



**Statement delivered by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Permanent Representative of Pakistan on behalf of OIC by at the Interactive Dialogue on the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights' oral update on Afghanistan at the 50<sup>th</sup> Human Rights Council Session**

**15 June 2022**

**Mr. President,**

The OIC takes note of the High Commissioner's oral update.

We reiterate our concerns that near collapse of the economic system, and serious humanitarian situation continues to hinder the enjoyment and realization of basic human rights by the people of Afghanistan. We therefore echo the UN Secretary General's call for continued provision of humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan.

We also underline that pursuit of pragmatic solutions to unfreeze Afghanistan's financial assets is critical to preventing an economic meltdown, and further deterioration of the humanitarian and human rights conditions.

Similarly, persistent, patient and prudent international engagement with Afghanistan along peace, development, and humanitarian tracks remains a key enabler for advancing and safeguarding basic rights, needs and dignity of the people of Afghanistan.

On its part, the OIC is actively engaging the de facto authorities through strengthening of its Mission in Kabul and appointment of a Special Envoy. We recognize that durable peace and stability in Afghanistan can only be assured through formation of a broad-based and inclusive government.

To address the urgent humanitarian and human rights needs of our Afghan brothers and sisters, the OIC has established a Food Security Programme, and successfully operationalized the Humanitarian Trust Fund.

We renew our call for full respect for human rights of all Afghans, including women, children and minorities.

We are concerned that the decision by the de facto authorities to suspend education in girls' high schools until further notice still stands. Meaningful participation of Afghan women and girls in all spheres of public life remains important.

We underscore the need for transparent and prompt investigations into reports of all human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law.

The OIC stands in solidarity with the people of Afghanistan, who deserve peace, and prosperity after decades of conflict and turmoil.

Thank you.