

# Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN Geneva

#### Statement by Pakistan

## 350th Session of the ILO Governing Body

### Agenda Item GB.350/INS/4

Mid-term report on the implementation of the ILO Action Plan for Gender Equality 2022–25

Statement delivered by Mr. Muhammad Abdullah, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN, Geneva

(5 March 2024)

#### Honorable Chairperson,

We thank the office for providing us with comprehensive insights into the mid-term progress of the ILO Action Plan for Gender Equality 2022–25. We firmly believe that promoting gender equality and flexibility in the workplace is crucial for achieving sustainable development and ensuring inclusivity.

In Pakistan, there is a growing recognition of the importance of gender equality and flexibility in the workplace. Promoting work-life balance initiatives is essential for creating a supportive and inclusive work environment. This includes flexible working arrangements, remote work options, and access to support services such as childcare facilities.

Key sectors in Pakistan that stand to benefit from increased support under the UNSWAP (UN System Wide Action Plan) include:

1. Textile and Garment Industry: Enhancing gender equality and work-life balance can benefit female employees in this vital sector.

2. Information Technology: Promoting women's participation and inclusivity is

crucial for the growing IT industry.

3. Healthcare: Gender equality measures can create a more supportive

environment for all healthcare workers.

To effectively implement these measures, collaboration between

government, employers, workers, and research entities is essential. Training

programs, awareness campaigns, and monitoring mechanisms can help track

progress and ensure the successful implementation of gender equality and

flexibility initiatives in Pakistan's workforce.

Pakistan prioritizes reducing inequalities as a top agenda under the

global coalition on social justice. The government is taking proactive steps to

combat gender-based discrimination by implementing institutional systems and

effective grievance redressal mechanisms to ensure violence-free workplaces.

Additionally, the gap assessment of C190, C183, C189 reflects the government's

commitment to identifying and addressing legal framework gaps, particularly in

vulnerable sectors like domestic work dominated by women.

I thank you.

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Page 2 of 2