

40TH SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Explanation of Vote before the Vote

A/HRC/40/L15-Human Rights Situation in Iran

21 March 2019

Mr. President,

Pakistan has always supported constructive engagement with the UN mechanisms and human rights machinery as envisioned in UNGA resolution 60/251 and IB Package. Technical cooperation and capacity building mandate of the Council provides an effective, non-politicized, and objective tool to enhance capabilities of the States if done in the spirit of strengthening State's capacity on its request and consent.

2. The underlying principle of the UN Human Rights architecture is that States have primary responsibility of promotion and protection of rights of their citizens in accordance with their international obligations. The best approach to address Human Rights concerns is engagement and not estrangement. Human Rights Agenda is better served by two way communication and mutual consent, particularly when dealing with sovereign UN member States and the UN recognized undisputed territories they control.

3. Since the resolution under consideration is not in conformity with the imperative of constructive engagement and does not have support of the country concerned i.e. Iran, my delegation would call for a vote and vote against the resolution.
