



**STATEMENT BY H.E. DATUK HUSSEIN HANIFF
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AT THE DEBATE UNDER CLUSTER 1 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, 30 APRIL 2014**

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation associates itself with the statements delivered by Indonesia on behalf of the NAM States Parties to the NPT, and by Switzerland on behalf of the De-Alerting Group. In addition, my delegation wishes to make the following points.

Mr. Chairman,

2. The goal of a world free of nuclear weapons has long been envisioned. As far back as 1946, the UN General Assembly in its first resolution spoke about the elimination of nuclear weapons. Though progress has been made with regards to the decrease in the number of nuclear weapons, much more remains to be done in ensuring that these horrendous weapons are eliminated forever.

3. The continued existence of nuclear weapons stockpiles to this day greatly endangers the non-proliferation goal of the NPT. We have witnessed how States have foregone their commitments to the Treaty in order to pursue a nuclear weapons ambition, fuelled by the false hope of security and power that these weapons possess. There are also credible fears that non-State actors may wish to obtain nuclear weapons or materials for the purpose of terrorism and other criminal acts. Hence, efforts leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons should

remain the priority of the international community in our endeavour to avoid a humanitarian catastrophe should a nuclear explosion occur.

4. Malaysia welcomes the efforts made within the international community on nuclear disarmament. We welcome the meetings of the Open Ended Working Group to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations and the convening of the High-Level Meeting (HLM) of the General Assembly on Nuclear Disarmament which was attended by the Honourable Prime Minister of Malaysia. During the HLM, the Prime Minister expressed his concern on the lack of progress on nuclear disarmament and called upon the need for new ideas and fresh thoughts to move the matter forward.

5. In line with the Prime Minister's call for new approaches, we feel that it is timely for the urgent commencement of negotiations on a legally binding instrument for the prohibition and ban of nuclear weapons. Malaysia has always maintained a principled position on the general and complete disarmament of weapons of mass destruction. In this regard, we are also strongly committed that this goal should be achieved through the multilateral process. Malaysia firmly believes that the complete and total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only solution against the possible use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

6. In calling for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, we take this opportunity to remind States on the implementation of the 22 items in the 2010 NPT Action Plan which deals with nuclear disarmament and security assurances. As this session of the PrepCom will be the final meeting before the Review Conference next year, it would be worthwhile to gauge how far these Action Plans have been pursued and implemented so far.

7. My delegation also takes note of the reporting by the Nuclear Weapon States on the implementation of the different provisions set forth in Action 5 of the 2010 Action Plan. At this juncture, an overall assessment of the implementation of the Action Plan is important in determining how we approach the Review Conference.

We value the multilateral nature of the NPT in which all States commit themselves to the decisions made here. The credibility of the NPT lies within the implementation of its past agreements and decisions. The lack of action on these decisions will seriously jeopardise the future of the NPT and how States value its work.

Mr. Chairman,

8. Turning to the issue of nuclear testing, my delegation is encouraged by the continued positive response by countries to sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. Malaysia strongly urges the remaining Annex II States to sign and ratify the Treaty, so as to affect its entry into force as soon as possible. Pending the entry into force of the CTBT, it is important to ensure that the current moratorium on nuclear testing is being and will continue to be observed, while exerting every effort to secure the universal endorsement of the Treaty. In this regard, Malaysia welcomes the recent ratification of the CTBT by Guinea-Bissau, Iraq and Nieu.

9. While my delegation commends the reduction in nuclear-weapon stockpiles, it should be pointed out that there still remain huge stocks of these weapons, whose combined explosive potential is hundreds of thousands times greater than the bombs which were dropped in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. These weapons are on alert and ready to be fired at a moment's notice. Whether intentional or by accident, the effects of a nuclear weapons explosion is catastrophic and cannot be risked. We strongly believe that reducing the operational status of nuclear weapons systems is a practical qualitative step that complements nuclear disarmament.

Mr. Chairman

10. 69 years ago, a student was on his way to attend a lecture at the Hiroshima Bunri University, when the devastating atomic bomb attack took place on 6 August 1945. Despite the university being located 1.5km from the epicenter of the bomb explosion, the student miraculously survived, while two of his fellow countrymen had perished. The student was Mr. Abdul Razak Abdul Hamid, Malaysia's sole

hibakusha. Mr. Razak was one of some 1,760 foreigners, recognised by the Japanese government as those who had survived the atomic bombing.

11. For over 60 years, Mr. Razak had preached the message of peace. He shared his experiences on the devastation caused by the atomic bomb in a biography entitled "*Debu Hiroshima*" (Ashes of Hiroshima). Last year on 18 July 2013, Malaysia's sole hibakusha died at the age of 88 years old. Mr. Razak's life story is not only about a Malaysian who had survived the most terrifying bomb ever devised by humankind, but it also a story of a Malaysian's quest for peace and a world without nuclear weapons. Mr. Razak's pursuit in life has not died with him. Malaysia is steadfast in his conviction and will continue to pursue the goal of a world without nuclear weapons.

12. In concluding, we leave you with a quote from Mr. Razak, "It is terrible that today we have thousands of nuclear weapons which are much more powerful than the atomic bomb in Hiroshima. Only by remembering the bitter lessons of the first atomic bomb, can we hope to lead people back to the path of peace and love among all people".

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.