



National Statement, delivered by Mr. Junaid Suleman, Director (HR&HA) during the Interactive Dialogue on Secretary General's report on alleged reprisals against those who seek to cooperate or have cooperated with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms
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Mr. President,

Pakistan values civil society's engagement with the UN human rights mechanisms. As a progressive democracy, Pakistan is proud of its dynamic civil society landscape. Pakistan is committed to provide an enabling and safe environment to its civil society partners in advancement of shared development and human rights goals.

We have taken note of the case mentioned in Pakistan, however, one alleged case does not reflect a consistent pattern of harassment or intimidation. We have institutional mechanisms to address such incidents.

Mr. President,

We support the Secretary General's call that reprisal attacks against those who cooperate with the UN system must be stopped upfront. In this connection, we echo the Secretary-General's concerns about the systematic persecution of the indigenous civil society in the occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJ&K).

The Secretary General's report revalidates that as a result of heightened repression, especially during the last four years, the occupied territory today represents a hellscape for civil society actors. We invite the Council's special attention towards the continued illegal detention of brave Kashmiri activists Mr. Khurram Parvez and Mr. Irfan Mehraj, as mentioned in the report.

We urge the Secretary General to remain seized of the shrinking civic space in the occupied territory and continue reporting these alarming trends to the Council.

I thank you!