



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN Geneva

National statement, delivered by Ambassador Tahir Hussain Andrabi, Deputy Permanent Representative, during Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Extra-judicial killing at the 44th session of Human Rights Council

(09 July 2020)

Madam President,

Pakistan supports the growing global consensus that drone technologies should be deployed for legitimate security purposes, in full compliance with the UN Charter, and international human rights and humanitarian laws.

We echo the Rapporteur's concerns over civilian casualties and collateral damage resulting from drone operations, as well as attempts to distort and misinterpret international law for 'legitimizing' prohibited use of force in international arena.

Madam President,

At the UN, Pakistan has always supported efforts to strengthen and sharpen international legal and normative framework on the use of armed drones.

In 2014, we sponsored HRC resolution 25/12 that calls on States to comply with international law when using remotely piloted aircrafts; ensure transparency; and conduct independent and impartial investigations whenever there is an indication of violation of international law.

This landmark resolution provides a concrete baseline for further elaboration of legal clarity about use of drones in complex situations.

We emphasize that in the broader context, the international community needs to re-orient its outlook, effectively utilize the variety of options available for peaceful settlement of disputes in Chapter VI of the UN Charter, and invest more in peace than in war.

I thank you.