Mr. Chairman,

My delegation associates itself with the statement delivered by Indonesia on behalf of the NAM States Parties to the NPT. Malaysia attaches great importance to the inalienable right of all States Parties to develop research, produce and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination, as enshrined in Article IV of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Mr. Chairman,

2. Malaysia fully recognises the important role played by the IAEA in supporting safe, secure and peaceful applications of science and technology for sustainable socio-economic development. The IAEA is the main vehicle for transfer of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

3. We commend the conferences organised by the IAEA, Member States and relevant stakeholders in 2017 namely the International Conference on the IAEA Technical Cooperation Programme and the International Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Power in the 21st Century in Abu Dhabi. These conferences were useful platforms to promote the contributions and benefits of peaceful uses of nuclear energy and technology. In line with the IAEA’s theme, “Atoms for Peace and Development”, these conferences fully attest Member States’ commitments to comply with Articles I, II, III and IV of the NPT. Therefore, Malaysia looks forward to participate constructively at the 2018 Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Science and Technology.

Mr. Chairman,

4. Malaysia firmly believes that research and development plays a critical role in realising the long-term goals of peaceful application of nuclear science and technology for the collective benefits of Member States and the IAEA. Malaysia enjoyed immense benefits from the research and development (R&D) in various
fields such as agriculture, manufacturing and industry, medicine and healthcare, environment, and climate change mitigation. These R&D efforts have had and continue to have significant contributions to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Therefore, Malaysia encourages all countries with the capacity to do so, to support the Agency’s efforts to modernise the nuclear applications laboratories under the Renovation of the Nuclear Applications Laboratories (ReNuAL) project.

5. As a member of NPT, Malaysia reaffirms its commitment to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons. Malaysia is strongly committed to achieve the highest standards of nuclear safety, nuclear security and nuclear safeguards. Malaysia continues to support the implementation of various activities related to peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology through the IAEA Technical Cooperation Programme, the Peaceful Uses Initiative (PUI) and the Regional Cooperative Agreement. These activities, among others include:

5.1 Developing a long-term sustainable Borehole Disposal Facility for the Management of Disused Sealed Radioactive Sources;
5.2 Organising the 14th Post-Graduate Educational Course (PGEC) on Radiation Protection and Safety of Radioactive Material; and
5.3 Welcoming the IAEA advisory services such as the Integrated Safety Assessment of Research Reactors (INSARR mission), International Nuclear Security Advisory Service (INSServ) and hosting of the International Physical Protection Advisory Service (IPPAS);

6. As a regional Nuclear Security Support Centre (NSSC), Malaysia is committed to strengthen global nuclear security. In March 2018, Malaysia in collaboration with INTERPOL’s Radiological Nuclear Terrorism Prevention Unit (RNTPU) conducted an Operation Conduit to improve the capabilities of law enforcement agencies in combating illicit trafficking of nuclear and other radioactive materials.

7. Malaysia fully endorses the Global Initiatives to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) Statement of Principles. In line with this Statement of Principles, Malaysia and Thailand had successfully implemented the Joint Table-Top Cross Border Nuclear Security Exercise. Malaysia looks forward to hosting a Trilateral Exercise jointly with Indonesia and the Philippines on Detection and Response to Nuclear Security, with the focus on maritime issues in August 2018.

Mr. Chairman,

8. Malaysia fully supports the need to provide sufficient, assured and predictable funding for the implementation of various activities related to peaceful uses of nuclear energy. In meeting the objective of Article IV of the NPT and the objectives mandated in Articles II and III of the IAEA Statute, we see the merits to have an
appropriate increase in both the IAEA Regular Budget and the Technical Cooperation Fund.

9. Finally, Malaysia would like to reiterate that the fundamental goal of the NPT hinges on the degree of commitments made in all three pillars by NPT States Parties. Therefore, the Treaty, as well as the steps and actions agreed upon by Review Conferences must be implemented equally in all its aspect without favour or prejudice.

Thank you.