



**National Statement delivered by Mr. Umair Khalid, Second Secretary, during
Interactive Dialogue with UN Special Rapporteur on Afghanistan
56th HRC Session
18 June 2024**

Madam Vice President,

My delegation thanks the Special Rapporteur for the report and reiterates Pakistan's concern at the interim Afghan authorities' decisions restricting the participation of women and girls in public life, especially in terms of accessing education and employment opportunities.

We have consistently urged the interim Afghan authorities to revisit these decisions, consistent with Afghanistan's international human rights obligations.

Madam Vice President,

Even as the human rights situation in Afghanistan remains a major concern, the humanitarian crisis engulfing the people of the country requires urgent and unconditional global attention.

The importance of humanitarian assistance and its role in promoting the rights of Afghan women and girls could have received greater attention in the report under discussion.

We urge the international community to continue providing humanitarian assistance and support to the people of Afghanistan.

Madam Vice President,

Any assessment of the human rights situation in Afghanistan must reflect its historic, political, security, economic and humanitarian contexts.

Pakistan has always remained a firm proponent and advocate for an inclusive, peaceful and stable Afghanistan, where all its citizens, including women, girls, and minorities, enjoy their fundamental rights and freedoms.

I thank you!