



**National Statement by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Pakistan Permanent Representative to the UN, during Interactive Dialogue on High Commissioner for Human Rights' Annual Report at the 50<sup>th</sup> session of Human Rights Council**

**14 June 2022**

**Mr. President,**

We thank the High Commissioner for presentation of her Annual Report and reaffirm our support to her mandate.

We welcome High Commissioner's continued monitoring and reporting on India's escalating human rights violations in Occupied Jammu & Kashmir.

India continues to subvert the UN Charter principles, Security Council resolutions and 4<sup>th</sup> Geneva Convention provisions by illegally altering demographics of the disputed territory.

In doing so, the Indian colonist machinery has resorted to the worst form of state terrorism against the Kashmiri people.

Last month, the stalwart Kashmiri leader Mr. Yasin Malik was convicted through a sham trial, exemplifying India's systematic suppression of indigenous Kashmiri voices against its state-led colonization of the occupied territory.

Every day, Kashmiri people are braving a human rights tragedy. Armed with oppressive laws, over 800,000 Indian occupation troops continue to unlawfully kill, torture, arrest and maim Kashmiri people with full impunity behind an iron curtain.

To hide its transgressions, the Hindutva Raj has installed a pliant judiciary, gagged local media, persecuted civil society, and denied access to the UN human rights machinery.

The UN Special Procedures have publicly raised concerns about the devastating human rights impacts of India's demographic engineering and called on the international community to 'step up'.

Today, Pakistan echoes this call for action to address the growing human rights crisis in occupied Kashmir.

The Council must take credible steps to uphold Kashmiri people's fundamental rights, and hold India accountable.

The global flag-bearers of human rights must break their deafening silence, and call India out for its atrocities against the Kashmiris.



The High Commissioner must issue an updated report about the situation in Jammu&Kashmir in exercise of her prevention mandate.

We appreciate China's constructive engagement with OHCHR including through the High Commissioner's recent country visit. We support dialogue as the preferred vehicle to advance the global human rights agenda.

We commend the High Commissioner for her leadership role during the last four years and wish her success in her future endeavors. Thank you.