

## STATEMENT BY K YOGEEVARAN OF MALAYSIA, REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL PRIORITIES FOR SDGS

Mr. Chair

Malaysia is now actively addressing the challenges that economic development poses to key environmental goods such as access to clean water, energy from renewable sources, pollution- and disease-free living conditions, fertile soil for agriculture, biodiversity and substantial investment in education, science and technology. Malaysia is engaging the challenges of new and emerging issues including waste management in a context of rapid urbanization, disaster risk management in the face of climate change, the rise in both communicable and non-communicable diseases, the need to achieve food security, the development of solar & biofuels and many others.

Through the strategic Malaysia Plans within the broad Vision 2020, and a host of well-conceived new initiatives such as the Government Transformation Plan (GTP), New Economic Model (NEM), National Key Economic Areas (NKEAs), Economic Corridors and the concept of One Malaysia (1 Malaysia), the country is actively pursuing a new development trajectory to become a high income society through social inclusivity and environmental sustainability.

**Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP):** In the context of the SCP, Malaysia is of the view that the 10 year framework programme (10YFP) should serve as a global cooperative framework to help accelerate the shift towards sustainable patterns of consumption and production, including sound chemical and waste management. Making this global shift requires strong leadership from developed countries, as recognised in a number of international declarations. With developed countries taking the lead and developing countries following a similar pattern, global collective efforts could mitigate or even reverse the damage to the global environment, thereby preserving a sustainable future for future generations

Embracing sustainable consumption and production policies and practices offer great opportunities for all countries to enjoy more sustainable paths of development. To this end, enabling conditions must be created for new and innovative solutions by using a mix of regulatory and economic instruments, existing and new technologies, empowerment of stakeholders and a governance structure that entails decision-making founded upon inclusive and participatory approaches. International cooperation on financing, innovation and technology transfer is essential to assist developing countries to progress towards sustainable development goals.

**Sustainable Cities:** As cities remain large-scale consumers of water, energy and natural and processed products as well as significant generators of greenhouse gas

emission and waste, the future sustainability of cities in a world of resource scarcity demand our urgent attention and appropriate responses.

The greenhouse gas emissions from the transport sector are growing faster than any other sector and are estimated to increase from one quarter today to one-third of all energy-related carbon dioxide emissions by 2050. Outdoor air pollution, with the transport sector as a major contributor, is estimated to result in more than 3.2 million premature deaths annually. Many cities in all regions of the world have serious traffic congestions resulting in major impacts on economic development and human mobility.

Sustainable Transport: All these challenges call for our serious actions to implement paragraph 133 of the Johannesburg Plan of Action for the development of 'sustainable transport systems, including energy efficient multi-modal transport systems, notably public mass transportation systems, clean fuels and vehicles, as well as improved transportation systems in rural areas'.

Transport infrastructure projects should not only focus on highways but include dedicated bus lanes for rapid transit systems, and integrate safe walking and cycling facilities when building or upgrading urban roads. A sustainable society and a healthier environment is possible if we shift towards a more sustainable transport path and move away from our dependence on individual car use to greater utilisation of public transport and other environmental-friendly modes of transport.

Mr. Chair

Poverty and Inequality (Inclusiveness): Any vision for future sustainable development ideal must recognise that eradicating poverty, removing inequalities and achieving social justice is inextricably linked to ensuring ecological stability and renewal so as not to jeopardize the needs of future generations. Thus, for the SDGs to be a driver for implementation and mainstreaming of sustainable development in the United Nations system as a whole, each SDG must be linked to an effective means of implementation.

Particular attention must be given to developing countries with a focus on eradicating the problem of inequality between and within countries", which also means that the development and implementation of SDGs must be based on the principle of 'common but differentiated responsibility' and should not place additional restrictions or burdens on developing countries.

10 → Means of Implementation: On this note, we are of the view that each SDG must be linked to an effective means of implementation. This should be done through the provision of new and additional financing resources, technology transfer in concessional terms, capacity building, pro-development trade policies and effective means of implementation to developing countries. Importantly, it requires the donor

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In its efforts to reduce poverty and income disparity, Malaysia has benefited from rapid economic growth, driven by export-oriented industrialization. We believe that our industrialization strategy has contributed to the enhancement of our capacities in a way that supports the structural transformation of our economy, promotion of economic growth, creation of jobs and shared prosperity, enhancement of productivity that led to the improvement of living standards of our people. We therefore, believe that inclusive and sustainable industrial development should be one of the post 2015 SDG.



community to honour its international commitments especially those related to financial resources, technology transfer and capacity-building. Thus, we reiterate that the means of implementation as identified in Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development are indispensable for translating the SDGs into tangible sustainable development outcomes.

Mr Chair

It is also important to note that, developing countries need a favourable international economic climate if their national development policies and programmes are to succeed and are in line with those initiatives. In this connection, the Monterrey Consensus provides the United Nations with a framework for promoting an economic climate favourable to development financing in its national, international and systemic aspects. We should continue working on these issues.

On technology transfer and technological cooperation, these commitments must be matched by the effective transfer of financial and technical resources, which improve conditions in the developing countries and assist in eradicating poverty. Transfer of technology must encompass technological cooperation and the necessary technical and commercial information to understand, use and develop cutting-edge technology with a view to promoting endogenous capacity to use and further develop such technologies.

Moreover, the dissemination of related technological knowledge as well as technical and commercial cooperation is also important. Only through this effective transfer and sharing will it be possible to promote the use and subsequent development of technology by developing countries themselves. Promoting mechanisms that strengthen capacity-building, the allocation of adequate, predictable and additional financial resources and the transfer of cutting edge technologies on concessionary terms from the developed to the developing countries must be a top priority.

Mr. Chair

On this note, the role of the ESCAP Secretariat and the UN system will come be very critical, not only in facilitating an effective means of implementation as mentions but also to provide a forum to in continuously review the progress, evaluate their effectiveness as to suggest for necessary improvement the MOI.

Thank you

