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Statement by Malaysia
Item 3: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of
Indigenous People
51st Regular Session of the Human Rights Council

Malaysia thanks the Special Rapporteur for his report.

2. The Government of Malaysia is committed to the culture of peaceful coexistence in ensuring respect for ethnic, religious and cultural diversity in Malaysia.

3. Malaysia in reaffirming its commitment to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, has undertaken progressive steps to align its national policies with international standards. Among others, through the Twelfth Malaysia Plan, the country's development roadmap from 2021 to 2025, the Indigenous People of Malaysia consisting of three main groups namely the Natives of Sabah, the Natives of Sarawak and the Aborigines of Peninsular Malaysia, are provided with equal opportunity in the three key areas of the plan which are resetting the economy, strengthening security, wellbeing and inclusivity as well as advancing sustainability.

4. With regard to the theme of the SR report, Malaysia would like to highlight its effort in safeguarding the native indigenous languages in Malaysia. The Ministry of Education, Malaysia had included in the public school's syllabus, the native language of Iban, KadazanDusun and Semai. These indigenous languages are available for students as an elective subject in the Malaysia Certificate of Education since the year 2008, 2011 and 2021 respectively.

5. Malaysia is ready to share its experience and best practices with other States regarding our efforts to ensure indigenous languages continued to be preserved,

revitalised and most importantly, do not extinct from the unique and diverse Malaysian heritage that we are proud of.

Thank you.

GENEVA

28 September 2022