

MH17: UN Reaffirms Demand For Accountability Over Downing Of Plane
Bernama
Feb 18, 2015

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 18 (Bernama) -- The latest Security Council draft resolution on the situation in Ukraine has reaffirmed its demand for accountability for those responsible for the downing of Malaysia Airlines (MAS) Flight MH17.

Malaysia's Permanent Representative to the United Nations (UN) Datuk Hussein Haniff said Malaysia and several countries welcomed the adoption to implement the ceasefire arrangements (Resolution 2202) on the situation in Ukraine.

The adoption of this resolution will convey the council and the international community's strong support for the steps taken by concerned parties to implement the ceasefire arrangements agreed on Feb 12.

"The recent developments in eastern Ukraine proved that diplomatic and political solutions are more urgent than ever," he said in a statement on the adoption of the Security Council draft resolution on the situation in Ukraine at the UN.

The statement was made on behalf of the delegations of Malaysia, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Indonesia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, and the Philippines.

Hussein said the conflict in eastern Ukraine had gone on for too long and claimed the lives of far too many innocent civilians, including the 298 people on board MAS Flight MH17 from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur, which was shot down over the conflict area on July 17, 2014.

On another matter, he said Malaysia believed the UN peacekeeping operations remained an effective instrument in securing stability in pursuant of international peace and security.

He said since the 70 years after the establishment of the UN, peacekeeping missions were on high demand more than ever.

Therefore, modernising peacekeeping equipment is crucial and essential to ensure its operational effectiveness.

"We commend the secretariat's continued efforts in leveraging the use of modern technology in peacekeeping operations and encourage DPKO (Department of Peacekeeping Operations) to further explore opportunities to use them in all operations," he added.

Hussein said this in a statement at the General Debate of the 2015 Substantive Session of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations at the UN Headquarters, New York.

Furthermore, in the statement sent here Wednesday, he said the protection of civilians was one of the most important developments in peacekeeping since 10 out of 16 peacekeeping

missions were mandated with that responsibility.

Hence, he said, Malaysia believed that efforts should be made to include substantial elements on religion and cultural sensitivities of local people in a common training module for UN peacekeepers.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2015 BERNAMA

Source : <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v8/newsindex.php?id=1110301>