

## National Statement, delivered by Mr. Zain Aftab, Assistant Director, during Interactive <u>Dialogue with Special Rapporteur on right to education</u>

## 56<sup>th</sup> HRC Session

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Mr. President,

Pakistan aligns with the OIC statement and thanks the Special Rapporteur for the presentation of her report.

Pakistan is firmly committed to its obligations to uphold, protect and promote the right to education under the Universal Declaration for Human Rights, the Covenants on civil and political, and economic, social and cultural rights, and other international human rights treaties and domestic legislation.

The right to education is enshrined in our Constitution. Notwithstanding resource constraints and disparities in development across provinces and regions, remains an abiding priority of the government.

In recent months, the Government has declared a national emergency to ensure complete enrollment of 26 million out-of-school children between the ages of five and 16 years old, and create the conditions for imparting the expertise and skills enabling our people to achieve their aspirations for a better life amidst a dramatic transformation of the social, demographic and technological landscapes.

Madam Special Rapporteur,

How best could member states harness emerging technologies such as AI to improve their pursuit of the right to education for all?

I thank you!