



**National Statement delivered by Mr. Muneeb Ahmed, First Secretary, during the Interactive Dialogue
with Working Group on Enforced Disappearances**
57th HRC Session
17th September 2024

Mr. President,

We take note of the Working Group's report.

Pakistan has consistently engaged with the Working Group in a constructive manner.

Pakistan's constitution clearly stipulates that no one shall be deprived of liberty, save in accordance with the law.

The National Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances is a legal forum established for the families of alleged disappeared persons to lodge complaints.

The Commission has the full legal authority to summon law enforcement agency officials and seek feedback on alleged cases.

The Commission has already addressed a large number of cases and remains engaged with the Working group on the existing cases.

Apart from the Commission, the superior judiciary is fully empowered to address the issue of enforced disappearance and these efforts are supplemented by the presence of independent media and dynamic civil society.

It is essential to highlight that many of these cases comprise cases of voluntary disappearance, fake cases, and cases of preventive detention under domestic law.

We also take this opportunity to draw the attention of the Working Group towards the increasingly alarming situation in the internationally recognized occupied territories.

The scale and magnitude of enforced disappearances and grave violations of human rights in those occupied territories have further escalated in the recent years.

Mr. President,

We wish to underline that the veracity and credibility of information received from the 'sources' should be duly scrutinized by the Working Group.

Human rights mechanisms add maximum value when the highest standards of objectivity, transparency, impartiality and professionalism are maintained.

We look forward to our continued dialogue.

I thank you!