



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

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Agenda item 2

**Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner  
for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the  
High Commissioner and the Secretary-General**

### **Written statement\* submitted by Association MIMAN, a non- governmental organization in special consultative status**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[28 May 2023]

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\* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.

## **Concerns Over the High Commissioner's Annual Report Ignoring Enforced Disappearances and Systematic Abuse of Rights by Pakistani Forces: Urgent Call for Action in Balochistan.**

The annual report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights serves as a vital tool to assess the state of human rights worldwide. However, the concerning omission of enforced disappearances and systematic abuses by Pakistani forces in the recent report is a disheartening development. This statement aims to express our deep concerns regarding this oversight and the urgent need for the international community to take notice of the serious abuse of fundamental rights in Balochistan. We emphasize the importance of addressing enforced disappearances and the systematic violations perpetrated by Pakistani forces and provide recommendations for necessary action.

### **Enforced Disappearances: A Grave Human Rights Concern**

Enforced disappearances have been a long-standing issue in Balochistan, with numerous cases reported and documented by human rights organizations. The omission of this crucial matter from the High Commissioner's annual report undermines the gravity of the situation and denies justice to the victims and their families. The failure to acknowledge enforced disappearances perpetuates a climate of impunity and enables further human rights violations.

### **Systematic Abuse of Rights by Pakistani Forces**

Balochistan has witnessed systemic abuse of rights by Pakistani security forces, including extrajudicial killings, torture, and arbitrary detentions. These violations are aimed at suppressing dissent and instilling fear within the local population. It is deeply concerning that the annual report failed to address these systematic abuses, thereby disregarding the suffering endured by Balochistan's people.

### **Recommendations for Immediate Action**

- a) **Inclusion of Enforced Disappearances:** The High Commissioner's annual report should accurately reflect the human rights situation in Balochistan by including enforced disappearances as a key concern. This acknowledgement is crucial in mobilizing international attention and ensuring accountability for the perpetrators.
- b) **Independent Investigations:** The international community should urge Pakistan to establish an independent and impartial mechanism to investigate cases of enforced disappearances and other human rights violations. This mechanism should be empowered to identify and prosecute the responsible individuals, fostering a culture of accountability and justice.
- c) **Collaboration with Civil Society:** The UN and its member states should actively engage with Balochistan's civil society organizations and human rights defenders to gain a comprehensive understanding of the situation on the ground. Their valuable insights and experiences should inform the development of strategies and policies to address the human rights crisis in the region.
- d) **Monitoring and Reporting:** The High Commissioner's Office, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, should establish a comprehensive monitoring and reporting system to regularly assess the human rights situation in Balochistan. This would ensure accurate and up-to-date information, enabling timely intervention and appropriate responses.
- e) **Technical Assistance and Capacity Building:** The international community, through the UN and other relevant bodies, should provide technical assistance and capacity-building

and also monitor and take notice of incidents in Pakistan to strengthen its law enforcement agencies, judiciary, and human rights institutions. This support would facilitate the effective investigation, prosecution, and prevention of enforced disappearances and other human rights abuses.

#### International Responsibility and Accountability

The international community has a collective responsibility to address the human rights crisis in Balochistan. States must hold Pakistan accountable for its failure to protect and uphold the rights of its citizens. The United Nations and its member states should utilize diplomatic channels, multilateral mechanisms, and other available avenues to urge Pakistan to take immediate action and fulfill its human rights obligations.

#### Conclusion:

The omission of enforced disappearances and systematic abuse of rights by Pakistani forces in the High Commissioner's annual report is deeply concerning. The international community must not turn a blind eye to the suffering of the people of Balochistan. We urge the UN and its member states to take notice of the serious abuse of fundamental rights in Balochistan and emphasize the need for urgent action. By including enforced disappearances in the annual report, conducting independent investigations, collaborating with civil society, and providing technical assistance, we can collectively work towards justice, accountability, and the protection of human rights in Balochistan. It is imperative that the international community stands in solidarity with the people of Balochistan and takes decisive steps to address their plight.

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Baloch Voice Association (BVA) . Baloch Peoples Congress (BPC) . Voice for Baloch Missing Persons (VBMP), NGO(s) without consultative status, also share the views expressed in this statement.