



**National Statement, delivered by Mr. Umair Khalid, Second Secretary, during the  
Interactive Dialogue with the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development  
54<sup>th</sup> HRC Session  
20 September 2023**

**Mr. Vice President,**

We thank the Expert Mechanism for their important work and for their recommendations to operationalize the right to development.

We echo the Mechanism's findings regarding the important interconnection with development and peace and security and the significance of increased women and youth participation in decision-making processes.

It is increasingly important that countries receive development assistance, without conditionalities, so that they can develop in line with their own priorities and within their own national contexts.

We support the notion that development needs to be measured beyond the traditional scales. Development entails a multitude of factors including reduction of inequalities, promotion of equity-based systems, and overall prosperity for everyone.

We also wish to highlight the importance of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capacities or CBDR-RC. It is important that developing countries are facilitated, as required, in catching up to the global levels of development, through provision of technical and financial assistance.

The Report has rightly pointed out the inadequacies of the global financial architecture. High interest rates, increasing debt burdens, and decreasing investment in health and education has negatively impacted human rights of everyone.

We request the Expert Mechanism to share its views how the principle of CBDR-RC is relevant in the larger context of right to development, beyond the traditional scope of climate change.

Thank you