



**STATEMENT BY H.E. DATUK HUSSEIN HANIFF  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
AT THE DEBATE UNDER CLUSTER 2 (SPECIFIC ISSUES)  
OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE  
PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE 2015 REVIEW CONFERENCE TO THE  
TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS,  
NEW YORK, 1 MAY 2014**

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Mr. Chairman,

Malaysia associates itself with the statement made by Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement States Parties to the Treaty.

Mr. Chairman,

2. Malaysia is a long standing supporter of Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (NWFZ). Malaysia believes that NWFZs strengthen peace and security as they promote greater transparency and dialogue among States regionally, eventually leading to the creation of an environment conducive to arms control and obliquely reduce the risk of regional conflicts.

3. At the regional level, Malaysia is committed to preserve Southeast Asia as a nuclear-weapon-free zone. In this regard, Malaysia urges the nuclear-weapons states to become parties to the protocol of the South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEANWFZ) at the earliest opportunity. Accession to the protocol by the Nuclear Weapons States would effectively accord negative security assurance to the regional States Parties and create conducive conditions for durable peace and security, as well as promote confidence building in the region.

Mr. Chairman,

4. Malaysia believes that the establishment of new zones represent a positive step towards attaining the objective of global nuclear disarmament. In this regard, Malaysia welcomes the decision of the 2010 Review Conference on "practical steps" to implement the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East. Malaysia wishes to reaffirm the need for the prompt establishment of such a zone in the Middle East, in accordance with the Security Council Resolution 487 of 1981 and paragraph 14 of the Security Council Resolution 687 of 1991 and the relevant General Assembly resolutions.

5. In the same context, Malaysia regrets the failure to convene the Middle East Conference on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free-zone in 2012. This Conference needs to provide the necessary impetus for concrete action in realising the outcome of the 1995 Middle East Resolution, which has been stagnant for far too long. We believe that the Conference will provide the opportunity for all states to find common ground and begin discussions on achieving a nuclear-weapon-free-zone in the Middle East.

6. My delegation welcomes the tireless efforts of the facilitator, Ambassador Jaako Laajava, in consulting with the States in the region in order to ensure the convening of the Conference. We note in particular the series of consultations held in Glion in recent months, which are important but long overdue steps in trying to bring all the concerned States to the table. However, these efforts will only be in vain if the Conference is again postponed unilaterally. If all States are indeed committed to the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, we must all approach the Conference without prejudice towards the different security concerns of others.

7. The Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato' Sri Mohd. Najib Tun Abdul Razak, had stated last year that this meeting of minds would be the right step towards continued peace and stability in the troubled region. My delegation therefore urges the Secretary-General as well as the three cosponsors of the 1995 Resolution, namely the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Russian Federation, to take all necessary measures to fully implement the resolution and to convene the Conference at the earliest possible opportunity, with the active participation of all states in the region.

Mr. Chairman,

8. In light of the lack of progress in convening the Conference, NPT State Parties should also consider the establishment of a subsidiary body to Main Committee II of the 2015 Review Conference, to review the implementation of the 1995 Resolution. This is in line with the decision reached at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference, which provided for the establishment of such subsidiary bodies within the respective Main Committees for specific issues relevant to the Treaty. Malaysia is in favour of pragmatic approaches to achieve the long term goal of total elimination of nuclear weapons, and we stand ready to work with all parties in this regard.

9. Malaysia also believes that our discussions should focus on ways to universalise the NPT. In this regard, we wish to reiterate the call for states remaining outside the NPT regime to accede to the treaty as non-nuclear weapons state. In particular, states parties should urge Israel, being the only non-signatory to the NPT in the Middle East, to immediately accede to the treaty and to place all its nuclear materials and facilities under comprehensive IAEA safeguards. Israel's accession to the NPT would certainly enhance regional peace and security.

10. Let me conclude by underlining Malaysia's hope that the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East will enhance global and regional peace, and strengthen non-proliferation efforts among countries in the region which are parties to or outside recognised international WMD regimes.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.