

**41<sup>st</sup> SESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

Statement by Pakistan for ID with High Commissioner on Resolution S-27/1

July 10, 2019

Mr. President,

We thank the High Commissioner for her oral update.

Pakistan remains concerned with the human rights situations of the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar. The extreme vulnerability of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar is a consequence of deliberate State policies and practices implemented over decades, steadily marginalising them. The result is a continuing situation of oppression from birth to death.

Mr. President,

Rohingya Muslims have been victims of a systemic persecution spanning decades which, the UN Secretary General referred to as ethnic cleansing in his opening address to this Council in March last year.

We also fear that unless the underlying social and political causes of this discrimination and persecution are addressed, and all ranks within the security forces are held accountable for their actions, similar outbreaks of violence and associated atrocity crimes will continue.

Mr. President,

Pakistan believes that the international community must take a united stand to bring this catastrophe to an end and assist Myanmar in addressing the root causes of its recurrent problems.

We urge the Government of Myanmar to grant immediate, safe and unhindered access to UN agencies and their partners, as well as other domestic and international organizations. We also call upon Myanmar to take firm steps to immediately end the violence against the Rohingya Muslims, bring perpetrators of violence to justice, take concrete steps to address the root causes of discrimination against Rohingya and ensure their wellbeing including the legitimate right to citizenship and return in conditions of safety with dignity in Myanmar.

We remain ready to work together with all stakeholders, including Government of Myanmar, to prevent human rights violations committed on the Rohingya and for their sustainable return and rehabilitation to their ancestral homes in Myanmar in conditions of peace.

I thank you.