



## **Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN Geneva**

### **National statement, delivered by Mr. Salman Khalid Chaudhary, Third Secretary, during Interactive Dialogue with Special Rapporteur on Independence of Judges and Lawyers at the 44<sup>th</sup> session of Human Rights Council**

**(13 July 2020)**

Madam President,

We commend the Rapporteur for his remarkable work in the converging spheres of corruption and human rights.

Indeed, anti-corruption efforts serve the human rights agenda as these actions uphold rule of law, promote transparency and advance accountability.

Pakistan, therefore, encourages the Council to remain seized of this important thematic area that synergizes its work with that UNODC in Vienna.

Madam President,

In the fight against corruption as a means to protect and promote human rights, role of an independent and impartial judiciary can hardly be over-emphasized.

In compliance with the UN Convention against Corruption, Pakistan has taken several measures for independence of judiciary which include, inter alia, a transparent selection and appointment process; constitution of an over-sight Supreme Judicial Council and elaboration of a Code of Conduct for judges.

Madam President,

Pakistan supports Rapporteur's advocacy for overcoming normative, institutional and operational challenges to enhance international cooperation against corruption.

Developing countries have, in particular, experienced such challenges in recovering illegally acquired assets from foreign jurisdictions.

We, therefore, urge the Rapporteur to sharpen focus on this niche area in his future work, especially the socio-economic impacts of illicit financial flows, on the enjoyment of human rights by people in affected countries.

I thank you.