

(Please check against delivery)

Mohd Hasnil Hodul Hamid Counsellor

STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA Review of Barbados 15th Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council 21 January – 1 February 2013

Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia welcomes the delegation of Barbados, led by H.E. <u>R. orlando Marville</u> to the 15th Session of the UPR Working Group and thank them for the presentation of its national report.

- 2. My delegation commends Barbados for its continuous efforts in the promotion and protection of human rights since its first UPR review. We acknowledge the significant achievements by Barbados on the rights of the elderly, youth development, poverty alleviation and gender equality, to name a few. Malaysia commends the actions taken by Barbados to effectively combat domestic violence through the strengthening of its legislative measures and awareness-raising programmes. My delegation further lauds the efforts of Barbados in combating trafficking in persons through the passing of its Transnational Organised Crime (Prevention and Control) Act which, in our view, would further strengthen its legislative framework to address the issue.
- 3. Although Barbados has yet to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Government has made significant strides in this area, such as outlining the necessary policies as reflected in its White Paper on Disability and developing programmes to further promote the rights of the disabled. While noting that Barbados still faces challenges in its efforts to combat HIV/AIDs in the country, Malaysia acknowledges that the Government has taken positive measures to address this issue.
- 4. In the spirit of constructive engagement and cooperation, my delegation would like to make the following two recommendations for the consideration of Barbados:

- 4.1. to continue its efforts in the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, including its early ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and
- 4.2. to continue its efforts to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDs in the country in line with its National Strategic Plan for HIV Prevention and Control 2008-2013.

I thank you, Mr. President.

GENEVA 25 January 2013