



**Statement on behalf of the OIC Group, delivered by Mr. Danyal Hasnain, during
General Debate Item 10
57th HRC Session
8th October 2024**

Madam Vice President,

The OIC Group¹ reiterates its support to the Council's technical assistance mandate.

We reaffirm that it remains the preferred means to promote universal respect for basic human rights and fundamental freedoms and to enhance national capacities.

We appreciate the OHCHR for its role in this regard.

This mandate provides a solid ground to enhance genuine dialogue and constructive engagement among different stakeholders including the States, the OHCHR and the Council's allied mechanisms.

Technical assistance has proven to be most effective where it supplements States' national human rights and development priorities.

Therefore, the synergy between these aspects should be further augmented.

In this regard, we also wish to underscore that technical assistance should only be extended to States upon their request and with their consent, as enshrined in UNGA resolution 60/251.

We also note with concern that technical assistance has increasingly been promoted in such a manner that a hierarchy between different rights is affected.

We note with deep concern the inequitable resource allocation constraining OHCHR's ability to focus on all human rights equally.

It must be underscored that technical assistance should help States to promote and protect all rights of their citizens, including the realization of the right to development.

The increasing proclivity to use technical assistance as a tool for interference into domestic affairs of sovereign States must be stemmed and steered clear of.

Madam Vice President,

The overbearing impacts of the multifaceted crises including climate induced catastrophes, COVID pandemic, geopolitical conflicts, supply chain shocks on the developing and least developing states have hindered their capacities quite significantly.

¹ Except Albania



These crises have drastically shrunk fiscal space for such countries to uphold their human rights obligations and have eroded decades of development gains.

A basic shift in the approach and orientation is essential to assist states in building back better and stronger and making their socioeconomic structures more resilient to shocks.

It is imperative that we learn and reflect on the lessons learnt from these crises for re-orienting the focus of the Council's technical cooperation mandate.

Madam Vice President,

We impress upon the OHCHR for ensuring greater equitable resource allocation in this context.

We underline the need for continued support from States for enhancing technical assistance in supporting countries to implement their UPR recommendations.

It must also be ensured that these mandates take into account the ground realities, local sensitivities, cultural norms and different legal systems of the recipient States for a symbiotic relationship to flourish.

I thank you!