

UNITED NATIONS DAY 24 OCTOBER 2021

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Recognising that humankind is one big-extended family, Malaysia joins the other 192 United Nations (UN) Member States in celebrating the United Nations Day. The UN Day is celebrated annually on 24 October to mark the anniversary of the entry into force of the Charter of the United Nations in 1945.

Since joining the UN in 1957 and becoming the 82nd member of this august body, Malaysia attaches great importance to the three (3) main pillars of the UN, which are peace and security, human rights and development. Malaysia has played an active role in the UN and was elected as a member of the UN Security Council on four occasions: 1965, 1989-1990, 1999-2000 and 2015-2016. Malaysia was also elected as a member of another main organ of the UN, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on seven occasions: 1971-1973, 1976-1978, 1983-1985, 1991-1993, 1995-1997, 2003-2005 and 2008-2010.

Malaysia is delighted to have been elected recently for a third time to the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) for the term 2022-2024. As a member of the HRC, Malaysia looks forward towards improving human rights in Malaysia and abroad by working closely with all countries and other relevant stakeholders through constructive engagement, cooperation, inclusivity, transparency and mutual respect.

Malaysia is a firm believer in promoting peaceful coexistence between nations and between different peoples, faiths and cultures. This is evident with the issuance of a Joint Communiqué to Commemorate the 1st Anniversary of the Statement of Support to the Secretary-General's Appeal for Global Ceasefire by the Co-Initiators in June this year.

In supporting the longstanding desire of the UN to achieve a nuclear-weapons-free world, Malaysia will continue to play an active role in nuclear disarmament, as it chairs Main Committee I on Nuclear Disarmament at the upcoming 10th Review Conference of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) early next year. The Review Conference will be an avenue for State Parties to the NPT to reaffirm their obligations and past commitments towards the Treaty and progress effectively towards its implementation.

In support of the plight of the Palestinians, the Government decided recently to extend predictable long-term contribution amounting to USD 1 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). The contribution will be disbursed annually in the amount of USD 200,000 per year from 2021 until 2025.

Malaysia recently launched its 12th National Plan (2021-2025) with the theme "A Prosperous, Inclusive, Sustainable Malaysia", which embeds the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Malaysia also presented its second Voluntary National Review (VNR) report at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), which was held from 6 to 15 July 2021 in New York. It highlights actions and measures taken by Malaysia to advance the implementation of SDGs and to fulfil the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

Malaysia reaffirms its commitment to achieve a carbon neutral nation by 2050 to facilitate the transition to a more sustainable and climate-resilient future. In this regard, Malaysia looks forward to participating in the upcoming 26th Conference of Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which is scheduled to be held in Glasgow, United Kingdom from 31 October to 12 November 2021.

Malaysia believes there is an urgent need for the United Nations to address the COVID-19 pandemic including on ensuring vaccines are accessible, equitable and affordable. Malaysia looks forward to work together with the world family and engage with the UN agencies and Member States to build back better

from the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, Malaysia is also committed to play a more prominent role in health diplomacy by collaborating with all stakeholders on an array of health-related issues.

On this day, Malaysia renews its longstanding commitment to the UN. Malaysia is of the belief that this august body is the best platform to pursue international cooperation and to address various problems around the world.

PUTRAJAYA

24 October 2021