



# MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

*(Please check against delivery)*

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF MALAYSIA  
AT THE UNITED NATIONS DISARMAMENT COMMISSION  
2017 SUBSTANTIVE SESSION**

**NEW YORK, 4 APRIL 2017**

Thank you Madam Chairperson.

At the outset, Malaysia joins the other delegations in expressing its condolences to the people and government of the Russian Federation, as well the victims of the St. Petersburg metro explosions. Our thought and prayers are with them during this difficult time.

Madam Chairperson,

2. Malaysia congratulates you on your assumption as Chair of the UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC) for the 2017 substantive session. Let me also congratulate other members of the Commission's Bureau and the Chairpersons of the respective Working Groups. My delegation would also like to thank Ambassador Odo Tevi, Permanent Representative of Vanuatu for his contribution and efforts as President of the UNDC during the 2016 cycle. Malaysia aligns itself with the statement made by Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Madam Chairperson,

3. As we enter the last phase of the triennial cycle, UNDC requires no further reiteration of its under-utilized potential. As such, UNDC must exert much-needed leadership, display the required political will and commit to exercising flexibility on long-standing positions to achieve concrete results. This is essential to ensure that the Commission does not lose its credibility as the sole specialised body with universal membership in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation.

4. With three weeks ahead of us, we believe that we should build on the momentum of the recently concluded UN Conference on the Legally-Binding Instrument to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons, Leading towards Its Total Elimination. The spirit of cooperation and constructive discussions shown by delegations during the Conference should be emulated us at their Commission.

Madam Chairperson,

5. Malaysia continues to uphold the principles that the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) must continue to guide our vision towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.

6. Malaysia wishes to also recall the Advisory Opinion of the ICJ on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons of 8 July 1996. The Advisory Opinion, among others, unanimously conclude that 'there exists an obligation to pursues in good faith and bring to conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspect under strict and effective international control'. We see merit in the reiteration and urgency to conduct the Commission's work on the agenda of nuclear weapons in this context.

7. In a month from now, many delegations will be in Vienna to participate in the First Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). For Malaysia, we believe that this year's Prep-com is important as it provides us the opportunity yet again, to collectively cooperate towards achieving the NPT's objectives in nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Madam Chairperson,

8. On the aspect of conventional weapons, my delegation commends the progress made during the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States on the UN POA to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects in New York in June 2016. We reiterate our concern that the danger posed by conventional weapons, especially in conflict situations, is alarming in terms of deaths and injuries.

9. Malaysia remains committed in the establishment of adequate and stringent domestic laws to effectively control the circulation of conventional arms and illicit trade of arms. We also continue to support confidence building measures at all levels in the field of conventional weapons, in our collective efforts to strengthen international peace

and security. We believe that more can be done to narrow the gap between divergent views of the Membership in this field.

Madam Chairperson,

10. My delegation takes note that the programme of work will now include consultations on the third agenda item on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities. We hope that the third agenda provides a 'domino effect' in encouraging progress on tangible recommendations on the first two agenda items in the work of UNDC.

11. Malaysia commits our full support and cooperation to you Madam Chair, to engaging in the discussions of the Commission, in a realistic and pragmatic manner.

Thank you.