General comments on behalf of OIC Group delivered by Mr. Jawad Ali, Deputy Permanent Representative, during consideration of draft resolution L.25: "Implications of Artificial Intelligence for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights"

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Mr. President,

I have the honour to deliver these general comments on behalf of the OIC Group. We welcome the draft resolution entitled "Implications of artificial intelligence for the promotion and protection of human rights" as contained in the document L25.

Mr. President,

Artificial intelligence offers significant opportunities to advance sustainable development, innovation and access to services, while also presenting complex and evolving implications for the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Group therefore considers it timely for the Council to contribute to ensuring that human rights remain firmly anchored in the evolving global discussion on artificial intelligence.

The OIC Group has consistently emphasized the importance of an equitable, safe, inclusive and people-centred approach to artificial intelligence, as well as the need to bridge digital and technological divides and strengthen cooperation among States. In this regard, we welcome the draft's emphasis on the right to development, international cooperation, capacity-building, technical assistance, access to technology and the meaningful participation of developing countries in relevant discussions and processes.

The OIC Group also attaches importance to ensuring that artificial intelligence does not reproduce or amplify discrimination, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, religious intolerance or other forms of intolerance or exclusion particularly Islamophobia. This is relevant given that new technologies, including AI-generated content and digital disinformation, can be misused to spread hatred and negative stereotyping on the basis of religion or belief. AI governance must therefore promote human dignity, equality and non-discrimination, as required by international human rights law.

International cooperation on artificial intelligence should remain inclusive, balanced and responsive to different national contexts, capacities and levels of development. Global discussions should not widen existing inequalities or further concentrate technological capabilities in a limited number of actors. Developing countries must be able not only to benefit from artificial intelligence, but also to access and develop the infrastructure, skills, institutional capacity and technological capabilities necessary to participate meaningfully in shaping its future.

Mr. President,

The OIC Group appreciates the Core Group for conducting inclusive consultations and accommodating a broad range of views. We hope that the Council's consideration of this initiative will contribute to a balanced and development-oriented approach to artificial intelligence, supported by continued engagement and cooperation among Member States and relevant stakeholders, and consistent with international human rights law.

We hope that the Human Rights Council Member States will support this initiative and join in consensus.

Thank you.

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