



Statement on behalf of OIC, delivered by Mr. Afaq Ahmad, Counsellor, during the Panel discussion on Violence against Women and girls with Disabilities

05 July 2021

Madam President,

On behalf of OIC Member States, we thank all the panelists for their contributions.

The OIC highly values the importance of protecting and promoting rights of women and girls with disabilities as equal and key members of any society.

Islam prohibits violence against women and girls under any circumstances, and establishes a communal obligation on communities to assist those in need including persons with disabilities.

For OIC Member states, protecting rights of women and girls with disabilities is part of their religious, social and moral obligations.

With this spirit, the OIC is developing an action plan related to protecting rights of women and girls with disabilities and OIC member states are integrating rights of persons with disabilities in their policies and programs aimed at their inclusion and empowerment.

We acknowledge that women with disabilities are at a higher risk of exposure to poverty, violence, and abuse. On the other hand, women are also the main caregivers for people with disabilities in many societies. We salute women's courage for managing their multiple roles in societies not only as equal contributor in political and socio-economic domains but also their support to people with disabilities.

To counter multiple challenges faced by states related to rights of people with disabilities, the OIC recommends:

1. Exchange of good practices and sharing of knowledge and experience in enhancing accessibility for women and girls with disabilities, and ending violence.
2. Strengthening of international cooperation through exchange of technology and resource mobilization especially for developing countries in fulfilling their human rights obligations under applicable international law.

I thank you.