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Mohd Haziq Abdul
Hanna
Counsellor

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

Thank you Mr. President,

My delegation warmly welcomes H.E. Lord Vaega and his delegation to this session of the UPR Working Group. We thank the delegation for the presentation which we have heard with great interest.

2. Malaysia commends Tonga for its efforts institutionalising respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

3. In this context, Malaysia is very encouraged to note that Tonga strives to achieve a balance between the implementation of and respect for civil and political rights on the one hand and social and cultural rights on the other. In particular, Malaysia commends Tonga's achievements, especially in the field of education.

4. Malaysia is also of the view that the determination of the Government to further enhance its capacity to promote and protect human rights in Tonga should be acknowledged and further encouraged by the international community. In this context, we support and call on the international community to respond favourably to the Government's request for capacity-building and technical assistance.

5. My delegation wishes to make the following recommendations for the consideration of Tonga:

5.1 To continue its efforts in implementing constitutional and democratic reforms; and

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5.2 To continue pursuing its efforts in upholding respect for human rights and the well-being and development of its people through education, in line with its Education Policy Framework 2004-2019.

I thank you, Mr. President.

GENEVA

21 January 2013