



MALAYSIA

Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York

[Check against delivery]

**STATEMENT BY
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DELEGATE
PERMANENT MISSION OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 183:
OBSERVER STATUS FOR THE GLOBAL DRYLAND ALLIANCE IN THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

**AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF
THE 75TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

NEW YORK, 6 NOVEMBER 2020

Mr. Chair,

Malaysia recognises that the food crisis affecting many dryland States globally has the potential to exacerbate, given the mounting challenges of meeting the nutritional demands of an ever-increasing global population. In this regard, Malaysia welcomes the work of the Global Dryland Alliance in finding solutions to the food crisis which threatens the wellbeing and livelihood of the populations of drylands.

2. Malaysia holds the view that the work of the Global Dryland Alliance clearly falls in line with the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development Goals, as adopted by the General Assembly through Resolution 70/1 on 25 September 2015. Specifically, the work of the Global Drylands Alliance directly converges with Goals 1, 2, 6, 7, 12 and 15 of the Sustainable Development Goals. Malaysia also holds the view that the work of the Global Dryland Alliance is poised to meet the Zero Hunger Challenge, which was initiated by the former Secretary-General of the United Nations, His Excellency Ban Ki-Moon, in 2012.

3. Malaysia considers that the approach of the Global Drylands Alliance in fostering cooperation without sacrificing self-sufficiency among its members is commendable. Malaysia also considers that the emphasis on the development of agriculture and the search for sources of reliable and affordable food, water and energy to sustain the population of the drylands, indeed constitutes the right way forward in tackling what would otherwise be a crippling crisis to the vulnerable populations living in dryland States.

4. As such, and as one of the co-sponsors of the draft resolution on this agenda item, Malaysia is in full support of the agenda to grant the status of observer to the Global Dryland Alliance, which will allow it to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly.

Thank you.