

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF MALAYSIA
“REPORT BY THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE SITUATION
OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN BELARUS”

FIFTH SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
TUESDAY, 12 JUNE 2007

Mr. President,

My delegation notes that the approach taken by the Special Rapporteur in preparing his latest report mirrors the one which he had presented at the Second Session last September. This is indeed unfortunate. It appears that the message of constructive dialogue and cooperation in the promotion and protection of human rights that should resonate during this crucial period of institutional building of the Council has not been duly taken into account in respect of this controversial and highly politicised mandate.

2. Malaysia continues to strongly believe that a positive and collaborative attitude is central to the effective protection and promotion of human rights if we are to make positive impacts on the lives of those whose human rights we seek to protect.

3. Without prejudging the issue at hand, we hope that the message of positive engagement will find its rightful place in this Council. The days of naming and shaming through politically motivated approach should be put behind us. Any measures that are counter-productive should be discarded, and all mechanisms of this Council should be accountable to the fundamental principles, as well as the framework and scope within which they should operate. Otherwise, the credibility of the Council and its mechanisms will be undermined.

4. In this context, Mr. President, my delegation underscores the importance for the Council to adopt on a priority basis the draft code of conduct for special procedures so that this system can truly function in a responsible and productive manner.

Thank you.