

**Statement by Mr. Haseeb Gohar, Second Secretary,
Pakistan Mission to the United Nations on Agenda
item 136: Revised estimates relating to the Resident
Coordinator System under section 1, Overall Policy
making, direction and Coordination**

(28 November 2018)

Madam Chair,

Allow me to express my gratitude to the Acting Controller and the Chair of the Advisory Committee for introducing their respective reports.

Pakistan also aligns itself with the statement made by Egypt on behalf of G-77 and China.

The UN Charter provides a moral compass to promote peace, development, social justice and economic well-being of all peoples around the World.

The General Assembly adopted a landmark resolution A/72/279 giving birth to the revamped UN Development System having impartial, empowered, sustainable development focused and independent Resident Coordinators around the globe.

Madam Chair,

Despite the World has made modest progress in reducing poverty, yet the fight against extreme poverty is far from reality-and in some way getting harder and harder.

The 2018 report of the World Bank, entitled *Poverty and Shared Prosperity* gives a bleak picture of today.

- 3.4 billion people around the world are still struggling to meet basic needs;
- nearly half of the World population lives on less than \$5.5 a day;
- over 265 million children are currently out of schools;
- around 880 million people live in slums; and madam chair, many more to mention.

The revamped UN Development System was the most comprehensive effort in many decades to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations to support Member States in pursuit of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals and to address these challenges.

It was with this spirit, Pakistan supported the Secretary-General's reform initiative in summer this year.

As we are now discussing funding to finance the UNDS system, my delegation wishes to make few points:

One, poverty eradication should remain the overarching goal under the new system. Nexus between peace and security, humanitarian affairs and development should be calibrated carefully and cautiously and as per national priorities, needs and national laws;

Two, as the UNDS reform is the most concerted effort to support the 2030 agenda, it equally demands an abiding commitment from all the member states especially from the traditional donors for adequate, predictable and sustainable financing.

Three, accountability to the national governments, transparency and coordination role of the RC will remain the overarching framework of this revamped system;

Four, equitable geographic representation and gender balance in all appointments would help to achieve desired results; and

Finally, while implementing these reforms, the role of intergovernmental bodies cannot be reemphasized any more for greater transparency and accountability.

Madam Chair,

In conclusion, my delegation assures you of our constructive engagement on this important agenda item.

I thank you, Madam Chair.