



**STATEMENT BY H.E. DATO' HUSSEIN HANIFF
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK
AT THE DEBATE UNDER CLUSTER 1 (SECURITY ASSURANCES) OF THE
FIRST SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE 2015 REVIEW
CONFERENCE TO THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR
WEAPONS, VIENNA, 30 APRIL – 11 MAY 2012**

Mr. Chairman,

Associate myself with the statement delivered on behalf of the NPT State parties to the
Further to my statement of yesterday, allow me to make the following additional points *in*
under the topics of nuclear disarmament and negative security assurances.

Mr. Chairman,

2. The Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, of July 1996, remains an important milestone in the global campaign for nuclear disarmament. It is clear from the Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice that States, including those outside of the NPT, have a legal obligation not only to pursue in good faith but also to bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control.

3. Malaysia together with like-minded States considers this unanimous opinion of the World Court on the existence of that obligation to constitute a clear basis for follow-up actions by States in their determined efforts to rid the world of nuclear weapons. Hence, the call for the commencement of negotiations leading to the conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention is necessary. In this regard, my delegation is grateful to the UNSG who also saw the merit of a nuclear weapons convention when presenting his five-point proposal on nuclear disarmament, which the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the NPT took note of.

4. The existence today of thousands of nuclear weapons in the arsenals of the nuclear-weapon States, 44 years after the signing of the NPT, is a sobering reminder that negotiations on nuclear disarmament in all its aspects have been carried out neither in good faith nor in earnest. By joining the NPT in overwhelming numbers, the non-nuclear-weapon States struck a bargain with the nuclear-weapon States whereby, in exchange for giving up the nuclear option by the non-nuclear-weapon States, there would be negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to ending the nuclear-arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament. In May 2010 this bargain was renewed, and the nuclear-weapon States reaffirmed their unequivocal undertaking to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament as outlined under Article VI of the NPT.

5. In calling upon all States to commence multilateral negotiations leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention, we do not envisage the commencement of immediate negotiations on the convention itself but rather on negotiations on nuclear disarmament leading to the conclusion of such a convention. It thereby allows for the very same kind of disarmament measures that the nuclear-weapon States themselves have unequivocally undertaken to accomplish. Therefore, the approach that we are calling for is both realistic and credible, and compatible with the incremental approaches suggested by others. Hence, it is our hope that the 2015 Review Conference will be able to translate this call into one of the actions for the action plan on nuclear disarmament.

Mr. Chairman,

6. On security assurances, Malaysia shares the view that as long as nuclear weapons continue to exist, non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the NPT should be effectively assured by nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons through the urgent conclusion of a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances. In this regard, we reiterate our call on the Conference on Disarmament to agree on a balanced and comprehensive programme of work without further delay so as to allow substantive discussion on this important issue at the Conference.

7. Lastly, while my delegation commends the reduction in nuclear-weapon stockpiles, it should be pointed out that there still remain huge stocks of these weapons. Many of these weapons are on high alert and ready to be used at a moment's notice. We must guard ourselves against complacency and a false sense of security when the threat of nuclear destruction, whether triggered by design or by accident, lurks in the shadows. Malaysia strongly believes that taking nuclear weapons off alert is a practical qualitative step that complements the quantitative step of reduction.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

