



MALAYSIA

Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York

**STATEMENT BY
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**AT THE
GENERAL DEBATE OF THE
17TH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

**13 JUNE 2024, CONFERENCE ROOM 4
UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK**

Mr. Chair,

Malaysia welcomes the theme of this year's Conference on "Rethinking disability inclusion in the current international juncture and ahead of the Summit of the Future".

2. As a testament to our steadfast dedication to promoting and safeguarding the rights of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), Malaysia enacted the Persons with Disabilities Act 2008 [Act 685]. This legislation comprehensively addresses the registration, protection, rehabilitation, development, and overall well-being of persons with disabilities, further bolstered by the establishment of a dedicated National Council for Persons with Disabilities.

3. In our pursuit of fostering greater inclusion of persons with disabilities in the labour market, Malaysia introduced the "Job Coaching" program. This initiative offers invaluable support to individuals with disabilities, aiding their seamless integration into the workforce. Furthermore, it equips employers with guidance on implementing universal design principles in office spaces, fostering disability-friendly environments, and promoting the normalization of persons with disabilities in the workplace. Notably, Malaysia has trained 3,061 Job Coaches between 2010 and 2023 to assist persons with disabilities in their job applications.

4. Complementing our efforts in employment initiatives, Malaysia has launched the Capable and Reliable Entrepreneur (CARE) program. Specifically tailored for persons with disabilities that actively participates or interested in entrepreneurship, this program provides comprehensive training and financial grants. Since 2022, 64 persons with disabilities have benefited from support under the CARE program.

Mr. Chair,

5. Malaysia underscores the paramount importance of coordinated state resources in disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. National Security Council Directive No. 20: National Disaster Management Policy and Mechanism outlines the functions and responsibilities of various governmental agencies and NGOs in disaster management, encompassing search and rescue operations, medical services, logistical support, security measures, media relations, and welfare provisions.

6. Recognizing the unique vulnerabilities of persons with disabilities in times of crisis, the Government has meticulously reviewed the "Standard Operating Procedures on Disaster Management" to incorporate tailored provisions for their protection and assistance. This proactive approach aligns with Malaysia's commitments under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response.

7. Emphasizing the transformative potential of technology in enhancing the lives of persons with disabilities, the Southeast Asia Minister of Education Organization Regional Centre for Special Educational Needs (SEAMEO SEN), headquartered in Malaysia, assumes a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of special education. Through its comprehensive suite of capacity-building, research, innovation, and strategic planning initiatives, SEAMEO SEN empowers ASEAN special needs educators, students with disabilities, and societies at large.

Mr. Chair,

8. The Government of Malaysia reaffirms its unwavering commitment to promoting

and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities, a cornerstone of our national agenda. We remain steadfast in our dedication to fulfilling our obligations under the CRPD.

Thank you.