Statement by Pakistan on behalf of the OIC in the Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions and the Special Rapporteur On the Internally Displaced Persons

Mr. President,

I have the honour to make this statement on behalf of the OIC.

The OIC thanks the Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions, Mr. Christof Heyns for his report. The Special Rapporteur has focused on lethal autonomous robotics (LARs) and their deployment. He has argued that since there are concerns over the extent to will LARs can be programmed to comply with the requirements of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law, States should establish a national moratoria on LARs and that a high level panel should be established to articulate policy for the international community on this issue.

The development of LARs weapon systems is an extremely important issue. As the Special Rapporteur has pointed out in his report, there is a qualitative difference between reducing the risk that armed conflict poses to those who participate in it, and the situation where one side is no longer a "participant" in armed conflict in as much as its combatants are not exposed to any danger". This development fundamentally changes the nature of war. This is further compounded by questions relating to the fixing of legal responsibility in the case of the use of LARs.

We agree with the Special Rapporteur that there a need to take immediate action before further development in this technology overtakes policy making and undermines the existing international human rights and humanitarian law framework.

We would like to know from the Special Rapporteur whether the national moratorium on LARs would be sufficient or whether there is a need to initiate an international process with a view to ban the use of LARs as was done in the case of landmines.

We look forward to further debate and discussion on this important issue in the Human Rights Council.

We also thank the SR on IDPs, Chaloka Beyani, for his report. The report provides a thematic analysis of the particular situation of IDP women. The detailed recommendations provided at the end of the report merit careful consideration. The OIC would like to reiterate the general premise that the primary responsibility to protect the human rights of all citizens including IDPs lies with the state. Any assistance provided by international organizations or other stake holders, be it data collection or analysis or addressing other challenges must be done on the request and full consent of the concerned state. Also, we must be careful to avoid the pitfall of a "one size fits all" approach. The circumstances of internal displacement differ in terms of long term and short term displacement and responses must be matched to specific circumstances.

We share the SR concern over the need to prevent and address sexual and gender based violence among women IDPs but this should be done in a comprehensive manner keeping in view different circumstances, and nature and extent of the threat. In para 76 (h) mentions "reporting on progress on relevant resolutions". We would like further clarification of this point. Similarly gender sensitive durable solution strategies must take into account different cultures and traditions.

I thank you