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42nd SESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Clustered Interactive Dialogue with Working Group on Enforced Disappearances and Special Rapporteur on Truth, Justice and Reparation

Statement by Pakistan
(11 September 2019)

Mr. President,

Let me begin by commending the Working Group and the Special Rapporteur for presentation of their reports.

Pakistan values their work in promoting and protecting fundamental human rights and freedoms in their mandated areas.

Being a parliamentary democracy, with free media, independent judiciary, and vibrant civil society, Pakistan takes very seriously its international obligations related to human rights.

To deal with the issue of enforced or involuntary disappearance, we have taken numerous steps at the national level.

An independent Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearance has been instituted which has efficiently investigated scores of alleged cases and provide remedy where required.

The marked decline in new cases of enforced disappearances in the last few years is a concrete evidence of Pakistan's unwavering commitment and consistent efforts.

The Working Group is ably conducting its work. We would continue to urge the Working Group to transmit specific and verifiable information to the concerned Governments, enabling swift action, within available resources and capacity.

Proper screening of cases at the preliminary stage should also be done. Similarly, cases, which have been closed on provision of sufficient evidence, should not be re-sent.

I thank you, Mr. President.