



MALAYSIA

Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York

[Check against delivery]

**STATEMENT BY
MR. MUHAMMAD MUHAIMIN RASIDI
DELEGATE
PERMANENT MISSION OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 182:
OBSERVER STATUS FOR THE ASIAN FOREST COOPERATION ORGANIZATION
IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF
THE 75TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

NEW YORK, 6 NOVEMBER 2020

Mr. Chair,

Malaysia wishes to highlight that the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (“AFoCO”) is an intergovernmental organization in Asia aiming to strengthen forest cooperation among its member States as well as regional and global players in the forest sector. Malaysia is an observer State of this Organization.

2. AFoCO has embarked on many capacity building programmes, subregional projects and individual country-driven projects to ensure its vision to achieve a greener Asia and promote sustainable forest management practices. Malaysia is currently involved in the sub-regional project “Domestication of Endangered, Endemic and Threatened Plant Species in Disturbed Terrestrial Ecosystems in Malaysia and Thailand” through the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM). AFoCO also strongly promotes cooperation with other institutions, organizations and bodies, in particular organizations in the United Nations system.

3. Recalling the United Nation's General Assembly decision 49/426 of 19 December 1994 in relation to granting of observer status to intergovernmental organizations, Malaysia is of the view that AFoCO's activities would be of interest to the Assembly thus fulfilling the requirements set out in that decision.

4. Malaysia also views AFoCO's participation in the General Assembly in the capacity of an observer will enable global policy discussions to be translated into tangible regional actions. As such, Malaysia urges the Committee to consider AFoCO's request to be granted the Observer status favourably.

Thank you.