



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN

Geneva

Statement, delivered on behalf of OIC by Mr. Junaid Suleman, Second Secretary, during General Debate on Agenda Item-6 – Universal Periodic Review at the 45th Session of the Human Rights Council

(28 September 2020)

Madam President,

The OIC Member States reiterate their full support to the UPR mechanism that seeks to promote the universality, interdependence, indivisibility and interrelatedness of all human rights; attempts to ensure universal coverage and equal treatment of all States.

This important mechanism has facilitated engagement of a wide range of stakeholders, including the civil society, and National Human Rights Institutions, among others, in a meaningful dialogue.

States have not only been reporting on their efforts for the promotion and protection of all human rights but in many cases have voluntarily amended their domestic laws for implementation of their international obligations and recommendations received during the UPR.

We believe that the UPR has proven itself to be an effective peer review mechanism that provides opportunities for exchange of best practices and sharing of experiences among member states on the basis of equality and non-discrimination. It has also strengthened cooperation between states, various stakeholders and domestic institutions as well as mechanisms. The OIC member states appreciate in particular the valuable role of the civil society and National Human Rights Institutions in supporting Member States.

Madam President

The UPR process builds upon the principles of constructive and open engagement which is inclusive, transparent, objective, and non-confrontational. The OIC countries wish to emphasize that any initiatives related to the UPR must be based upon these principles and avoid the practice of selectivity and naming and shaming.

The UPR Mechanism has proven to be one of the greatest successes of the Human Rights Council. The OIC hopes that it will continue to facilitate dialogue, cooperation and advance the common objectives we all espouse.

I thank you.