



**SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND  
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

CONSIDERATION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW REPORT OF PAKISTAN

30 OCTOBER 2012

PALAIS DES NATIONS

Madame President,

My delegation would like to welcome the distinguished delegation of Pakistan and thank the delegation for the comprehensive presentation of its national report. We welcome the wide ranging consultations undertaken in the preparation of the report especially the effort made to include women and organisations representing their interests.

We welcome the enactment of the law creating an independent National Human Rights Commission in May 2012. It is also a welcomed step that the Commission members will include members from minorities and women. **South Africa recommends that the necessary resources be made available to the Human Rights Commission to effectively implement its important mandate.**

Pakistan has suffered as a result of the threat of terrorism and extremism. Many deaths have resulted from terrorist attacks and the use of drones against alleged militant targets in the country. South Africa commends Pakistan for their determination to fight this challenge and ensure the practical enjoyment of human rights by the entire population.

Pakistan's focus on economic, social and cultural rights is also to be commended. The efforts to improve the socio-economic condition of the citizens, especially in areas such as health, education, housing, among others is noteworthy. **South Africa**

**recommends that the Government of Pakistan continue to prioritise policies aimed at improving the socio-economic condition of its citizens.**

South Africa wishes Pakistan well in the implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle UPR recommendations and thanks the delegation for its engagement with the working group today.

I thank you.