



September 13, 2008

U.S. EMBASSY PRESS STATEMENT

**U.S. comment on the recent arrests of three individuals under
Malaysia's Internal Security Act (ISA):**

- The United States firmly believes that freedom of the press and freedom of the speech are fundamental to a vibrant democracy. Freedom of expression is a basic right in the universal declaration of human rights.**

- We expect that democratic countries that advocate free expression of political views will not curtail such freedoms.**