



**National Statement, delivered by Mr. Umair Shakoor, Assistant Director, during
Interactive Dialogue with the Working Group on Transnational Corporations and other
Business Enterprises with Respect to Human Rights
53rd HRC Session
27th June 2023**

Mr. President,

We thank the Working Group for presenting their report and take note of the recommendations made therein.

Pakistan reaffirms its support for the mandate and the important work that the working group undertakes.

The importance of safeguarding respect for human rights responsibility by TNCs has recently gained more urgency and significance due to:

- (i) TNC's geographic expanse, transboundary operations, and considerable influence;
- (ii) Varying stipulations of laws, in theory and in practice, often result in legal lacunas that are exploited by certain TNCs;
- (iii) The profit motive may push TNCs to engage in actions which damage the greater public interest or are contributing to environmental degradation and sustainability.

Mr. President,

We echo the Working Group's calls that sustainability and context sensitivity are the key elements vital for viable capacity-building; however, this is a collective responsibility of all stakeholders – including States, businesses, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and the rights holders.

States should find ways, and businesses should support, methods through which resources could be galvanized to enhance the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles.

The United Nations should ensure extensive support for the implementation of the Guiding Principles, including through bilateral assistance and in the framework of cooperation with multilateral organizations.

We also underline the need for businesses to invest in and continue giving focus to building their capacities to fulfil their responsibility to respect human rights across their activities and operations.

I thank you!