



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

Statement

349th Session of the Governing Body of ILO

Agenda Item GB.349/INS/9

Proposals for the format of future ILO regional meetings

**Statement delivered by Mr. Zulfiqar Haider, Secretary, Ministry of
Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development**

(3 November 2023)

Honorable Chairperson,

We appreciate the Office for providing this comprehensive document, which is in line with the discussions and outcomes of the 347th Session of the Governing Body in March 2023 regarding this agenda item. This document outlines three scenarios for ILO regional meetings, aiming to maintain tripartite ownership, increase flexibility, improve efficiency, and save costs while achieving outcomes comparable to the current format.

Regional meetings are essential for translating and discussing strategies from the International Labour Conference and the Governing Body, promoting knowledge sharing, and addressing regional policy and technical matters.

The proposed scenarios aim to streamline proceedings by reducing the time allocated to general statements and discussions while increasing the focus on substantive technical or policy-related matters that hold significance for the region.

For instance, Scenario A suggests maintaining a four-day meeting structure with streamlined opening and closing sessions, shorter reports, and the inclusion of thematic working groups. Scenario B, on the other hand, presents a three-day meeting with a similar approach, and Scenario C envisions a three-day meeting without formal plenary sessions but with a strong emphasis on thematic working groups and workshops.

Pakistan recognizes the merits of and endorses Scenario B, as it aligns with our goals of cost-efficiency, productivity, addressing regional priorities, and implementing action plans. The shorter duration, focused discussions, and remote report preparation make Scenario B a practical choice for achieving the objectives of ILO regional meetings while optimizing resources.

In conclusion, Pakistan strongly supports Scenario B for the future of ILO regional meetings, appreciating its cost-effectiveness, productivity, and regional responsiveness, believing it strikes an efficient balance for advancing the ILO's mission.

I thank you.

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