

**STATEMENT BY  
THE HONOURABLE DATO' SAIFUDDIN ABDULLAH  
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF MALAYSIA  
2019 HIGH-LEVEL PLEDGING EVENT ON  
HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN YEMEN**

**GENEVA, 26 FEBRUARY 2019**

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Good morning  
Salam Sejahtera

Thank you Madam Chairperson

1. On behalf of the Government of Malaysia, I commend the United Nations and the Governments of Switzerland and Sweden for organising this event.
2. The humanitarian situation in Yemen has been described as the “worst humanitarian crisis in the world”. More than 10 million people are at risk of starvation, 2 million children suffer acute malnutrition, 24 million people (80% of the population) are in need of humanitarian assistance, amidst the world's largest cholera outbreak.
3. On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohammad officiated at a symposium on Yemen in Kuala Lumpur, and I quote his statement *“What we are witnessing today is an immense human tragedy. It is nothing short of a grave crime against humanity. It is time for the killing to stop, it is time to start rebuilding Yemen again”*.
4. Malaysia is in solidarity with our Yemeni brothers and sisters. We remain supportive of all relevant UN resolutions including the UNSC resolutions on Yemen. In this regard, Malaysia also wishes to urge the following:
  - 4.1. Firstly, all Yemeni factions to the conflict must take necessary measures to protect children, civilians, and civilian objects, as well as to allow humanitarian access to those in need of assistance. This include to consider declaring the port city of Hodeidah an open city under temporary UN control so that a safe zone can be established to provide urgently needed humanitarian assistance;
  - 4.2. Second, all parties must engage in UN-facilitated consultations in good faith, without pre-conditions. The only lasting solution to the crisis in Yemen is by ensuring an inclusive and negotiated political settlement; and
  - 4.3. Finally, the conflicting parties must respect international human rights and international humanitarian laws. We call for all parties to bring a conclusive end to the conflict and restore peace in Yemen for the greater interest of the Yemeni people.
5. As a small country, Malaysia would want to play a role in assisting our Yemeni brothers and sisters. Our CSOs are already in Yemen and they are collecting fund at home to an amount of 1 million Malaysian Ringgit to assist in humanitarian assistance. We are also assisting more than 3000 Yemenis who are already in Malaysia including the young students.

6. As a manifestation of Malaysia's continuous and unwavering support Malaysia pledge to contribute USD100,000 towards the humanitarian appeal for Yemen.

Thank you.