



**National Statement delivered by Mr. Danyal Hasnain, Third Secretary, during the
Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur in the field of Cultural Rights
52nd Session
15th March 2023**

Mr. President,

We thank the Special Rapporteur for her report to the Council.

We agree with the SR's observations that migration often turns individuals from being part of a majority in their societies of origin to being part of a minority in their transit and destination societies. Henceforth, this transition makes their cultural rights more vulnerable.

Such relocation results in losing important places, communities, relationships, and meaningful heritage practices. In many cases, it can lead to opposition to continuing their heritage practices, and result in discrimination, hate, and incitement to violence in the host society.

However, as rightly pointed out by the Special Rapporteur, migration also has positive effects for the cultural rights of all involved, including for the cultural dynamic of the host societies.

There is an increasing unfortunate trend of rising xenophobia and "otherization" of the migrant communities, resulting in severe infringement on migrants' social, cultural, and economic rights.

The vulnerability of migrants' rights depends on various factors, including the freedom to practice their religion, social status, national origin, race, ethnicity, and color.

Dear Special Rapporteur,

What measures should states adopt under Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESR), Article 1 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), and Article 27 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) to implement these stipulations in their true spirit and stymie the rising tide of hate speech, xenophobia, Islamophobia and negative portrayal of migrants in the host countries?

Thank you!