

Statement on behalf of OIC, delivered by Mr. Umair Khalid, Second Secretary, during Interactive Dialogue with Special Rapporteur on Racism 56th HRC Session 8th July 2024

Mr. President,

The OIC thanks the SR for her report and appreciate the report's thematic focus.

The rapid growth in and adoption of new technologies, particularly generative AI, foreshadows immense promise for individuals and societies.

However, we underline that the pace of AI's development, deployment and use presents certain risks for communities across the globe.

Even though technology is supposed to be objective and neutral, however, racial discrimination can be perpetuated as historical biases can affect the data and machine learning can reproduce and amplify those biases.

While the OIC reaffirms its support for the principle of non-discrimination, in accordance with international human rights law, we agree with the SR that AI can be selectively deployed with explicitly racist purposes against targeted groups, thereby, resulting in discriminatory outcomes.

We also underscore that business entities should undertake human rights due diligence at all stages of AI product design, development and deployment and ensure meaningful and effective consultation from marginalized racial and ethnic groups.

Mr. President,

The OIC Group echoes the SR that application of certain AI based applications, by Israel, for extensive surveillance of Palestinians has exacerbated the apartheid perpetuated against the besieged Palestinians and we are alarmed at the reports of deployment of lethal and autonomous weapons systems against them.

Madam Special Rapporteur,

We request your views on how AI based platforms and algorithms could further amplify contemporary forms of racism, especially Islamophobia, and what measures could be taken to address them?

I thank you.