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STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA Review of the Democratic Republic of Korea (DPRK) 19th Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council 28 April – 9 May 2014

Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia welcomes the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to the 19th Session of the UPR Working Group. We thank them for the presentation of their national report.

- 2. During the DPRK's first cycle UPR, my delegation had made recommendations related to the issues of addressing violence against women, bolstering the national economy and increasing its engagement with the international community. We note that efforts have been made in those areas. We hope that the DPRK, in its efforts to further promote human rights in the country, will continue to actively engage the international community through dialogue and cooperation and by reinvigorating the national economy.
- 3. We also note with encouragement the Government's goal to develop the DPRK into a knowledge-based economy in the near future. We believe that such efforts could positively contribute towards the protection and promotion of human rights of the people in the country. We encourage the DPRK, in this regard, to pursue this goal with a people-centered focus with the aim of improving the people's standard of living.
- 4. In the spirit of constructive engagement, Malaysia would like to make the following **two** recommendations for the consideration of the DPRK:
 - 4.1 **One:** to step-up its efforts in human rights awareness programmes including releasing publications related to human rights with a view to familiarizing the general public with those international human rights standards and instruments that the DPRK is a party: and
 - 4.2. **Two**: to strengthen measures to reinvigorate the national economy including allowing more people-to-people contact through engagement in economic, commercial and tourism activities.

Thank you, Mr. President.

GENEVA 1 May 2014