

**FOR ATTENTION OF ILO EXPERTS/
URGENT FOR TOMORROW'S MORNING SESSION**

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**Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN
Geneva**

Statement

346th Session of the Governing Body of ILO

Agenda Item PFA/1

Preview of the Programme and Budget proposals for 2024–25

**Statement delivered by Mr. Muhammad Wishaq, Joint
Secretary, Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human
Resource Development
(1 November 2022)**

We are delivering this statement on behalf of OIC countries except Albania.

We welcome the Director General at the inaugural session of the Governing Body after assuming the office and thank the Office for preparing the budget proposals for 2024-25.

Detailed discussions have taken place on different aspects of the budgetary proposals. OIC countries wish to highlight one aspect discussed in para 151 of the draft document.

The OIC is of the view that language used in para 151 neither reflects the legality of international human rights framework nor does it represent universal values. It rather undermines the key human rights principles of universality, equality, impartiality and objectivity as highlighted in the Institution Building Package of the Human Rights Council and UN General Assembly resolution 60/251.

The OIC regrets and notes with disappointment the propensity to mainstream and promote controversial concepts that are inconsistent with the principles of international human rights law.

The OIC maintains that listing and singling out controversial categories of individuals that do not enjoy international consensus is not advisable. The OIC has maintained a consistent position about such groups/individuals and the notions of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI). For the record, the OIC has consistently articulated its position on this issue in the previous ILO meetings. Thus, the Office should have been aware of it.

The OIC calls upon the ILO to use in its texts the internationally agreed forms of discrimination i. e. race, sex, colour, language and religion as enshrined in international human rights law.

The OIC further advises the ILO that as a specialized organ of the United Nations and in light of its own Constitution, it must refrain from promoting controversial notions in its work. Inclusion of controversial, inappropriate, misplaced language and problematic concepts in the world of work with a view to mainstreaming them will not only undermine international consensus towards the work of ILO and its institutions but will also be counterproductive.

The OIC would support the draft decision point only if para 151 is deleted, **a revised draft is circulated**, and assurances are

given that these concepts would not be introduced in any future ILO documents.

Thank you, Madam Chair.
