



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

44th Human Rights Council Session

Draft resolution A/HRC/44/L.5 on 'Human Rights and Climate Change'

Explanation of Vote before the Vote by Pakistan

(16 July 2020)

Madam President,

We thank the core group for presenting this annual HRC resolution and welcome its thematic focus on 'human rights of older persons'.

We also appreciate the timely additions made in the text, which recognize the linkages between disease spread and pandemics and different forms of environmental degradation.

The COVID pandemic is indeed a wake-up call that human health is linked with the well-being of this planet-our common home.

Madam President,

Pakistan fully supports global efforts to counter climate change, on the basis of common but differentiated responsibilities.

The developing countries, in particular small islands countries, are more vulnerable to adverse effects of climate change, which are not of their own making.

This necessitates enhanced international cooperation on the basis of agreed principles of the Paris Agreement which have been rightly reflected in the document L.5.

The HRC action, pursuant to L.5 document and our wider discussions on climate change and human rights, must mainstream and uphold the perspectives and predicaments of small states, especially Small Island Developing States.

Madam President,

Under the Prime Minister's vision of 'Clean and Green Pakistan', we are taking a series of affirmative measures to fight, adapt and mitigate negative effects of climate change.



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These measures include the massive nation-wide afforestation drive under the '10 billion tree tsunami' programme; establishment of Ecosystem restoration fund; launching of a comprehensive electric vehicle policy, and a purposeful transition towards renewable energy sources-with target of 60% shift towards clean "carbon free" energy by 2030.

Madam President,

As in previous years, we are pleased to note that Pakistan has co-sponsored the resolution.

We encourage the Council Members to fully support the resolution and look forward toward to its consensual adoption.

I thank you.