Resolution No.18

RESTORATION OF NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS IN PAKISTAN

The Conference concerns that the consequential effects of the 18th Constitutional amendment passed by the parliament of Pakistan which has made redundant the National Regulatory Authority for registration of National Industry-wise Trade Unions and Federations at national level and determination of their Collective Bargaining Agent and conciliation and adjudication of their industrial disputes.

It is noted that in response to a complaint made by the PWF, the ILO Governing Body approved the recommendations submitted by the Committee of Freedom of Association (CFA) in relation to Case No. 2799 on Pakistan that: new legislation ensuring the trade union rights of workers, including in the national level be adopted in the country in the very near future with full consultation of the social partners concerned, any adopted legislation including the recently adopted provincial acts, be brought into full conformity with ILO Conventions Nos. 87 and 98 and pending adoption of the relevant legislation, the NIRC exercise its function in adjudicating industrial disputes and dealing with issues relating to registering and determination of collective bargaining agents in national institutions and industries of national scope.

The Conference emphasizes that that national trade union movement and Worker Employer Bilateral Council (WEBCOP) shall be given proper position to play their own roles in national economic and development policies in the framework of national industrial relations.

The Conference notes with appreciation the recent move of the Government of Pakistan to introduce the new Industrial Relations Law which provide for the restoration of the National Industrial Relations Commission and for holding a national tripartite consultation in this regard.

The Conference urges the government of Pakistan to restore the national legislative regulatory authority of National Industrial Relations Commission in order to enable the workers to organise them at national level in conformity with international obligations undertaken by the Government of Pakistan by ratifying ILO Conventions Nos. 87 and 98 pertaining to Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining and fundamental rights guaranteed to the workers under Article 17 (1) of the Constitution of Pakistan so that the national trade union confederations will again play a pivotal role in nationwide collective bargaining and dispute settlement.