Statement by Ambassador Munir Akram Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the UN on behalf of the OIC Group to introduce the resolution on Cooperation between United Nations and the organization of Islamic Cooperation - 77th Session of the UNGA, Plenary Meeting*
(21 November 2022)

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Mr. President,

In my capacity as Chair of the group of members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in New York, I have the honor to introduce the draft resolution contained in document A/77/L.18 entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation".

The draft resolution is consistent with the spirit of resolution 3369 which, in 1975, invited the OIC to participate in the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs as an observer.

Mr. President,

This year’s resolution contains technical updates with the main notable change reflected in OP 7 which recalls the adoption of the UN General Assembly resolution, sponsored by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, designating 15 March as the International Day to Combat Islamophobia and invites all Member States to observe the International Day in an appropriate manner.

In its preambular paragraphs, the draft resolution reaffirms the shared common goals of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the United Nations – in conflict prevention, confidence-building, peacekeeping, conflict resolution and post-conflict rehabilitation, mediation and preventive diplomacy, including conflict situations involving Muslim communities.

The draft resolution highlights the two organizations’ desire to work together on shared concerns, including global security, self-determination, respect for territorial integrity, decolonization, and combating terrorism.

It reaffirms the common goals of the UN and OIC in promoting progress in the Middle East peace process, combating religious intolerance, and preventing violent extremism.

It welcomes the initiatives for interfaith dialogue, including efforts to combat Islamophobia, by the two Organizations and the existing cooperation between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.
In its operative paragraphs, the draft resolution recognizes the continuing cooperation between the OIC and UN entities, including UN Women, UNOCT, UNAOC, and UNHCHR.

We underscore that strengthening cooperation between the UN and the OIC has never been more important than in these challenging times.

Additionally, the resolution calls for exploring innovative means of enhancing cooperation between the UN and the OIC.

In this context, we would like to thank the UN Secretary-General, Mr. António Guterres, for his constant engagement with the OIC and its members. We also recognize Mr. Guterres’s annual tradition of visiting Muslim communities during Ramadan to demonstrate solidarity and exchange views on pressing issues. Such initiatives support the provisions of this resolution.

The OIC also appreciates its cooperation with the High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations, H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos.

Mr. President,

The OIC Group believes that addressing complex challenges requires a coordinated and comprehensive multilateral response that brings countries and international organizations together.

As such, we invite all Member States to adopt the draft resolution (A/77/L.18) by consensus.

Thank you.