Concluding statement during 27th Session of the Working Group on the Right to Development

(Geneva, 21 May 2026)

Mr. Chair-Rapporteur,

My delegation aligns with the statement delivered by Uganda on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

Pakistan congratulates you for successfully steering the 27th meeting and thank you for your continued stewardship of this important mandate.

We welcome the adoption of the conclusions and recommendations of the 27th meeting of the working group and commend the NAM Chair for leading consultations.

We are also grateful for the support of the Secretariat and interpreters throughout this session of the Working Group.

Mr. Chair-Rapporteur,

Over the past week, this room has resonated with calls for the full operationalization of the Right to Development, including through the early adoption of the proposed Covenant.

We welcome the presentations by distinguished experts on important aspects of the right to development and its linkages with all human rights. We regret that some states chose not to engage substantively in these conversations, which would have helped this Working Group's shared pursuit of convergence of views and consensus.

In addition to areas marked by divergence, the Working Group should also consider contemporary trends in the international economic landscape that have an impact on the realisation of the Right to Development. Declining Official Development Assistance (ODA), debt sustainability and the impact of new and emerging technologies all require our attention.

We would also support the webcasting of all future meetings of this Working Group to serve as an accessible, verbatim record of the rich conversations that have been convened. Moreover, it would raise the visibility of the Right to Development and accelerate its mainstreaming alongside all other human rights.

Thank you.

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