26th Session of the Working Group on the Right to Development

Statement delivered by Mr. Muneeb Ahmed, First Secretary, during interactive dialogue with Chair EMRTD and SR RTD

(Geneva, 15 May 2025)

Mr. Chair-Rapporteur,

We thank the distinguished panellists for their presentation.

Pakistan has consistently voiced concern about the humanitarian consequences of unilateral coercive measures and the risks of over-compliance, which are amplified even more for persons in vulnerable situations.

This has serious implications for the realisation of the human rights including the right to development of persons in affected countries.

Their rapid proliferation as a foreign policy instrument remains a matter of concern.

My delegation reiterates that UCMs are in contravention of the UN Charter and entail considerable human rights risks; and also that sanctions can only be implemented with authorization of the UN Security Council and should contain effective humanitarian carveouts and safeguards for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development.

Thank you.

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