National Statement delivered by H.E. Bilal Ahmad, Permanent Representative, during the Interactive Dialogue on OHCHR's Report on Sri Lanka

60th session of the UN Human Rights Council

(Geneva, 8 September 2025)

Mr. Vice President,

My delegation takes note of the High Commissioner's report. We welcome H.E. the Hon. Foreign Minister and welcomes his government's observations on the report.

At a time when vital mandates risk being unfulfilled due to resource constraints, the funds being poured into this project could no doubt be put to better use.

As Sri Lanka's observations make amply clear and parts of the report even acknowledge, comprehensive national efforts are underway to address the country's socio-economic challenges and recover from the combined effects of conflict, debt and uncertainty at all levels.

Mr. Vice President,

Sri Lanka's demonstrable success in protecting the people from the pernicious human rights risks posed by terrorism merit appreciation. Continuing progress in missing persons and reparations cases are additional bright spots.

Pakistan supports the Government and people of Sri Lanka in finding their path forward and stands with them in abiding solidarity.

Sri Lanka's sustained and growing engagement with UN human rights mechanisms deserves the Council's recognition.

In fact, no country should suffer for its choice to engage constructively and transparently.

I thank you.

-end-