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

**(42nd Session of UPR)**

**25 January 2023**

Mr. President,

We warmly welcome the delegation of Guatemala and thank it for presentation of its 4th UPR report.

Recognizing the gravity of COVID-19 related socio-economic challenges, we acknowledge Guatemala’s efforts to strengthen its healthcare system and ensuring access of its people to the vaccine.

We welcome the legislative, policy and administrative measures such as the enactment of National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Violence against Women 2020–2029, Policy on Democratic Criminal Prosecution and the steps taken to strengthen the judicial system in the country.

 In the spirit of constructive dialogue, we have the following recommendations:

* Continue taking measures against food insecurity and malnutrition, especially in the case of children;
* Further strengthen measures aimed at enhancing the independence of judiciary; and
* Consider allocating further resources to promote access to competitive employment and decent work for persons with disabilities.

We wish Guatemala a successful UPR.

I thank you!