



Statement by the Delegation of Malaysia to the
2nd Ministerial Review Conference on the Geneva Declaration on
Armed Violence and Development

Geneva, 31 October – 1 November 2011

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, on behalf of the Malaysian delegation, I would like to thank the Government of Switzerland and the United Nations Development Program for organising this second Ministerial Review Conference. We believe that this initiative which aimed at addressing the interrelations between armed violence and development will further strengthen our collaboration and partnership towards achieving measurable reduction in the global burden of armed violence and tangible improvement in development.

2. Malaysia is concerned that armed violence continues to undermine socio-economic development and which to a certain extent hamper the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) of many developing countries around the world. While we acknowledged that important progress is being made towards achieving the MDGs, efforts on development programmes were derailed by armed conflicts and criminal armed violence.

3. The MDG Review Summit which was held on 20 - 22 September 2010 in New York provided some encouraging news as well as serious shortcomings by many countries in achieving their respective MDG targets. Malaysia is particularly concerned with the capacity and capability of developing countries involved in armed conflict in achieving their MDGs. It is important to note that according to the United Nations, 22 of the 34 countries least likely to achieve the MDGs are in the midst of, or emerging from armed conflicts.

Mr. Chairman,

4. Malaysia therefore shares the view that there is a need for an arms control mechanism to be in place, especially in regions affected by conflicts and endemic armed violence. We believe that a control mechanism should be in place to monitor the widespread misuse of small arms and light weapons, as the proliferation and misuse of these weapons are known to be one of the major factors that negatively affect the efforts of developing countries to improve the safety and security of their people.

Mr. Chairman,

5. Malaysia is encouraged to see that in the past decade, the international community have made serious efforts to address the issue of armaments. We therefore welcome concrete initiatives to develop new international instruments to combat the proliferation and misuse of small arms, light weapons and ammunition such as the Arms Trade Treaty.

6. To demonstrate Malaysia's commitment to the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, Malaysia has submitted its annual report to the United Nations regarding its Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, as well as Exports and Imports of UN Register of Conventional Arms. At the regional level, Malaysia also collaborates closely with its counterparts in the ASEANAPOL and INTERPOL in the area of information sharing and exchange of intelligence and operational matters on crimes including on the illicit trading of small arms and light weapons.

Mr. Chairman,

7. Malaysia stands ready to support the goals and commitment of the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development. We look forward to further strengthen our collective efforts towards reducing armed violence and achieving development outcome around the world.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.

GENEVA

31 October 2011