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National statement during ID with SR on violence against women and girls

62nd session of the UN Human Rights Council

(Geneva, 25 June 2026)

Mr. Vice President,

Pakistan thanks the SR for the presentation of her report.

We welcome its timely focus on violence against mothers, an issue that deserves greater international attention. We note with concern the discrimination, violence and economic hardship experienced by mothers, including barriers to employment, maternal healthcare and access to justice, as well as the devastating impact of armed conflict and humanitarian crises on mothers and their children.

Mr. Vice President,

Pakistan remains committed to strengthening the protection and empowerment of women through a robust legal and policy framework. Important measures include the Protection against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act, the Anti Rape Act 2021, the Prevention of Anti Women Practices Act, provincial domestic violence legislation, and the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act. These are complemented by expanded maternal healthcare, girls' education, women's economic empowerment, and social protection through the Benazir Income Support Programme.

Pakistan believes that empowered mothers and strong families are indispensable for raising resilient children and cohesive societies. We are witnessing attempts to undermine the institution of the family or mispresent it as a so-called “locus of abuse”. The solution to sporadic issues when they occur lies not in weakening the institution of the family, but in strengthening and protecting it, while ensuring that women, mothers and children are safe, supported and able to flourish.

Thank you.