



MALAYSIA'S STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED AT THE 64TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

Her Excellency Ambassador Dominika Krois,

Her Excellency Madam Ghada Waly,

Excellencies, Distinguished delegates,

Ladies, and gentlemen.

Malaysia would like to congratulate Ambassador Dominika Krois on her election as the Chair of the 64th Session of Commission on Narcotic Drugs and commend the secretariat for their excellent work in organizing this important event, especially during these difficult times.

Madam Chair,

As the world is currently facing the unprecedented health and socioeconomic challenges due to COVID-19 pandemic, we note that the number of cases of illicit drugs remains high. Drug syndicates have deployed new strategies and modus operandi

to further their nefarious activities, including utilising courier, e-hailing and e-commerce platforms.

Despite these extraordinary circumstances, Malaysia remains steadfast in executing measures to control the supply and demand of illicit drugs, while continuously increasing its efforts in improving the quality and accessibility of treatments for drug dependents.

In this regard, Malaysia would like to underscore three important developments in managing drug issues in the country.

Firstly, Malaysia is currently reviewing the Drug Dependent Act - to expand the access of appropriate treatments and rehabilitation services.

Secondly, Malaysia has placed a stricter enforcement during this pandemic, besides fostering a stronger cooperation and intelligence sharing between agencies at all levels, which have led to the success of many large-scale operations against local and foreign drug syndicates in the region.

As of March 2021, the Royal Malaysia Police have confiscated more than 20 tonnes of drugs and substances, mainly Marijuana, Crystal Meth, Liquid Meth and Codeine. We noted that there is

a drastic increase in drugs seizures for the year 2020; where Marijuana alone rose by 735% and Liquid Meth increased by 1,833%, as compared to the previous year.

Thirdly, Malaysia has provided an extensive network of drugs dependency treatment, consisting of 33 Cure and Care Service Centres and 16 Client Integrated Centres, which are fully managed by the government agencies. In addition, there is also 49 Caring Community House manned by the local community.

Due to the pandemic, the usage of online platforms for treatment has also been introduced. Tele-counselling was initiated to ensure recovery programmes are on track and self-therapy kits are distributed to help those dealing with addiction issues.

Madam Chair,

To conclude, allow me to reiterate the importance of a balanced and evidence-based approaches. No country would be able to address and counter the world drug problem alone. Hence, Malaysia believes that strategic partnerships must be forged among Member States, in our common fight to protect national security and sovereignty, as well as to prevent irreparable loss of human lives.

Finally, I would like to assure that Malaysia's presence here demonstrates our continued political will and commitment to further strengthen international collaboration towards the world's prevention of illicit drugs.

Thank you.