



**National Statement, delivered by Mr. Danyal Hasnain, Second Secretary, during
General Debate under Item 8**

HRC 55th Session

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Mr. President,

Pakistan reaffirms its abiding commitment to the VDPA, which encapsulates humanity's aspirations to uphold human dignity, and advance human rights and freedoms.

Despite these shared aspirations, however, facts on the ground are variance from the Vienna Spirit.

Mr. President,

The situation in the OPT remains dire, with millions of Palestinian civilians clinging to survival in the face of horrendous atrocities by the occupation regime and extremist settlers.

They are subjected to collective punishment for refusing to be second-class citizens in their own homeland, and attempts are made to justify their wholesale slaughter with untenable arguments.

However, the grave situation in Occupied Palestine is not the only exception.

In my own region, the people of Occupied Jammu & Kashmir also yearn to exercise their inalienable rights, as promised to them by the UN Charter and the international law.

The faith reposed by peoples under occupation in the international multilateral system should not – must not – prove to be misplaced.

Mr. President,

Historic injustices, climate change, festering conflicts, socioeconomic disparities, and deep-rooted intolerance and discrimination are negatively affecting the cherished Vienna Spirit and the international human rights agenda.

Pakistan calls on all states to renew their commitment to the VDPA and stands ready to advance international cooperation to address multidimensional global challenges, before it is too late.

I thank you.