

Statement on behalf of OIC by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Pakistan Permanent Representative to the UN, at the Interactive Dialogue with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the Situation of Human Rights in Afghanistan 49th Human Rights Council Session

07 March 2022

Mr. President,

The OIC thanks the High Commissioner for the report.

We reiterate concerns over the serious humanitarian, human rights, social and economic impacts of the situation in Afghanistan that in many ways are a product of decades of conflict and instability.

The OIC notes the report's conclusions especially the regression in violence, human rights, civilian casualties, and near collapse of the economic system with its profound impacts on human rights.

The OIC supports High Commissioner's call for continued provision of humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan. Pursuit of realistic pathways to unfreeze Afghanistan's financial assets remains critical.

Similarly, sustained international engagement along peace, security, development and inclusive governance areas can be a policy catalyst to further advance and safeguard basic rights and freedoms of the people of Afghanistan.

On its part, the OIC has engaged de facto authorities and established a Humanitarian Trust Fund and Food Security Programme in order to address basic human rights and humanitarian needs of our Afghan brothers and sisters.

The OIC renews call for respecting the basic human rights and freedoms of all Afghans, including women, children and minorities. Meaningful participation of Afghan women and girls in all spheres of public life remains important.

The OIC underscores the need for transparent and prompt investigations into reports of all human rights violations and abuses, committed by all parties to the conflict.

The OIC stands in solidarity with the Afghan people and reaffirms its commitment to help bring peace, security, stability, and development to the country.

I thank you.