



The Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations
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**NATIONAL STATEMENT BY
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AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA
AT THE 947TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE
CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT**

Geneva
19 FEBRUARY 2004

**National Statement by Ambassador Dr. Rajmah Hussain,
Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the UN and
other International Organizations in Geneva
at the 947th Plenary Meeting of the Conference on Disarmament
on Thursday, 19 February 2004.**

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. At the Plenary Meeting of the Conference on Disarmament on 12 February 2004 last week, the Ambassador of the United States to the CD distributed a copy of US President Bush's speech at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C. on 11 February 2004 which addressed the subject of weapons of mass destruction. In the speech, the US President made several undue references to Malaysia. Malaysia is disappointed that the speech appears to question the commitment of the Government of Malaysia on the issue of nuclear non proliferation.

2. Malaysia refutes any suggestion that a Malaysian company SCOPE is involved with an international network which supports the illegal production of centrifuges. Since reports of the alleged involvement of SCOPE in the production of certain centrifuge components, Malaysia has undertaken thorough investigations and extended full cooperation to all concerned. SCOPE has confirmed that while it did manufacture 14 semi finished components for Gulf Technical Industries (GTI) based in Dubai, their end use was never disclosed by GTI or any other party. SCOPE's contract with GTI was publicly disclosed during the listing of its parent company, SCOMI, on the KL Stock Exchange in May 2003, as required by the regulating authority.

3. Investigations have shown that the components made by SCOPE for GTI, which included casings and clamp holders, were generic and suitable for several uses. Investigations also confirmed that SCOPE did not, and does not have the capability to manufacture a complete centrifuge unit, or a majority of the parts needed to assemble a centrifuge.

4. It must be stressed that Malaysia has always supported international efforts to prevent the illegal transfer of nuclear technology or the illegal production of materials which may be abused for the clandestine development of weapons of mass destruction. Malaysia is committed not only to non proliferation but also to the total and complete elimination of all weapons of mass destruction.

5. Malaysia, therefore, regrets that an ordinary business contract entered into by SCOPE has been distorted, exaggerated and blown out of proportion. We take exception that Malaysia has been deliberately singled out in the speech when President Bush had also clearly stated that other necessary parts were purchased through network operatives based in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Yet, the President failed to name those countries hosting them.

6. Malaysia feels offended that it has been unfairly and deliberately targeted by President Bush, thus tarnishing Malaysia's track record on the issue of non proliferation. Malaysia does not belong to the league of nations with nuclear aspirations and it is for this reason that the United States should refrain from implicating the country in nuclear proliferation activities. Malaysia hopes that the United States would manage its affairs with small countries like Malaysia with fairness.

7. **The Honourable Foreign Minister of Malaysia Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar had issued a Press Statement on 13 February 2004** containing the above rebuttal in response to the remarks of President Bush. The delegation of Malaysia to the CD hereby requests the Secretariat to distribute copies of this statement and the Press Statement of the Foreign Minister of Malaysia to delegations and observers to the Conference on Disarmament and that these documents be entered as official documents of the Conference on Disarmament.

I thank you for your attention.