

Pakistan on behalf of OIC except Albania and Tunisia
Introduction of
Amendments to Resolution A/HRC/41/L10/Rev1
11 July 2019

Mr. President,

We are delivering this statement on behalf of OIC except Albania and Tunisia.

2. The amendments L27 to L36 to the draft resolution A/HRC/41/L10/Rev1 have been presented by the OIC group with an intention to oppose introduction of controversial notions in the Human Rights Council, reduce its polarization and enhance universality of the Human Rights Agenda.

3. The position is guided by the resolution on Cultural, Social and Family Affairs adopted in the 46th Council of Foreign Ministers meeting held in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

4. These amendments were conveyed to the main sponsors last week outlining in good faith and full transparency what the OIC views on how this draft resolution should look like to enable the Group to accept it.

5. The OIC has a clear and well-defined position towards the issue at hand. This position is based on the following foundations:

- OIC countries categorically reject violence or discrimination targeting any type of people. The resolution is not about protection against violence or discrimination. Rather it aims at using the issue of violence or discrimination to advance another cause. It actually has the potential to generate violence against the very same group of people it claims to protect.
- The letter and spirit of international human rights law have to be respected. Imposition of concepts or notions that fall outside the scope of universally recognized human rights framework is a deliberate assault against the integrity of the international human rights system. The 44 human right and fundamental freedom outlined by the international bill for human rights do not include a right for individuals to be legally categorized in accordance with their sexual preferences or their private individual behavior.
- Human rights and fundamental freedoms are for all and should be enjoyed equally by all human beings. The attempt to create new clusters of protection to new categories of individuals can have dire consequences on the principle of universality of human rights and the

equality of enjoying these very same rights for all individuals without any distinction.

- States have the responsibility to undertake the protection and promotion of human rights for all at all times in accordance with their respective obligations under international human rights law. Nevertheless, the international standards have always placed particular emphasis on the importance of respecting religious, cultural, social, political and economic backgrounds and particularities.

6. Instead of celebrating and consolidating gains and successes of the HRC, we see increasing polarization, undermining of cultural diversity, selective application of standards, discrimination in the core work and use of the available platforms to further the political interest and foreign policies of a few. We surely cannot let this happen. The efforts of our predecessors to strengthen the international human rights framework cannot and should not be allowed to fall a prey to those who want to impose their thinking of social or private individual conduct on others. Our fight against all forms of discrimination, racism, xenophobia, intolerance against anyone on the basis of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, will continue. We will not let this noble human rights agenda be hijacked by introduction of polarizing and controversial concepts.

7. On behalf of OIC members and observers except Albania, I invite all Members of the Human Rights Council to vote in favor of the amendments L.27 to L.36.

8. We will request the President to give floor to Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Nigeria and Egypt to give detailed introduction to the amendments.