



Explanation of Vote before Vote, delivered on behalf of OIC by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Pakistan Permanent Representative to the UN, during adoption of the draft resolution on Situation of Human Rights in Afghanistan

07 October 2021

Madam President,

The OIC wishes to recall its initiative to organize a Special Session in August 2021 to shape this Council's response to various dimensions of human rights concerns in Afghanistan.

The OIC notes with satisfaction that the Council joined ranks in adopting a consensus resolution. In doing so, this body conveyed a united message of solidarity to Afghan brothers and sisters at this critical juncture.

The OIC wishes to reiterate the salient elements of the Special Session resolution.

- **One**, it expressed serious concerns at reports of violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law.
- **Two**, it called for full respecting the human rights of all individuals in Afghanistan, including women, children and persons belonging to ethnic, religious and other minority groups.
- **Three**, it underscored the need for transparent and prompt investigations into reports of all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law committed by all parties to the conflict.
- **Four**, it requested the High Commissioner to present to the Council:
 - a) An oral update at its 48th Session on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan,
 - b) A comprehensive written report focusing on, inter alia, the accountability of all perpetrators of human rights violations and abuses in the conflict, to be followed by an interactive dialogue.

The OIC believes that maintaining a unified stance of this Council is of paramount importance in alleviating the human rights situation in Afghanistan in all its dimensions. The OIC notes that some of the elements of the OIC sponsored resolution find reflection in the draft text, albeit in greater detail. However, whether it brings added value to the OIC text, remains a question mark. We note that the draft text shies away from the notion of accountability.

The OIC reaffirms the need for wide-ranging dialogue among all parties and representatives of the people of Afghanistan.



The OIC underscores the imperative of active engagement of the international community with Afghanistan including the United Nations, key international and regional actors on political, humanitarian, human rights and development tracks.

International assistance remains critical for creating conducive environment where all the people of Afghanistan can realize their aspirations for human rights and needs. Wellbeing of the people of Afghanistan, as well as sustainable peace and development should lie at the core of international support.

The OIC welcomes the recent convening of and commitments made at the high level ministerial meeting on humanitarian situation in Afghanistan as well as the humanitarian assistance being provided by OIC and other countries.

Finally, the OIC once again calls on this Council to unite and lend its support for mutually reinforcing dimensions of peace, security, stability, development and human rights in Afghanistan.

The OIC countries stand with Afghanistan at this critical juncture.

I thank you.