

Statement

347th Session of the Governing Body of ILO

Agenda Item INS/9

Outcome of the 17th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting

Statement delivered by Mr. Junaid Afzal, Section Officer, Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development
(21 March 2023)

Honorable Chairperson,

A complete tripartite delegation from Pakistan attended the 17th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting of the ILO held in Singapore in last December.

During the meeting, extensive discussions were held on various issues related to the world of work taking into account the regional context. As a result of these discussions, the Singapore Statement was issued, outlining the priorities that were agreed upon by consensus among the constituents.

The Government of Pakistan fully supports the Singapore Statement and reiterates its commitment to the priorities outlined in the outcome statement. The Statement highlights the need for policies and programs that focus on economic revival, skills development, employment, and the protection of vulnerable workers, including migrant workers. These issues are particularly critical given the challenges faced by Pakistan, including the COVID pandemic, economic crisis, and floods.

Resultantly, policies and programs that focus on economic recovery, skills development, employment, and the protection of vulnerable workers, including migrant workers, are critical.

Pakistan is prioritizing the design of its development programs around the four priorities highlighted by the APRM, namely employment and resilience, social and employment protection, and environmentally sustainable economies. The Decent Work Country Programme-IV 2023-2027 is one such example of this approach.

Collective action in the region and around the world will be necessary to shape the ILO's work in the region. Therefore, we call upon the Office to make necessary resources available.

I thank you.

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