



Statement, delivered on behalf of OIC by Mr. Danyal Hasnain, Third Secretary, during General Debate under Agenda Item-8 at the 51st session of Human Rights Council

30 September 2022

Mr. President,

The OIC reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the full and effective implementation of VDPA.

Since its adoption three decades ago, VDPA's forward-looking approach continues to guide our collective efforts in advancing the global human rights agenda.

In fact, VDPA's strong call to treat all human rights equally is even more relevant in face of contemporary challenges. The triple crises of health, climate and under development economy have laid bare that creating hierarchies among basic human rights is fundamentally a flawed approach, and should be discontinued.

So far, global responses to address these global challenges fall short of the 'Vienna Spirit' and the level of international cooperation, needed to secure the basic rights of everyone everywhere.

The quantum of international financing, made available to developing countries to recover from the devastating effects of the pandemic, is not commensurate with the enormity of the socio-economic challenges. The OIC, therefore, calls for an equitable recovery response, including through easing of debt burden, poverty alleviation and removing global obstacles to equitable development.

Mr. President,

The OIC is alarmed at the dangerous growth and spread of State-sponsored Islamophobia. Regrettably, populist leaders continue to willfully incite hatred, hostility and violence, both offline and online, against Muslim minorities, and their sacred religious personalities, and symbols for electoral gains.

We, therefore, call on the members and observers of this Council to meaningfully counter the unfounded hatred, hostility and bigotry against Islam and its adherents in our collective enlightened interest.

Mr. President,

VDPA considers the denial of the right to self-determination as a violation of human rights and recognizes the right of the peoples, living under foreign occupation, to take any legitimate action, in accordance with the UN Charter, to realize this inalienable right.

As endorsed by VDPA, effective international measures should be taken to guarantee and monitor the implementation of human rights in respect of people under foreign occupation. Furthermore, effective legal protections should be provided to such people against human rights violations, in accordance with human rights norms and international law. Thank you.

Word count: 338

Allotted speaking time: 2 min 30 sec