



**STATEMENT BY  
H.E. DATO' KAMARUDIN JAFFAR  
DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF MALAYSIA  
AT THE HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT  
OF THE 2021 SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT  
GENEVA, 22 FEBRUARY 2021 (TBD)**

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Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,

At the outset, let me congratulate you, Mr. President on your assumption of the Presidency of the Conference on Disarmament. Our delegation deeply appreciates the efforts that you and your predecessor have undertaken thus far in advancing the work of the Conference. I assure you of Malaysia's cooperation and support for the Presidency and all constructive initiatives towards a successful outcome of this year's session.

Mr. President,

2. The year 2020 was a devastatingly challenging year for all of us. Some have described 2020 as a year of profound tragedy. Some believed it was a year of uncertainty and limbo. Irrespective of how we regard the year 2020, let us hope that this year would be a better year, a year when we return to productivity and a greater sense of normalcy.

3. The fact that this year had started with a landmark progress in the field of global disarmament is indeed something for all of us to be proud of. Exactly a month ago, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) entered into force after 90 days of obtaining its 50<sup>th</sup> ratification. Malaysia was the 46<sup>th</sup> State Party to the Treaty and is proud to be part of this historic achievement.

4. Malaysia believes that the TPNW is legally sound, feasible to implement and will create the necessary legal norm that will render nuclear weapons as categorically unacceptable. We also believe that the TPNW will complement the existing international legal instruments relating to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, particularly the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

5. The Tenth NPT Review Conference is scheduled to take place in August 2021. Despite several postponements, NPT States Parties must remain committed and strive towards its success. Malaysia will continue to work closely with NPT States Parties and other stakeholders to create the much needed positive momentum and generate greater prospects for success at the Review Conference.

6. In the UN Secretary General's address on 28 January 2021 outlining his 10 priorities for 2021, Malaysia supports the UN Secretary-General's call to "*reverse the erosion of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime*". We also welcome the decision by the United States and the Russian Federation to extend the "New START" treaty for a further five years.

Mr. President,

7. Malaysia reiterates that it attaches great importance to this Conference as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community. For the CD to move forward, my delegation believes that all Member States should demonstrate strong political will, combined with the readiness to compromise and exercise utmost flexibility.

Mr. President,

8. Malaysia recognises and commends your efforts along with the other members of the P6, to continue consultations in finding the common ground on the proposed package. We assure you of our support on every opportunity to achieve a positive outcome of this year's session. My delegation remains ready to work with you, Mr. President, and other Member States, towards this endeavour.

Thank you.