



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN Geneva

National Statement delivered by Mr. Afaq Ahmad, Counsellor, during the 3rd UPR of Panama

(3 November 2020)

Madam President,

Pakistan welcomes the delegation of Panama to its 3rd UPR review.

We appreciate the efforts of the government of Panama for the strengthening of national mechanisms to ensure promotion and protection of human rights. In this regard, we have noted the establishment of national standing committee which monitors the implementation of international human rights obligations of Panama.

We also acknowledge the steps taken by Panama to focus on 2030 Development agenda and SDGs and integrate them into policies aimed for achieving national development goals.

Pakistan has taken note of the observation of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt regarding the so called “Panama papers” and misuse of the system by financial intermediaries from abroad to hide assets and evade taxation. We believe that illicit flow of money especially from the developing countries has led to undermining of human rights of individuals, by obstructing their socio-economic development.

My delegation would like to make the following recommendations:

- Continue to take steps for the integration of SDGs in public policy sphere with aim to ensure sustainable development.
- Take necessary measures to impose a legal requirement for public disclosure of ultimate beneficial ownership of foreign nationals and share information upon request with countries on beneficial owners who are nationals of the requesting country.