

Malaysia Underlines Six Elements For Open Working Group On Sustainable Development Goals
Bernama
March 16, 2013

KUALA LUMPUR, March 16 (Bernama) -- Malaysia has underlined six elements as guide for the Open Working Group to the formulation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Malaysia's Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN) Datuk Hussein Haniff said, the first element involved sustainable development goals which should be common but differentiated or flexible, to allow them to be tailored to national characteristics, priorities and level of development.

He said the second element was the development of SDG taking into account the need for integration into the post-2015 UN development agenda, and should not undermine the achievement of Millennium Development Goals by 2015, which was vital for the Least Developed Countries.

He cited the third element as poverty eradication which should remain the highest priority in the development of SDGs.

Hussein said this in his speech at the first session of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals at the United Nations in New York yesterday.

His speech text was made available to Bernama here today.

Under the fourth element, Hussein said that wherever feasible, the development of SDBs should strive for a balance of three dimensions of sustainable development within each goal, possibly through the selection of targets and indicators.

Hussein said the fifth element pertained to each goal being supported by means of implementation and international cooperation, with a view to assisting developing countries in the implementation of their national sustainable development agenda.

"Last, for sustainable development goals to be practically relevant for each country, national circumstances, capacities, priorities and level of development of each country must be carefully taken into account," he added.

Hussein stressed that while recognising SDGs were universally applicable, the goals should contain globally accepted values using an inclusive people-centred approach to ensure applicability to all countries.

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