

**Written Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia
on Agenda Item POL 5. Enhanced programme of development cooperation for the
occupied Arab territories (GB.340/POL/5)
at the 340th Session ILO Governing Body
November, 2020**

***Honorable Chair,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,***

1. At the outset, we would like to express our appreciation to the Office for the comprehensive report on "Enhanced programme of development cooperation for the occupied Arab territories". We would also like to register our appreciation for the ILO's work in regard to mobilize resources and leverage new partnerships for the development cooperation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.
2. The Palestinian socio-economic condition has been in stake due to the decades of occupation, which has resulted in the low participation in the labour market, as well as the threats for public welfare and livelihoods. We are deeply concerned that the COVID-19 pandemic, due to its severe disruptions to the societies and economies is having a devastating impact on the increased unemployment rate and decline in wage, in which economically active women and youth as the most disadvantaged.
3. On that note, we would like to express our support in the strongest possible terms to the continuation of ILO's extensive efforts to implement the second Palestinian Decent Work Programme 2018-2022 and its alignment with broader frameworks of the UN system and the United Nations country team (UNCT).
4. We endorse strategic priorities in the second Palestinian Decent Work Programme, which focuses not only to enhance employment and livelihood opportunities, but also to strengthen labour governance and support the Palestinian social security system.
5. Indonesia would support the ILO's work in the Occupied Palestinian Territory by emphasizing these three key points:
 - First, we support the efforts to overcome the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to the world of work in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, as well as the ILO's commitment to Palestine for the attainment of the Palestine's National Policy Agenda (NPA) 2017-2022 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Target 8.5 to realize decent work for all.
 - Second, we encourage the ILO to focus on the efforts to counter possible exploitation and to increase protection of the rights of Palestinian workers in Israel and the occupied territory, as well as to ensure decent work conditions for them.
 - Third, we support the efforts to expand and diversify development assistance to Palestinian workers, including to extend support to include skills development, employability and active labour market programmes, as well as continued assistance to social protection initiatives. To quote the Director General, decent jobs, universal social protection, and Agenda 2030 in general should be at the center to build back better.

6. We note with particular concerns that the hardship faced by Palestinian people are becoming more alarming due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In this matter, Indonesia always stands ready to give support needed in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Both the Government and people of Indonesia have been contributing in providing assistance for Palestinian people. This year, the Government of Indonesia has announced Indonesia's increased contribution to Palestine as well as to the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) during the Extraordinary Ministerial Pledging Conference for UNRWA.
7. We are of the view that the enhancement of the Decent Work Agenda and the realization of social justice for Palestinian people would be less meaningful as long as the instability in the territory remains. Therefore, we would also like to underline, that we need a comprehensive solution that is just and sustainable. We need to start a credible multilateral peace process based on internationally agreed parameters.
8. To conclude, Chair, Indonesia wishes, that ILO with the support of its Member States to continue its contributions to strengthen labour governance in the Occupied Palestinian Territory so that Palestinian people will recuperate from the adverse impacts of COVID-19 on jobs and livelihoods.

Thank you.
