



Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN Geneva

Statement, delivered on behalf of OIC by Ambassador Tahir Hussain Andrabi, Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, during General Debate under agenda item no.4 at the 45th Human Rights Council session

(25 September 2020)

Madam President,

The OIC firmly believes that the Council should consider human rights situations in a non-politicized manner with full adherence to the principles of universality, objectivity, and non-selectivity.

In consideration of these situations, the entire spectrum of basic civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights, especially the right to development, should be treated on equal footing, with equal emphasis.

Constructive engagement, cooperation and genuine dialogue with concerned States should define the parameters of the Council's actions in country-specific situations. Tailoring Council's actions to local conditions and cultural sensitivities is always productive.

The OIC opposes double standards and selective approach in dealing with situations of human rights concern. Each situation should be dealt on its human rights merit and not on political imperatives.

Madam President,

The OIC wishes to draw the Council's attention towards the global resurgence in Islamophobia. Amidst the COVID pandemic, Muslim minorities have endured deadly attacks on their dignity, lives and livelihoods, with negative stereotyping, stigmatization, marginalization, and misinformation campaigns.

Organized communal violence against Muslim minorities, attacks on women wearing hijabs, wanton destruction of mosques, and denial of right to naturalization on the basis of religious, ethnic or racial grounds are disturbing trends that require this Council's attention.

Madam President,

Another aspect of systematic and persistent pattern of human rights violations is its prevalence in situations of foreign occupation, unresolved conflicts and simmering disputes. It is also alarming that the continued violence against the Muslim minorities has been resulting in killings of hundreds of Muslims and forced displacement of thousands of them from their homes.

Against this backdrop, the OIC urges the Council and its allied mechanisms/bodies to remain seized of situations pertaining to foreign occupation, disputes and conflicts, which are on the agenda of the United Nations and the OIC and on which both organizations have passed numerous resolutions and communiqués.

I thank you.