

Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the UN Geneva

Statement

30thSession of Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance (SCPF)

Statement by Mr. Sumair Gul, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Pakistan on IOM Budget Reform (24 June 2022)

Madam Chairperson,

On behalf of Pakistan delegation, I wish to commend you for your leadership. We thank you for presenting the package proposal. We are heartened by constructive inputs made by several delegations.

As a country of region, transit and destination, Pakistan values the work of IOM which has grown steadily and is likely to grow further. We take note of the views that the traditional project-based model of IOM budget may not be sustainable.

Various rounds of informal consultations and the recent meeting of the Working Group on Budget Reform have illustrated that about sustainability and predictability of IOM's operations is important.

Unfortunately, we face a force majeure situation. The COVID pandemic has set in motion several developments that have shrunk fiscal space and liquidity for many countries. None of these impacts were foreseen.

The recently adopted UN scale of assessments for the contributions, based on the fundamental principle of "capacity to pay" also manifests this decline in capacity of Member States.

Moreover, the concern that some states are already doing the heavy lift on refugees for decades, needs be factored in.

Madam Chairperson,

We have made good progress. There is an agreement on many cost-neutral elements of previous proposals. More innovative and workable options are now available, which need to be further studied. We see merit in calls for more time for consultations to evolve consensus. We share concerns over moves to force voting on this subject.

My delegation stands ready to engage constructively and help craft an agreement that is acceptable to all so that IOM remains an effective, responsive, agile and fit for purpose. I Thank you.
