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

**Statement delivered by Ambassador Khalil Hashmi, Permanent Representative of
Pakistan to the UN
on behalf of the OIC Countries
Adoption of Program and Budget (2024-25) by the 111th ILC
13 June 2023**

Mr. President,

I take the floor on behalf of member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

The Program and Budget envisages important work in areas of strengthening social justice, promoting social dialogue between tripartite constituents, equal opportunities, social protection, inclusive growth and decent work.

We appreciate the drift of the envisaged outcomes towards promoting social justice- the foremost objective enshrined in ILO's constitution.

The vigor and commitment demonstrated by all member states to discuss aspects of the program and budget in the Governing Body and the Finance Committee reflected the importance they attached to its outcomes.

Our discussions were wide ranging and these covered various aspects surrounding ILO's future work on discrimination. These aspects included a conceptual framing of vulnerable groups, mandates, legality, relevance as well as procedures.

We believe that these discussions have only underlined the importance to cooperation against discrimination and set a tone for our future work.

As an intergovernmental organization and a specialized agency of the United Nations, our work in the ILO should be guided by the principles and purposes of the UN Charter. Article 1 of the UN Charter encourages us to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of a social and cultural character and to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.

Protection of rights and fundamental freedoms is essential to creating an enabling environment for promoting decent work for social justice.

In this context, the OIC countries reaffirm their respective obligations under the international law including the international labour conventions, to support ILO's work on social justice and to end discrimination.

As our discussions in the Governing Body and the Finance Committee have amply demonstrated, both through words and votes, that in the future our work on protecting vulnerable groups would be productive and sustainable only if it is conceptually framed in accordance with existing international labour conventions without any ambiguity.

Promoting a framework around discrimination that does not have international consensus and reflects priorities of the few risks undermining the spirit of cooperation- both in developing future programs and budgets and implementing those.

The implementation must be in line with government, workers and Employers tripartite agreed priorities, in accordance with member states' national laws.

With this Mr. President,

We are pleased to assure you that the OIC countries support the Program and Budget for the biennium 2024-25, based on the agreement reached between the member states in the Finance Committee.

Thankyou
