



**National statement delivered by Mr. Danyal Hasnain, Second Secretary, during the Interactive Dialogue with Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy, and sustainable environment**

**55<sup>th</sup> HRC Session**

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**Mr. Vice President**

We take note of the report by the Special Rapporteur.

We acknowledge the SR's views that how business enterprises, through their activities, are causing harm to the environment and how it is incumbent upon them to take on more responsibility in addressing these concerns.

Business enterprises have a long-recorded history of polluting the environment, be it through oil spills or through unlawful mining practices leading to earthquakes and wastage of local resources, impacting local communities.

There have also been reports of misusing measures, such as carbon offsets and carbon subsidies to present a façade of change without having to take meaningful measures to reduce emissions.

We agree with the SR's recommendation that business enterprises need to be more transparent regarding their climate change mitigation and environment protection measures, which should not be mere greenwashing practices.

We continue to emphasize our apprehension that developing countries are overly affected by 'environmental injustice' because of prevailing global structural imbalances. And we appreciate SR's acknowledgement of these inequalities which make these countries even more vulnerable.

Given the critical role of and vast resources available to business enterprises, more action is required from their end to protect not only the environment but also the local communities from the harms that their activities cause.

**Mr. Special Rapporteur,**

What specific actions, both social and economic, do you recommend to business enterprises for protecting the people living in the communities, in which they operate?

**Thank you**