Statement on ECOSOC Partnership Forum 2023 by First Secretary, Hafiza Humaira Javaid, Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN

(31st January 2023)

Madam President, Excellencies, Dear Colleagues,

I would like to begin by thanking H.E. Ambassador Lachezara Stoeva, for her leadership of the Council.

The fulfillment of the ECOSOC's mandate is imperative as member states face multiple challenges, including the rising costs of food, fuel and other commodities, the COVID-19 pandemic, the realization of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, and the climate catastrophe.

Madam President,

The global economic growth is projected to decrease from 3 percent in 2022 to 1.9 percent this year. The global inflation is estimated to be at 6.5 percent, with almost 350 million people facing acute food insecurity. This would increase poverty and hunger as well as impede the prospects of the achievement of 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

The poorest, the most vulnerable nations and groups and the developing countries will require additional fiscal space to redress health emergency, revive economic growth, achieve the SDG targets and combat the devastating impacts of climate change. To overcome these challenges, short term actions as well as systemic reforms are critical, including:

- i. establishment of a multilateral mechanism for the sustainable management of sovereign debt;
- ii. fulfillment of the agreed ODA target of 0.7 percent of the GNI of developed countries;
- iii. rechanneling of SDRs and creation of additional SDRs to achieve sustainable development and climate goals;

- iv. recapitalization of the MDBs and national development banks;
- v. creation of mechanisms to lower the borrowing costs for developing countries;
- vi. mobilization of larger domestic resources;
- vii. implementation of the climate change agenda, fulfillment of the climate finance commitments and activation of the fund for "loss and damage";
- viii. mobilization of large-scale investment for rapid installation of sustainable infrastructure;
 - ix. restructuring of the international trading system to revive export-led growth in the developing countries;
 - x. adoption of an international technology agreement, aligned with the SDGs.

The above key action areas can be implemented by forging partnerships and enhancing collaboration among states and relevant stakeholders.

Pakistan, during its previous tenures in ECOSOC as President and as member has always supported the efforts to strengthen the Council by forging consensus on a range of issues.

Now, Pakistan has presented its candidature for ECOSOC membership for the term 2024-26 and looks forward to be a part of this august council once again with the vital objective of formulating partnerships to accelerate the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and fully implement the 2030 agenda for sustainable development at all levels.

Thank you.
