

General Comments by Pakistan

Resolution on 'Human Rights and Climate Change'

A/HRC/41/L24

12 July 2019

Mr. President,

We appreciate the efforts of the core group for working in a constructive and inclusive manner on this important initiative.

2. Pakistan fully supports global efforts to counter climate change. We believe that Climate Change poses existential threat to the humankind. The developing countries are specifically at a disadvantage and more vulnerable situation due to disaster risks for the situation not of their making. This necessitates the international cooperation on the basis of agreed principles of the Paris agreement which have also been reflected rightly in the document L24.

3. We are facing glacier melting in the northern part of our country in the Himalayas, which can have catastrophic impact on the human rights especially right to life of our citizens. Knowing these challenges, environment protection and sustainable inclusive development are a priority of our Government.

4. Implementing the vision of Prime Minister Imran Khan for a greener Pakistan, we planted a Billion trees in the last four years in Khyber Pukhtunkha (KPK) Province under the project "Billion Tree Tsunami". This was applauded internationally as one of the most significant global efforts to mitigate Climate Change. After its successful completion, the Government also launched the 'Ten Billion Tree Tsunami' project which envisages to plant ten billion trees in the country in next few years with specific focus on urban forestry. These projects are being implemented through the collaboration between the Government and other stakeholders. As a responsible State in the comity of nations, Pakistan is doing its part to counter global phenomenon of climate change.

5. Our delegation participated constructively in the discussions with a spirit to further strengthen the text. We call the Council members to support the resolution and look forward to its consensual adoption.

I thank you Mr. President.
