STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF MALAYSIA AT THE SUBSIDIARY BODY 2 ON "REGIONAL ISSUES, INCLUDING WITH RESPECT TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1995 MIDDLE EAST RESOLUTION", MAIN COMMITTEE II OF THE 2005 REVIEW CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO THE TREATY ON THE NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (NPT) 20 MAY 2005, NEW YORK

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

Malaysia is taking the floor to address the regional issues, in particular on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones.

Mr. Chairman,

2. Malaysia fully supports the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zone in various regions around the world, which is in consistent with the spirit embodied in Article VII of the NPT and also in the Principles and Decisions of the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference.

3. Malaysia is pleased to note the full entry into force of the Tlatelolco Treaty in its area of application following the ratification by Cuba. Malaysia calls on all regional States to the treaties of Rarotonga and Pelindaba, to expedite their signature and ratification to those treaties. Malaysia also urges the nuclear-weapon States to become parties to the relevant Protocols to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba.

4. Malaysia is of the view that each nuclear-weapon-free zone is a critical piece of a global jigsaw puzzle that would eventually form a nuclear-weapon-free world. With this in mind, Malaysia therefore reiterates the need for the establishment of new nuclear-weapon-free zones in regions where they do not exist, especially in volatile regions such as the Middle East, South Asia and Northeast Asia.
Mr. Chairman,

5. Turning to the nuclear issue in the Korean Peninsula, Malaysia views the Six Party Talks as a very positive step towards a peaceful and diplomatic solution of the issue. In this regard, Malaysia calls on all parties directly concerned to refrain from provocative action and demonstrate flexibility in creating favourable conditions to enable the resumption of the Six Party Talks.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.