

Mr. Mayong Onon (Malaysia): Allow me to express our gratitude to you, Sir, for convening today's open debate on United Nations peacekeeping operations and their potential contribution to the overarching goal of sustaining peace, which is indeed timely.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Her Excellency Ms. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General; Mr. Youssef Mahmoud, Senior Adviser at the International Peace Institute; and Ambassador Gert Rosenthal, former Chair of the Advisory Group of Experts on the 2015 review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture, for their briefings and invaluable insights on today's topic.

Malaysia associates itself with the statement delivered by the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on behalf the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

I would also like to reaffirm Malaysia's support for the central role played by the United Nations, particularly by the Security Council, in the maintenance of international peace and security. We are very mindful of the daunting responsibilities and expectations placed on the United Nations, in particular on the Council. My delegation views that positively, as it demonstrates the desire of the international community for the United Nations and the Council to do more, ultimately, to secure durable and sustainable peace in conflict affected countries.

My delegation believes that there is no one-size-fits all approach in peacekeeping because each mission is unique. Therefore, in our collective efforts to enhance and improve the situation in the various peacekeeping missions, we need to take into account the different missions' components, situation, environment and challenges, including the relevant coordination among the various stakeholders in the field. Indeed, the active participation of host countries is an important component when it comes to the success of any mission. Therefore, in our view, it is timely for the Security Council and the relevant host countries to shift from the concept of a Government approach to a citizen's approach.

Security and development are not mutually exclusive; they always go hand in hand. Without peace and security, countries will not be able to focus their resources on their socioeconomic development programmes for the well-being of their people. Therefore, continuous efforts are needed to develop peacekeeping operations with a more holistic and comprehensive strategic approach that involves the community. In that regard, Malaysia is willing to share its experience, in particular in peacekeeping training with a focus on winning the hearts and minds of the local population.

My delegation supports the efforts of the Council and the United Nations in their engagement with all stakeholders, including youth and women, with a view to achieving equal access to quality education and leadership training programmes. We also support the roles of youth and women as mediators in sustaining peace. We remain mindful that it is the responsibility of all Member States to ensure the development of their own socioeconomic development plans in our joint efforts to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. Peacekeepers in the field

can provide relevant assistance and, wherever possible, facilitate the host country's process of achieving peace and sustainability.

Finally, Malaysia would like to pay tribute to the sacrifices made by peacekeepers — to the devoted men and women who have served and to those who are now serving with unwavering dedication and distinction in our joint endeavours to maintain international peace and security. Some paid with their lives towards such noble efforts.