



National Statement by Mr. Sumair Gul, Second Secretary, during Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing

23 June 2021

Madam President,

We thank the Special Rapporteur (SR) for his report.

Pakistan considers the right to adequate housing as one of the key enablers for realization of human rights. Apart from improving living conditions of the people, housing projects act as drivers of socio-economic development and resource mobilization. To fulfill rising housing needs, Pakistan has embarked on a project to construct 5 million housing units for people living in extreme poverty and without shelter.

We agree with the SR that COVID pandemic is increasing housing insecurity, which may reinforce a growing trend of informal settlements in urban settings. We would appreciate SR's comments on mobilization of financing particularly for developing countries in meeting their obligations related to adequate housing.

We appreciate seven priority areas, identified by the SR to guide his future work. In this context, we would invite SR's attention towards forced evictions and house demolitions in UN recognized foreign occupied territories. We encourage the SR to share his perspective and keep monitoring such trends for his future reports.

I thank you.