

**STATEMENT BY**

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HEAD OF THE DELEGATION OF MALAYSIA**

**TO THE FOURTH CONFERENCE OF PARTIES,  
UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION  
ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

Madame President,

May I congratulate you on your election as President of the Fourth Session of the Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Madame President,

Malaysia supports the statement made by the distinguished State Minister for Environmental Affairs of Indonesia who spoke on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Malaysia deeply regrets that the subject of voluntary commitments from non-Annex 1 Parties was raised again. Even though Parties have agreed to delete this item from the agenda of COP 4, we are deeply concerned that attempts are still being made to reintroduce this issue, thereby stalling progress on substantive issues. In line with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, Annex I Parties have agreed to binding commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This was further elaborated in the Kyoto Protocol. Therefore, let us move forward from there and translate those commitments into concrete action.

Madame President,

We wish to stress that discussions at COP 4 must strike a balance between matters related to the Convention and to the Kyoto Protocol. In particular, the principles embodied in the Convention, especially on technology transfer and financial mechanisms, should be fully incorporated into the proposed Kyoto Protocol implementation mechanisms. In this regard, much needs to be done to make GEF transparent and effective, before we can reconsider its status. We also note with regret that developed countries, rather than facilitating the transfer of environmentally sound technologies on concessionary and preferential terms, are imposing conditionalities on developing countries. For example, progress on technology transfer is being tied to progress made on discussions on project-based mechanisms. In addition, based on the Secretariat's analysis of national communications from Annex 1 Parties, we note that very few developed countries have put in place concrete measures to facilitate the transfer of environmentally sound technology.

Since the Kyoto Protocol was adopted, there has been much interest in the so-called flexible mechanisms. At this Conference much attention and time has been devoted to the discussion of these mechanisms. Numerous special events were held during the Conference to extol their virtues, so much so, that attention is being diverted from the core issue, i.e. action by Annex 1 Parties to reduce domestic emissions of greenhouse gases. We wish to emphasise that these mechanisms are merely supplementary measures to domestic actions by Annex I Parties and must be treated as such. We have to ask ourselves whether we sincerely want to tackle the serious problem of global warming or merely wish to devise new and perhaps disingenuous ways to avoid necessary

action.

Madame President,

Malaysia has undertaken a number of domestic actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. For example, our Environmental Quality Act has been strengthened with heavier penalties imposed to discourage all types of open burning. The Department of Environment has also stepped up their enforcement against polluting industries to ensure that emissions controls are strictly adhered to. In addition, three sets of regulations on vehicular emissions are also now in force. Malaysia is not alone among developing countries in undertaking such domestic actions. Developed countries therefore cannot use the excuse that developing countries are not doing enough as their rationale for inaction and procrastination.

Madame President,

We realise that much more work needs to be done at this Conference and beyond to implement the provisions of the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol. I am confident however, that under your able leadership and the co-operation of all Parties, you will be able to steer our discussions towards realising the original intent and spirit of the Convention.

Thank you.