

**COUNTRY STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA DURING THE
SEVENTY-THIRD WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY (WHA73)
VIRTUAL *de minimis* MEETING
18 MAY 2020**

Greetings from Malaysia!

1. Firstly, we wish to express our appreciation to WHO for the assistance and response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We acknowledge the fast action in mobilizing funds and linking member states with dialogue session and development partners in addition to the regular exchange of information virtually amongst member states coordinated by WHO.
2. We are all aware that this COVID-19 pandemic has impacted so many socio-economic sectors across the spectrum. Livelihoods of people have been struck hard by this disease. Malaysia agrees that people in vulnerable situations are at risk the highest. The government of Malaysia has prioritized sufficient financing to contain this pandemic and to protect our people. This has been done by mobilizing funds namely the Economic Stimulus Package, targeted towards these vulnerable households, as they have been hit the hardest during this COVID-19 pandemic.
3. We have learnt that community engagement assures us the success of our national control measures against COVID-19. The government of Malaysia had implemented a 'Movement Control Order' in mid-March and this has been scheduled to go on till 9th of June 2020.
4. In embracing the spirit of Leaving No One Behind in the Universal Health Coverage, we have conducted a targeted health screening approach, for our migrant population regardless of citizenship status residing in Malaysia.

5. The government of Malaysia recognizes that during this period of social distancing and avoidance of mass gatherings, digital connectivity is of paramount importance. We have ensured that our people are well updated daily via strategic risk communication, by relaying latest COVID-19 updates.

6. As we adjust ourselves to the “new normal” and social distancing, it is timely to strengthen the regional cooperation that we have had as we need to plan ahead for the post-pandemic era. As traders and businesses look forward to reopening their businesses, we require utmost co-operation from our communities and this can only be done by educating them with facts and evidence.

7. Malaysia is happy to cooperate in research and development of medicines and vaccines to enhance our capabilities in both prevention and treatment of COVID-19. Malaysia is part of WHO Solidarity Trial and look forward to a promising outcome. Ultimately, we are all fighting against the same enemy and with unity and good regional cooperation, we will win this.

8. At the end of this Holy month, Eid is finally here to grace us with happiness and prosperity. Hence, Malaysia would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Muslim colleagues and friends Eid Mubarak.

Thank you very much.