



National Statement ,delivered by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Pakistan Permanent Representative, during Interactive Dialogue with Special Rapporteur on promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism at the 49th session of Human Rights Council

15 March 2022

Mr. President,

We thank the SR for her detailed report.

We share her concerns that the systematic use of renditions in the wake of 9/11 has resulted in grave and wide-ranging violations of fundamental human rights and freedoms of both the victims and the affected families.

As documented by the Report, Muslim men and youth are among the primary victims. This is a direct consequence of policies of mass surveillance and negative profiling of individuals and communities on the basis of race, color, religion, nationality and ethnicity, invoking the pretext of national security concerns.

We agree that the post-9/11 mushroom growth of global counter-terrorism architecture, with serious human rights flaws, has provided an enabling environment for such illegal practices. This is substantiated by the fact that State practices related to secret detentions continue to evolve and now encompass complex and so-called legal forms of extraterritorial transfers.

It is a matter of serious concern that lack of political and legal accountability of powerful States, which have pioneered such human rights-incompatible counter-terrorism measures, has bred a culture of impunity. Many victims and affected families are still struggling to secure legal remedy and reparation.

We, therefore, echo SR's call to review of national laws that enable renditions and secret detentions; initiate accountability for past violations, and comply with international human rights principles, norms and law while countering terrorism.

We also support the SR's recommendation to establish a mechanism for providing legal remedy and reparation to the victims. Thank you.