



Statement on behalf of the OIC, delivered by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi during General Debate on
Item 3
52nd Session
17 March 2023

Mr. President,

We reaffirm the universality, indivisibility, interdependency and interrelatedness of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights including the right to development.

We reiterate the imperative of advancing and safeguarding all human rights in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing, and with the same emphasis.

Faithful adherence to operationalization of the core principles of impartiality, objectivity, non-selectivity remains an essential ingredient.

While we join everyone in commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and renewing our commitment to promoting and protecting all rights, we remind that pursuit of selective approaches and double standards erodes the credibility of global human rights agenda and undermine the legitimacy of the Human Rights Council.

The UDHR continues to serve as a human rights beacon and anchor. We remain committed to the promotion of universal values of equality, non-discrimination, peace and justice as well as the myriad of freedoms and rights enshrined in the Declaration.

On this anniversary year, we underscore the special significance and salience of the inalienable right to self-determination of people who await realization of this gateway right even after three quarters of a century from occupation regimes.

We share the concerns of the UN Secretary General expressed at the High-Level-Segment of this HRC session when he said “Unfortunately, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which should be our common blueprint, is too often misused and abused”. “It is exploited for political gain; and it is ignored – often by the very same people”.

In line with UDHR and ICCPR, we reiterate that family remains the natural and fundamental group unit of society entitled to protection by society and the State. We reject any effort to undermine this fundamental unit and distort peace and stability of any society.

The universally agreed legal grounds to protect individuals from discrimination are clearly stipulated in the UDHR and international human rights instruments. We once again caution that attempts to mainstream controversial concepts into the human rights discourse contravene the principles of universality, sovereignty and independence of States.

Mr. President,



The cascading effects of the COVID-19, the conflict in Ukraine and climate catastrophe have exacerbated existing inequalities and impeded progress towards achievement of SDGs. These challenges have also laid bare the neglect towards realization of social and economic rights of millions of people, especially in developing countries.

We renew our call to revisiting global responses in policies, institutions and programmes that help realize economic and social rights including the right to development as well as better standards of life.

In this connection, we call attention to fulfilment of commitments related to financing for development, climate adaptation and revisiting the present international economic, financial and taxation regime.

I thank you.