

SESSION 1: SUSTAINING PEACE

Intervention

Secretary General

Ministry of Defence, Malaysia

1. His Excellency Chung Eui-yong, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea, all the excellencies, and distinguished guests from across the world.
2. It is an honour for me to be given the opportunity to share Malaysian perspective on the Sustaining Peace at the United Nation's Peacekeeping Ministerial Meeting today.
3. At the onset, allow me to congratulate the host, Republic of Korea, for the excellent arrangements in hosting this Conference despite the challenges that are affecting all of us.

SUPPORT FOR SEOUL INITIATIVE ON TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICAL CAPACITY BUILDING IN PEACEKEEPING

Excellencies and distinguished guests,

4. Taking note of the happenings around the world today, sustainable peace will be the most important agenda that we must uphold and I am pleased to see that all nations are working closely together in sustaining peace around the world.

5. Malaysia welcomes the Republic of Korea's Seoul Initiative on Technology and Medical Capacity Building in Peacekeeping, as proposed by Minister Chung Eui-yong.

6. This initiative demonstrates the strong commitment towards global peace through an "agile, data-driven, and technological" approach, in line with the **Strategy for the Digital Transformation of UN Peacekeeping**. Integrating technology into peacekeeping operations has the potential to improve its effectiveness while helping to ensure the safety of the troops involved as well as the local populations.

7. Meanwhile, the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the urgency in strengthening the medical capacity of peacekeeping operations. Many armed forces around the world have been assisting their respective national health systems in managing the pandemic.

8. At the same time, we must also admit that the world's landscape has changed dramatically. It is now more important than ever for us to work more closely and find new ways of doing things. The emerging technologies offer us with fresh opportunity on how to work more effectively.

9. Indeed, Malaysia hopes to see this initiative could lead to a more effectiveness in UN Peacekeeping operations. Malaysia is confident that with the Republic of Korea's great experiences in peace keeping operations, this initiative can be implemented and will certainly benefits all participating nations.

MALAYSIA'S PARTICIPATION IN ONGOING PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

Excellencies and distinguished guests,

10. Malaysia is currently deploying a battalion of armed forces personnel, in South Lebanon, under the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). Known as MALBATT 850-9, it is the 9th Battalion since the first deployment of Malaysian peacekeepers in 2007 as part of UNIFIL to enforce the Resolution 1701 of the United Nations Security Council to resolve the 2006 Lebanon War.

11. Apart from the UNIFIL, Malaysia is also participating in four other UN peacekeeping operations by sending observers at the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara, United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei in Abyei, and United Nation Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement.

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY (WPS)

Excellencies and distinguished guests,

12. Malaysia is current working towards achieving 10 per cent of women in the Malaysian Armed Forces to realise its commitment towards United Nations Security Council's Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security or WPS. We aim to increase the involvement of women personnel in UN peacekeeping operations.

13. Malaysia also supports the UN's agenda through its Malaysian Peacekeeping Centre or MPC. The MPC collaborates with other international agencies such as the UN Women, United States' Global Peace Operations Initiative and Canada's Directorate of Military Training and Cooperation to provide training for experts and peacekeeping personnel on WPS subjects.

CLOSING

14. I would like to conclude that the United Nations should not be left alone to shoulder the burden of this heavy responsibility of ensuring sustainable peace around the world.

15. Malaysia once again reaffirms its strong commitment to peacekeeping efforts under the ambit of the United Nations and will continue to work with others towards a better world and global peace.

16. On that note, I once again wish to thank the chair for the privilege given to me to deliver a speech.

Thank you.