

Committee on Application of Standard (CAS) - Draft Statement by the Permanent Representative - Saturday, 5th June 2021 1300-1600 (CET)/1600-1900 (PST)

**Honourable Chairperson,**

Pakistan accords high priority to implementation of ILO Conventions.

We are pleased to report that in 2020, 39 instruments adopted during various sessions of ILCs were placed before Federal Cabinet for a decision pursuant to Article 19 of ILO Constitution. The Cabinet directed the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (MOPHRD) to initiate the requisite consultation process for ratification of 15 instruments including 04 Conventions. Ratification of 24 instruments will be considered subsequently.

The MOPHRD through technical assistance of ILO Country Office in Pakistan held necessary consultations, conducted GAP Analysis and assessed national laws viz-a-viz 04 Conventions to be ratified and shared final reports with relevant provincial governments/stakeholders to enact and align the relevant legislation/rules with the provisions of these Conventions.

Actions taken by Government to complete necessary internal processes are reflective of our resolve. It is a work in progress. Therefore, we are of the view that including Pakistan among countries of “serious failure to submit” category does not fully take into account the efforts made and progress being achieved.

It is encouraging that CEACR has expressed satisfaction with regard to Pakistan’s implementation of Conventions (C138, C29, C81, C182). We encourage the Committee (CAS) to include also the ‘cases of progress and good practices’ in its deliberations. This would help present a more objective picture.

We appreciate the supervisory role of ILO bodies and experts and hope that Committee will take into due account the affirmative steps taken and the political will demonstrated for continued improvement in labour standards at national level.

Thank you.