

Trade and Development Board, sixtieth session
Geneva, 16–27 September 2013

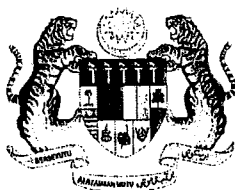
Opening Plenary

Speaker: Malaysia

Monday, 16 September 2013

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STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA

60TH SESSION OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF UNCTAD AGENDA ITEM 2 16 September 2013

Thank you Mr President,

As this is the first time that my delegation is taking the floor at this session, allow me on behalf of the Malaysian delegation to express our congratulations to Your Excellency on your election as the President of TDB. We believe that under your able stewardship and leadership, the TDB would continue to play a major role in providing assistance to developing countries. You can be assured, Mr President, of my delegation's continued cooperation. My delegation would also like to express our appreciation to H.E. Ambassador Juri Seilenthal and H.E. Ambassador Mukhtar Tileuberdi, for their commitment in advancing the work of the Trade and Development Board (TDB).

2. We also wish to express our congratulations to Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi for assuming the role of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD. We look forward to working closely with Dr Kituyi. My delegation also wishes to extend our gratitude to Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi who has contributed extensively to UNCTAD's progress and work.

3. Malaysia associates itself with the statements delivered by Ecuador, Sri Lanka and Iran on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, the G15 and the Asian Group respectively.

4. Malaysia is of the view that the 50th Anniversary of UNCTAD and the G77 and China in 2014 will mark a significant point in the establishment of UNCTAD and the G77 and China. The celebrations are intended to commemorate the progress and development of UNCTAD and the collaboration and unity of member countries of UNCTAD after 50 years. The celebration and commemoration is not simply and purely ceremonial. It will serve as a reminder to all of us of the reason behind UNCTAD's establishment and to ensure that we do not depart or deviate from our mission and objectives. It should therefore also serve as a reminder as to the

direction we should take. Malaysia, in this regard, looks forward to having a forward-looking celebration, one that could further strengthen our commitment towards achieving the ideals behind the establishment of UNCTAD.

5. Another significant event that will take place in 2014 is the discussions on the post-2015 Development Agenda. Malaysia believes that the post-2015 development agenda should integrate existing international commitments and outcomes of the various United Nations conferences and deliver on equity, social inclusion, decent work and sustainable livelihoods. Malaysia is of the view that all matters related to the post-2015 development agenda should complement the work that is also being undertaken in other bodies.

6. In this regard, Malaysia believes that UNCTAD also plays a role in this process. Malaysia believes that UNCTAD's contributions to the Post-2015 Development Agenda should be complementary to UNCTAD's significance and relevance, namely focusing on development issues and its three main pillars of work i) technical assistance and capacity building activities; ii) research and analysis on transport and trade facilitation; and iii) intergovernmental and consensus-building activities.

7. The global economic situation is still uncertain. The Eurozone crisis has not improved while recovery in other advanced economies remains weak. In this regard, Malaysia believes that the Conference presents a strategic opportunity for member countries to deliberate further on the relevant mechanisms that could respond to the current economic crisis.

8. My delegation believes that each country has its own challenges. Due to this fact, we wish to reiterate that UNCTAD is in a unique position as focal point for countries to share their best practices and to analyse policy developments. Malaysia believes that UNCTAD can assist both the developed and developing countries to set a basis for sustained and inclusive economic recovery. In this regard, Malaysia looks forward to having solid discussions during the 60th Session of the Trade and Development Board, with tangible outcomes and recommendations, particularly on the current economic crisis.

I thank you Mr. President.

GENEVA

16 September 2013