



**Statement on behalf of OIC, delivered by Mr. Danyal Hasnain, Third Secretary, During  
General Debate on Item 10  
52<sup>nd</sup> Session  
3 April 2023**

Mr. Vice President,

The OIC reaffirms its full support to the Council's technical assistance mandate as the preferred means to promote universal respect for basic human rights and fundamental freedoms.

We reiterate that Council's technical assistance mandate should only be extended to States upon their request and with their consent, as enshrined in UNGA resolution 60/251.

We reaffirm that all human rights are indivisible, inter-related and interdependent. However, we note with concern that technical assistance is frequently promoted in such a manner that it results in creating a hierarchy between different set of rights.

The more worrying aspect is the use of technical assistance often as a tool for interference into domestic affairs of sovereign States.

We also emphasize that technical assistance is most efficacious and beneficial in cases where it is offered in consultation with the States in the form of assistance to advance their national human rights and development priorities.

It must be stressed that forcing States to accept these technical assistance mandates only results in creating further problems, which time and again has proven to be counter-productive.

There is a need to ensure that these mandates take into account the ground realities, local sensitivities, cultural norms and socioeconomic contexts of the recipient States for better results.

Mr. Vice President,

The cascading crises resulting from the covid pandemic and overall economic slowdown, has further underscored the organic interlinkages between socio-economic development and human rights.

The climate induced catastrophes, geopolitical conflicts, food and fuel shortages and other resulting crises have significantly shrunk fiscal space for developing and least developed countries to uphold their human rights obligations.

Today, there is an even greater need to invest further in protection and promotion of economic, social and cultural rights to alleviate structural inequalities within and among countries, poverty alleviation, health infrastructure and overall catastrophe preparedness.



Mr. Vice President,

We, therefore, impress upon the need for efficient and impartial usage of the Council's technical assistance mandate, which should especially be focused on promotion and protection of economic, social and cultural rights, including the realization of the right to development, particularly in the context of recovery from multifaceted crises.

Another important aspect that technical assistance mandate must continue is assisting states to implement the recommendations supported by them during their UPR cycles; allowing them to realize their human rights obligations.

I thank you!