



Statement on behalf of the OIC, delivered Mr. Danyal Hasnain, Second Secretary,
during the Organizational Meeting for Introduction of Panel Discussion on countering
religious hatred constituting incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence
55th Human Rights Council Session
12th February 2024

Mr. President,

Following the urgent debate, on 12 July 2023, the Human Rights Council adopted its resolution 53/1, entitled “Countering religious hatred constituting incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence”.

In this resolution, the Human Rights Council condemned and strongly rejected any advocacy or manifestation of religious hatred, including the recent public and premeditated acts of desecration of the Holy Qur’an, and underscored the need for holding those responsible to account in a manner consistent with the obligations of States arising from international human rights law.

The resolution decided to organize an interactive panel discussion of experts to identify drivers, root causes and human rights impacts of the desecration of sacred books and places of worship, as well as religious symbols, as a manifestation of religious hatred that could constitute incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence and to outline gaps that may exist in laws, policies, practices and law enforcement that impede the prevention and prosecution of such public and premeditated acts.

This panel discussion is meant to constructively engage views on how we can implement our human rights obligations in combatting religious hatred constituting incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence.

We look forward to participation from all states and civil society organizations during the panel discussion.

I thank you!