



**Statement on behalf of OIC, delivered by Amb. Zaman Mehdi, DPR, during Panel Discussion on
Climate Change
53rd HRC Session
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Mr. President,

Climate Change impacts the enjoyment of fundamental human rights.

Extreme weather events like droughts, wildfires, heat waves, and floods have become more frequent and intense worldwide.

Both the holders and primary duty bearers of human rights are bracing negative impacts of these events. Specifically, extreme weather events result in the denial of several social and economic rights of affected communities. These may include rights to work, health, food, housing, water, and sanitation.

Climate-induced events also hamper the affected states' capacity to protect their constituents' social and economic rights by impacting infrastructure and reducing fiscal space.

We urge the international community to introduce initiatives that work to achieve the goals of reducing emissions and protecting the environment, such as the Middle East Green Initiative, which effectively contributes to increasing the region's capabilities in protecting the planet and serves as a roadmap for achieving global targets in climate change.

In this context, we echo the view of the High Commissioner for Human Rights that we must ensure the centrality of human rights in climate decision-making.

COP27, hosted by Egypt last year, underscored the interconnectedness between human rights and climate change. State parties came together in recognition of the disproportionate impact of climate change on vulnerable communities.

We extend our appreciation and support to the UAE - the host for COP28, and look forward to continued international efforts to curtail the negative impacts of climate change on social and economic rights.

Thank you.

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