



MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



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**-STATEMENT BY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
DELEGATION OF MALAYSIA-**

**TO INTRODUCE DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/C.1/70/L.51)
"FOLLOW-UP TO THE ADVISORY OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF
JUSTICE ON THE LEGALITY OF THE THREAT OR USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS"
AND
DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/C.1/70/L.58)
"TREATY ON SOUTH-EAST ASIA NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE (BANGKOK
TREATY)"**

**UNDER AGENDA ITEM 97(K) AND (Z) OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE
70TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

NEW YORK, FRIDAY, 30 OCTOBER 2015

Mr. Chairman,

1. My delegation this year, as Chairman of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), on behalf of ten Member States namely Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam, has the honour to introduce to the First Committee, the biennial draft resolution entitled "Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)".

2. This biennial draft resolution reiterates ASEAN's commitment to intensify ongoing efforts to resolve all outstanding issues, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Treaty, pertaining to the signing and ratifying of the Protocol to that Treaty at the earliest. The commitment is reflected in the latest blueprint of the organisation which receives full endorsement by all 10 ASEAN Foreign Ministers in October this year. We look forward to the continued support and co-sponsorship of the resolution, in particular, that of the States Parties to the Treaty, and Nuclear Weapon States. We also take this opportunity to thank the co-sponsors of the resolution in sharing our aspirations to keep Southeast Asia free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

Mr. Chairman,

3. My delegation has also the honour to introduce to the First Committee, the draft resolution A/C.1/70/L.51 entitled "Follow-up to the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons". This draft resolution has also been co-sponsored by 54 delegations thus far. Malaysia and the co-

sponsors of this resolution extend our collective appreciation to the Secretary-General for his report on the Follow-up to the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, as contained in document A/70/181. We also take this opportunity to thank the member States which had submitted the information requested pursuant to resolution 69/43.

Mr. Chairman,

4. The draft resolution on "Follow-up to the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons" underscores the concerns of Malaysia and other member States of the threat that nuclear weapons pose to mankind. Important decisions of the ICJ have been reflected specifically in Operative Paragraphs 1 and 2 in the draft resolution.

5. With a view to achieving the broadest support possible, my delegation has retained the substantive paragraphs in their existing form, and the necessary technical updates have been revised.

Mr. Chairman,

6. The ICJ's Advisory Opinion remains a significant contribution to the field of nuclear disarmament. Its humanitarian context gives weight to a moral argument in calling for the total elimination of nuclear weapons. This particular point is all the more relevant today, given the growing increase in the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. This is evident with several new resolutions being tabled this year addressing the important factor of humanitarian impact.

7. In co-sponsoring and supporting this resolution, member States would share our conviction that the Court's Opinion is an important and positive development in nuclear disarmament through the multilateral process, and should be built on. Malaysia thanks the co-sponsors of this draft resolution, and would also like to take this opportunity to invite other delegations to join in co-sponsoring it.

8. My delegation also wishes to reaffirm our continued appreciation to the tireless efforts of civil society in their efforts towards the goal of nuclear disarmament, including by assisting us to move this resolution forward, from its adoption in 1996 until the present day.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.