National Statement, delivered by Mr. Danyal Hasnain, during the Interactive Dialogue with Special Rapporteur on the right to Privacy
58th Session
12th March 2025

Mr. Vice President,

We thank the Special Rapporteur for her report.

The rapid growth in adoption of new technologies portends immense promise for individuals and societies. Yet, the breakneck pace of their development, deployment and use presents significant challenges for human rights, dignity and needs.

Pakistan reiterates the need for adherence to principles of equity, non-discrimination, transparency, respect for privacy, and accountability in this regard.

We echo the SR that Neurodata are highly sensitive personal data and those responsible for the processing and use of neural data should adopt enhanced privacy and security measures - there is a pressing human rights imperative in this context.

We underscore that any processing and use of personal data should be lawful and transparent to individuals and that personal data should only be collected and used for specified and legitimate purposes.

It is vital that such technologies should be made accessible and affordable to all - bridging the digital divide is crucial to combat exacerbating inequalities within and among nations.

We agree with the High Commissioner that "safeguards to protect human rights must be firmly in place at the conception phases of technology and throughout its lifecycle".

Lastly, we echo the SR that neurodata and neurotechnologies must not be used for purposes of discrimination, stigmatization or violation of the rights and freedoms of individuals.

Here, it is also pertinent to recall the focus of SR on FORB's report on the impact of neurotechnologies on freedom of thought and conscience.

I thank you!