



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

Statement

350th Session of Governing Body

Agenda Item PFA/9

Amendments to the Staff Regulations

**Statement delivered on behalf of OIC Group of countries
(5 March 2024)**

Honourable Chairperson,

We are delivering this statement on behalf of OIC countries¹.

We the OIC countries wish to place on record our concern over the use of controversial concepts such as Sexual Orientation in this document and other documents.

The OIC countries wish to underscore and reiterate that such concepts are neither universally agreed nor are they in sync with their national laws, customs, morals or cultural ethos. Moreover, neither these concepts have any basis in international law nor do they represent any branch of international law.

The OIC countries wish to highlight that existing international law has sufficient provisions to address concerns over discrimination of any kind. Therefore, the OIC countries register their strong reservations over attempts to insert controversial and problematic notions into the ILO documents.

As a specialized agency of the United Nations and as stipulated in its own constitution, the ILO must be guided by international law and universally agreed instruments.

The OIC countries reiterate their call on the ILO to use in its all documents, internationally agreed forms of discrimination i. e. race, sex, colour, language and religion, as enshrined in international human rights law and as identified in ILO's own constitution.

We expect the Office to be more careful and prudent in its approach in the future.

Thank you, Chair.

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¹ except Albania