Introduction by Pakistan on behalf of the OIC

Resolution on Situation of Human Rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar (A HRC 42 L.21 Rev.1)

On behalf of the OIC, Pakistan is introducing the draft resolution on the Situation of Human Rights of Rohingya Muslims and Other Minorities in Myanmar contained in documentA_HRC_42_L.21_Rev.1, presented jointly by the OIC and EU.

This initiative of the OIC is inspired and guided by Resolution 4/46-MM adopted during the Forty Sixth Session of OIC Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM), held in Abu Dhabi, UAE in March this year. The draft resolution before you is also an update of the Human Rights Council Resolutions 29/21 and 39/2¹ which were presented by the OIC.

The delegations of the OIC and European Union have worked closely to agree on a common text that we have presented today. This text is our united voice in support of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar. Like last year, both the OIC and the EU have reached a common ground on their principled positions on various issues to show our political commitment to resolving this tragedy that merits an exceptional, timely and robust response from the international community. We are grateful to all for their flexibility and willingness to move beyond political differences in order to send a strong and clear message to address this devastating situation.

Mr. President,

The OIC is grateful for the constructive cooperation that we had with the EU during this session of the Human Rights Council. This is a testimony to our joint commitment for an urgent action to end all acts of violence and all brutal practices targeting RohingyaMuslims and other minorities. It is imperative that the citizenship of Rohingya Muslims, who were deprived of their nationality, is restoredimmediately with all associated rights, especially the right to full citizenship, and that all internally and externally displaced Rohingya Muslims and other minorities are allowed to return in safely, security and dignity, including those forced into taking shelter in Bangladesh, to their places of origin in Myanmar.

¹ Presented jointly by OIC and EU in September 2018

This resolution before you, reiterates our call to conductinternational, independent and transparent investigations into all human rights violations in Myanmar, including sexual violence and aggression against children, and to hold accountable all those responsible for these brutal acts. It was in this spirit that our two groups worked together in 2018 to establish the ongoing independent mechanism to collect, consolidate, preserve and analyze evidence of the most serious international crimes and violations of international law committed in Myanmar. We callfor taking all necessary legal steps to facilitate and expedite fair and independent criminal proceedings to hold the perpetrators to account. The draft before you also reiterates that the plight of the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar cannot be tackled from a purely humanitarian perspective, and should be dealt with within the framework of their inalienable rights as citizens.

The OIC hopes that this Council will stand united for the helpless Rohingya Muslims and other minorities, who have been suffering in Myanmar for decades; a plight that remains unheard. A consensual adoption of this resolution today will ensure accountability for the perpetrators of these horrific crimes and justice for the victims.

I thank you.