



National Statement by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Permanent Representative of Pakistan at Interactive Dialogue with the Acting High Commissioner for Human Rights on Sri Lanka

51st Human Rights Council Session
12 September 2022

Mr. President,

We take note of the High Commissioner's report and welcome Sri Lanka's comments on it.

We recognize the gravity of economic constraints being faced by Sri Lanka especially in the aftermath of COVID-pandemic and global financial crunch.

We appreciate Sri Lanka's commitment to advance the enjoyment of human rights in the country especially safeguarding livelihoods and overcoming socio-economic challenges.

We express Pakistan's unwavering support and solidarity to the government and people of Sri Lanka.

We recognize Sri Lanka's domestic accountability and reconciliation efforts, including through establishing Office on Missing Persons (OMPs), mobilizing Office on Reparations (ORs), strengthening National Commission for Human Rights; amending Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA) as well as rehabilitation of former LTTE combatants.

We commend Sri Lanka's continuing commitment to remain engaged with the Council and OHCHR. Visits of 11 Special Procedures in last 7 years is a clear reflection of this commitment.

We appreciate Sri Lanka's struggle against terrorism perpetrated by the LTTE and sponsored from abroad.

13 years since the adoption of first HRC resolution, the Council must now assess in what concrete ways it has fostered enjoyment of social and economic rights by the people of Sri Lanka.

We reiterate our call for strict adherence to the provisions of UN Charter, UNGA resolution 60/251 and the IB package.



Sri Lanka's commitment and constructive approach provides space for meaningful engagement.

We therefore call upon the Council and its allied mechanisms to deepen engagement, support Sri Lanka's national efforts to overcome socio-economic challenges, and advance national accountability and reconciliation efforts.

I thank you.