

Pakistan's Inputs on Climate Change and its Possible Security Implications

Pakistan is deeply concerned at the risks and challenges, which climate change poses to the world at large. As an agrarian economy, we fully share and appreciate the seriousness, urgency and multi-dimensional character of the threat posed by Climate Change.

2. Pakistan fully understands and deeply sympathize with the concerns of all those who are vulnerable to the threats posed by climate change, particularly the Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

3. Pakistan itself is faced with enormous challenges due to climate change that is causing irrevocable damage with tremendous social, environment and economic impacts. Water remains an issue of high priority for Pakistan. The country is passing rapidly from a water-sufficient to water-stress state and will soon be a water-deficient state.

4. Climate Change induced water stress may further exacerbate the situation. Climate Change is also likely to exert telling effect on the fragile ecosystems such as pastures and rangelands in Pakistan, which may result in populations being forced to migrate. Climate Change, in particular extreme climate events of floods, droughts, cyclones, sea level rise, etc. are also likely to exacerbate food insecurity in Pakistan.

5. We believe that addressing climate change is urgent and imperative and that an effective solution to the risks, challenges and potential threats associated with climate change should be addressed in the relevant forum, which in this case is the United Nations Framework on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Secondly, these solutions need to be based on a clear recognition of the close linkages and interdependence between Climate Change and development and the need to deal with Climate Change in the wider context of sustainable development. In our view, the UN Security Council is not the right forum to deliberate upon this issue. We believe that security and Security Council are not synonymous and therefore everything with security implications should not end up in the Security Council.
