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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment, 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.

[21 May 2024]

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

Alarming increase in cases of Enforced disappearances and Extrajudicial killings in Balochistan, Pakistan

The Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment would like to bring to your attention the alarming increase in the cases of enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings in Balochistan, Pakistan in recent months.

The issue of enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings in Balochistan remains a grave human rights concern. For the past two decades, Pakistani security forces and intelligence agencies have continued the practice of forcibly disappearing and extrajudicially killing Baloch people with impunity. Numerous independent human rights reports have documented cases where individuals—often activists, journalists, and political leaders—are abducted by security forces, only to be found dead or never seen again.

According to data collected by various human rights organizations and verified by the Baloch Human Rights Council (BHRC), 65 individuals were subjected to enforced disappearances in the first quarter of 2024, and 11 individuals were extrajudicially killed by Pakistani security forces.

The Pakistani government and security forces have been widely criticized for their actions in Balochistan, with accusations of using these tactics to suppress dissent and maintain control over the region. Despite international and domestic pressure, enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings remain significant human rights issues in Balochistan.

These heinous practices not only violate fundamental human rights but also perpetuate a climate of fear and oppression among the Baloch people. Families of the disappeared live in constant agony, uncertain of the fate of their loved ones, and are often denied justice and accountability. Extrajudicial killings, where individuals are executed without due process, further exacerbate the situation, undermining the rule of law and eroding trust in state institutions.

The international community must urgently call for transparent investigations into these abuses, demand accountability for perpetrators, and support efforts to end these heinous practices, ensuring that the rights and dignity of the Baloch people are upheld.

We request the United Nations to:

1. We Urge Pakistan to reveal the fate and whereabouts of victims of enforced disappearances, engaging with the families and ensuring appropriate compensation.
2. Hold accountable all those involved or facilitating enforced disappearances in Balochistan and other regions of Pakistan.
3. Urge Pakistan to ratify the CED and to enact implementing legislation, integrating these treaties into the domestic law of Pakistan.
