



Statement by Pakistan on behalf of OIC during the Panel Discussion on the Impact of the World Drug Problem on the Enjoyment of Human Rights

(30th Session of HRC)

28 September 2015

Mr. President,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of OIC member states.

We welcome the holding of this important panel discussion and in this regard, take note with interest of the Study on the impact of the world drug problem on the enjoyment of human rights prepared by OHCHR. We hope that the deliberations of the panel discussion as well as the study would contribute to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

We believe that the world drug problem constitutes a challenge to safety, national security, the health and well-being of the population, socioeconomic and political stability and sustainable development, especially because of the illicit activities of criminal organizations connected to it. It also has an adverse impact on the enjoyment of all human rights, i.e., civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, particularly of victims and innocent people who are exposed to these illegal activities. Therefore, it is the responsibility of states to take preventative measures, provide access to treatment and essential medicines and introduce rehabilitation services and social integration programs.

We would also like to underscore that every country and region, inter alia countries which are mostly affected by drug scourge are unique in their experience, challenges and needs in relation to addressing the drug problem. These particularities need to be borne in mind and the sovereignty of States in developing their criminal justice systems with regard to production, manufacturing, trafficking and abuse of drugs should be respected.

OIC believes that the world drug problem requires a common but differentiated responsibility with the view to ensure effective and increased international cooperation. We urge the member states to continue to share experiences and good practices in the way they have addressed the adverse effects of the world drug problem while fully respecting their international obligations and commitments under international drug conventions as well as regarding civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development.

I thank you.