

**42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council**

**General Debate on Agenda item 5: “Human Rights bodies and mechanism”**

**OIC Statement**  
**19 September 2019**

Mr. President,

At the outset, let me reaffirm OIC’s full support to the valuable work which the UN Special Procedures are doing in the domain of human rights.

We have taken note of OHCHR’s recent initiative to document impact of the Special Procedures’ work in form of an electronic platform. We believe that this will facilitate more well-informed and objective discussions about the topic.

The Human Rights Council has time and again re-emphasized that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated and interdependent. Therefore, OIC reiterates that this cardinal principle should continue to guide the mandate-holders in their work, and that they should accord equal importance to all human rights.

Mr. President,

The Code of Conduct lays out the standards for professional conduct and ethical behaviour which the mandate-holders should adhere to, while discharging their duties. It is, therefore, only reasonable to expect that communication to concerned States should be based on duly-checked and reliable information. Balanced reports should be submitted which take into full account perspectives of concerned governments, national contexts and challenges faced by them.

While cognizant of their independent nature, OIC is of the firm view that mandate-holders should operate within the parameters set by the UN Charter and the international human rights law. Thus, they should avoid introduction of new controversial notions and should respect historical, cultural, social and religious sensitivities, especially in those areas, which themselves have no solid foundation under the international law.

Such an approach, OIC believes, serves to weaken the global human rights framework, impede genuine dialogue and leads to unnecessary politicization and polarization.

Mr. President,

Enclosing, OIC would like to make three specific points:

**First**, equitable allocation and distribution of resources should be ensured as underscored in UNGA Resolution 65/281, so that Special Procedures can focus on all human rights, including the right to development, in an effective and inclusive manner.

**Second**, we continue to strongly urge the Special Procedures to deeply look into, as a cross-cutting theme, the serious issues of Islamophobia, discrimination, stereotyping and hate crime against Muslims around the world, especially in context of Muslim minorities and migrants.

**Last but not the least**, OIC stresses upon the Special Procedures to continue to pay sharp attention to the human rights violations of people suffering from long-festering conflicts and disputes.

I thank you, Mr. President.