

## National Statement, delivered by Mr. Jawad Ali, Minister, during General Debate under Item 3 HRC 57<sup>th</sup> Session 20 September 2024

Mr. Vice President,

Upholding the universality and indivisibility of all human rights including the right to development remains one of the highest missions of this Council.

Pakistan remains committed to promoting universal values of equality, non-discrimination, peace, and justice, as well as all freedoms and rights enshrined in the UDHR and international human rights instruments.

We remain gravely concerned, however, that unchecked conflicts, climate change, public health crises, and growing socioeconomic inequalities, among other challenges, are putting our cherished ideals increasingly out of reach.

For far too many in far too many places, the danger of being left behind is growing.

We are concerned that resource constraints could impede the Office of the High Commissioner's ability to deliver human rights programmes, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, including their right to development.

Operationalizing the right to development should finally be a shared global objective. Putting it off would hinder the much-needed synergies required to overcome the interconnected challenges that we face today.

Mr. Vice President.

This Council's ability to promote and protect all human rights is anchored in the exercise of peoples' inalienable right to self-determination.

It is the suppression of this right in illegally occupied Palestine and Jammu & Kashmir that poses severe threats to the international human rights agenda.

We call on the Council not to overlook the plight of people under occupation, and urge the OHCHR to exercise its prevention mandate in full.

I thank you.