**National Statement, delivered by Third Secretary, Danyal Hasnain, during the 4th UPR Review of Ecuador**

**(41st Session of UPR)**

**7 November 2022**

We thank and welcome the high-level delegation of Ecuador and presentation of its 4th UPR report. We commend Ecuador’s cooperation with the UPR mechanism.

Acknowledging the gravity of COVID related socio-economic challenges, we appreciate Ecuador’s efforts to strengthen social protection system and priority given to ensuring universal health care and free access to vaccines.

We recognize Ecuador’s adoption of the 2019–2025 National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Violence against Women and the 2021–2025 Opportunity Creation Plan that prioritizes the fight against all forms of malnutrition.

We recommend Ecuador the following:

1. Continue its effort to guarantee voting rights for all;
2. Further reinforce the mechanisms guaranteeing better protection of rights of children, women and indigenous peoples; and
3. Continue to bring about further judicial reforms and promote the independence of judiciary.

We wish you all the best!

I thank you!