

**Pakistan's statement at the Annual high-level panel discussion
on human rights mainstreaming**

***Theme: Human rights in the light of multilateralism:
opportunities, challenges and the way forward***

25 February 2019

40th Session of the Human Rights Council

Mr. President,

As multilateralism is under assault, as the principles of UN Charter have been eroded due to unilateral actions and as the narrative of 'us' against 'them' is finding traction, it is absolutely essential to identify and implement a collective approach on advancing human rights through support of multilateralism and UN charter.

2. Such collective approach warrants forwarding the objectives of the two UN pillars of peace and security and development in a way that promotes the third pillar of human rights.

3. Resolution of longstanding conflicts and pacific settlement of disputes would avoid wars and instability that leads to displacement of population. The Global Compacts on Migration and Refugees provide us with an opportunity to address many of the underlying issues, reinvigorate our collective efforts to support migration, push back dangerous narrative against migrants and better address global refugee challenges.

4. The implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) would enable us to address many of the root causes hampering the realization of human rights agenda. By addressing basic human needs like alleviation of poverty, we can surely progress in the human rights domain.

Mr. President,

5. Climate Change poses existential threat to human kind. Ironically, the least polluters and emitters of green house gases face the worst consequences of climate change. We believe that by following the agreed principle of 'common but differentiated responsibilities' and supporting the developing countries in their sustainable development efforts, we can reduce the negative impacts of Climate Change on basic human rights.

6. Finally, use of technology is a great enabler of human development yet, its misuse can create havoc. We must be prudent in its application. Cyber discipline and cyber security are essential imperatives to ensure that the technological advancement does not become a vehicle for human rights abuse.

I thank you Mr. President.