



# MALAYSIA

## PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**STATEMENT BY  
MR. JOHAN ARIEF JAAFAR  
REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 71: RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION**

**70<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
NEW YORK, 3 NOVEMBER 2015**

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Mr. Chair,

The principle of self-determination is clearly enshrined in the United Nations Charter. Malaysia fully respects and upholds the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, territorial integrity of States, and non-interference in affairs within the domestic jurisdiction of States.

2. Malaysia continues to promote democracy in the country as a means to form a Government as provided in our Federal Constitution. We regard the pursuit of democracy as key to the realization of the rights of its people to self-determination.

Mr. Chair,

3. My delegation welcomes the report of the Secretary-General, which highlights the main developments on realization of the right to self-determination within the framework of the United Nations and its human rights mechanisms, including the right of the Palestinians to self-determination.

4. Malaysia has always believed in the two-State solution, based on the borders of 4 June 1967 with East Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine. We will continue to advocate for the establishment of a sovereign state of Palestine that could one day live side-by-side with Israel in peace and security. Thus, Malaysia supports all efforts by the international community to find a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful settlement to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

5. As a Security Council member, last July, we organised the Arria-formula meeting on Gaza with the Mission of Jordan. It was the first Arria-formula meeting on Palestine since March 1997, almost 20 years ago. The aim of the meeting was to highlight the unsustainable situation on the ground in Occupied Palestinian Territory, due to continuing Israeli occupation, and to provide the impetus for the international community to urgently act to end the longest occupation in modern history.

Mr. Chair,

6. We are deeply concerned that the situation on the ground is moving further and further away from the two-state solution, Having said that, the Malaysian Government and its people are committed to a just and peaceful resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The only way forward is to ensure that the Palestinians are afforded their basic rights as human beings, and this includes their right to an independent state.

7. We must strive to uphold the legitimate right to self-determination, which constitutes one of the very core principles of the UN when it was created 70 years ago.

I thank you Mr. Chair.