

MALAYSIA NATIONAL STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED AT THE
201st SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNESCO
(5 MINUTES 45 SECONDS)

Mr Chair,

1. I now wish to shift to the National Statement. As the Secretary General for the Ministry of Education Malaysia, it is my pleasure to report on the headway we are making in implementing the 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Developments.
2. The Malaysia Education Blueprint (2013-2025) launched in September 2013, aspires to transform our education system to develop holistic individuals through enhanced collaboration and synergy between all parties. The first wave (2013-2015) of the blueprint, that inspires to turn around the system by providing support to teachers and focusing on core skills, has recorded significant achievements. Now, as we are entering the second wave (2016-2020), the main focus is to accelerate the system improvements. For the third and final wave of its implementation, the transformation process will move towards excellence with increased operational flexibility.

3. With regards to the Draft Programme and Budget (39C/5), Malaysia fully supports UNESCO in implementing its forthcoming programme and budget. We note that the Technical and Vocational Educational Training (TVET) is an area of main priority of the Members States. In this aspect, Malaysia strongly believes that TVET is one of the game changers, because with the right education opportunity that gives the right qualifications and skills, we can produce competitive skilled workforce for the country and also internationally marketable.

4. On the same note, Malaysia welcomes that Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) is presented in a stand-alone chapter in the 39C/5. Since becoming a member of IOC in 1964, Malaysia has been playing a major role in the Commission, especially in the implementation of all major programmes at global and regional, particularly the IOC-Tsunami related initiatives. Therefore, Malaysia wishes to restate our assurances in promoting international co-operation within the framework of IOC.

5. Malaysia also underscores the vital roles played by UNESCO in the capacity building for countries to manage disasters and risks associated with climate change. Malaysia's cooperation with UNESCO is reinforced specifically in supporting various capacity building programmes in the field of science for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDs) and African nations through the Malaysia Funds-in-Trust (MFIT) signed in 2013. The fund also covers other fields such as education, culture, as well as communication and information.

Mr. Chair,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

6. Malaysia would like to commend the immense work achieved by UNESCO in the promotion of culture diversity as well as the preservation and protection of cultural heritage. Therefore, we believe that UNESCO can continue to play its unique roles through inclusive engagements and constructive dialogues with the relevant parties.

7. To summarize, Malaysia reiterates our commitments to the important works of UNESCO within its core competencies towards achieving our shared goals of peace, sustainable economic growth and social development.

Thank you.