and international levels.

3. My delegation reaffirms its support for the continued and effective implementation of the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace (Resolution 53/243) adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 1999.

4. Malaysia wishes to commend the work and initiatives of the UNESCO, the United Nations Alliance of Civilisations (UNAOC) as well as other UN entities including regional initiatives such as the Asia Pacific Interfaith Dialogue and the ASEM Inter-faith Dialogue. My delegation reaffirms its support and commitment for the Malaysia also continues to support the various resolutions as well as UN-led initiatives on this issue.

Mr. President,

5. There can be no development without peace and security. Allow me to briefly share Malaysia's experiences in promoting the culture of peace. Malaysia is a multi-cultural and multi-religious country. In order to preserve peace and harmony among the different race and ethnic groups, Malaysia has introduced the concept of '1Malaysia' which emphasizes on balanced and comprehensive development; promotion of cultural and morality based on positive aspiration values.

6. Malaysia believes that in our continuous efforts to promote a culture of peace, dialogue and exchanges of ideas are some of the best ways to instil understanding and acceptance between different groups, faiths and religions. We need to share ideas and

knowledge, as well as to discover common grounds that could bring the disparate groups closer.

7. It is our strong belief that the promotion of the culture of peace should be an inclusive process. Therefore positive interaction among peoples of diverse cultures and values will help to achieve the aim of preserving and promoting global peace and stability, which are necessary prerequisites for the promotion of sustainable economic and social development.

Mr. President,

8. Malaysia strongly believes that the moderation approach can be applied to address the emerging challenges such as extremism and radicalism. I wish to recall the Global Movement of Moderates' (GMM) proposed by the Prime Minister of Malaysia at the 65th UN General Assembly. It calls upon all religious beliefs and faiths, including all aspects of interreligious and intercultural aspects to work together to tackle these international challenges. There must be greater consciousness of unity in diversity and a harmonious common space for all.

9. Malaysia is concerned that recent developments including the situation in certain parts of the Middle East and Africa among others demonstrate that issues of peace and security continue to pose significant challenges towards achieving and sustaining a culture of peace. We witnessed that in the absence of such culture, human tragedies followed. We are saddened by the scale of humanitarian crisis where peace had been replaced by conflict and war.

10. In this regard, Malaysia believes that the value and principles of moderation could be used in such situations with a view to preventing conflict and furthering the aims of tolerance and understanding, in line with the culture of peace.

11. This is why Malaysia attaches significant importance to the work of the UNAOC which lies at the core of the UN's efforts to strengthen and deepen respect and appreciation for the culture of peace.

12. Malaysia has been very supportive of the efforts by the General Assembly in building the culture of peace. It is for this reason that Malaysia was happy to co-sponsor resolution A/69/L.34 on the Promotion of the Culture of Peace and resolution A/69/L.41 on Interreligious and Intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace. My delegation will continue to co-sponsor resolutions on the promotion of the culture of peace and related issues annually.

Mr. President,

13. In closing, Malaysia will continue its active participation and its support to promote a culture of peace, particularly in preventing violence and violent conflicts; and interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace. It

provides an alternative to the culture of war and violence based on education for peace, the promotion of sustainable economic and social development, respect for human rights, equality between women and men, democratic participation, tolerance and the free flow of information.

Thank you.