Malaysia's Statement
59th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Mr. Chairman,

At the outset, my delegation joins others in congratulating you on your appointment as the Chairman of the 59th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. I assure you of Malaysia's fullest support and cooperation in ensuring a fruitful outcome of this session. I would also like to express my delegation's deepest appreciation to the Chair of the UNGASS Board for his tireless efforts and dedication towards the preparation for the United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on the World Drug Problem.

2. My delegation associates itself with the statements delivered by Pakistan on behalf of the Asia Group and Singapore on behalf of ASEAN. Malaysia would like to make the following remarks in its national capacity.

Mr. Chairman,

3. The convening of this session annually reaffirms our recognition towards the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking organ of United Nations for drug-related matters. We fully support the primary role of this Commission in leading the preparatory process for the UNGASS.

4. The convening of the UNGASS on drugs in April this year attests our long-standing commitment to address the world drug problem. The convening of this Special Session is indeed timely for Member States to engage in a transparent, inclusive and open-ended manner, on the progress made in achieving the goals set in the "2009 Political Declaration
and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balance Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem”. The Special Session will mark an important milestone for Member States to chart directions and ways in order to meet their commitments and target set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action by 2019.

Mr. Chairman,

5. Malaysia fully recognises that the World Drug Problem remains a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed through effective and increased international cooperation. Failure in addressing this problem will pose threats to national security and serious socio-economic consequences that will undermine the development, welfare and livelihood of the community. It is due to this fact that Malaysia is fully committed to suppress and eliminate the scourge of drugs through the following approaches:

5.1 Firstly, Malaysia advocates zero-tolerance approach against drugs as the central goal of its national policy to eradicate illicit drugs. Over the years, Malaysia has implemented various measures and prevention strategies aimed at suppressing production, trafficking and abuse of illicit drugs. On strengthening law enforcement capacities, Malaysia has established the Special Tactical Intelligence Narcotics Group (STING) with the view to investigate and arrest local and international drug kingpins as well as drug smuggling syndicates.

At the regional level, Malaysia is fully supportive of various initiatives undertaken under the ASEAN platform such as the
ASEAN Narcotics Cooperation Centre in pursuing the aspiration of a Drug-Free ASEAN. Through the collective spirit of ASEAN Member States, this aspiration has been successfully translated into a list of action lines under the ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint 2025 which was unanimously adopted by the ASEAN Leaders in November last year.

5.2 Secondly, Malaysia is committed to address the drug problem through a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach. In line with this effort, Malaysia strives to achieve a balance between prevention, treatment and rehabilitation approaches as well as the law enforcement approach in combating drug-crimes. These measures, among others, include awareness-raising, training for healthcare providers, developing clinical practice guidelines and utilisation of Integrated Substances Control Management Systems (SPIKES).

Malaysia has developed the drug-related specialised postgraduate program and implemented both compulsory and voluntary treatments. On voluntary treatment, there is a total of 10 facilities known as Malaysia Cure & Care Clinic (C&C Clinic) has been established while 11 Client Integration Centres and 78 Community Houses have been established to facilitate the rehabilitation and reintegration of drug addicts into the society.

At the same time, we recognise the challenges in implementing evidence-based drug policy and measures as well as scientifically proven prevention and treatment. In this
regard, we pledge to enhance our cooperation with all stakeholders in both regional and international levels to promote sharing of knowledge, expertise and best practices on drug prevention and treatment.

5.3 **Thirdly,** Malaysia strongly underlines that the existing three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments should be the basis for drug world policy and in dealing with the challenges of drug control in the 21st century.

5.4 **Fourthly,** Malaysia recognises that there is no one-size-fits-all measure in our efforts towards addressing drug problem. In meeting our obligations under the drug control treaties, we firmly believe that it is the sovereign rights of every government and its citizens to decide the best approach that could be tailored accordingly to their national policies, taking into the unique circumstance and norms of its society.

5.5 **Finally,** Malaysia underlines the importance of engaging various stakeholders including the civil societies in addressing the world drug problem. We believe, their insights in the review process would contribute positively to our efforts in developing a more holistic, integrated and balance policies towards addressing the drug problem.
Mr. Chairman,

6. Through the concerted efforts of all Member States and with the continuous support of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, we are hopeful that the upcoming UNGASS would yield practical outcome that contribute positively towards our efforts in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.