

National Statement delivered by Danyal Hasnain, Third Secretary, during the Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing 52nd Session 8th March 2023

Madam Vice President,

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

The SR has rightly pointed out that the climate crisis is severely threatening the enjoyment of the right to adequate housing around the world.

Pakistan has been one of the most climate vulnerable countries. Millions in Pakistan have been facing difficulties caused by torrential rains and floods, resulting in the destruction of over 1.5 million homes. The Government, in collaboration with United Nations and other International Partners is making all possible efforts towards relief and rehabilitation efforts. We are also cognizant of the importance of ensuring sustainable reconstruction policies.

The SR has rightly stressed that racial and ethnic minorities, migrants and refugees are more frequently segregated and confined to climate-vulnerable land.

We reject discrimination on any ground in all spheres of life, particularly racial segregation and apartheid in line with article 3 of CERD.

In recent years, we have witnessed spatial segregation, illegal settlements, forced evictions, demolitions and demographic changes as drivers to consolidate occupation in the UN recognized disputed territories.

We would like to have the SR's views on available mechanisms in the global economic and financial system that could be used to support the right to housing in debt-stressed and climate affected countries without increasing their debt burdens.

I thank you.