Mr Director-General,

On Thursday, 29 March, the members of the Staff Union, meeting in a Permanent General Meeting, gave me a mandate to speak on their behalf today; to express to you firstly their regrets and secondly their position.

They wish to express to you their regret regarding:
- the form of dialogue you have chosen to address them, after a day and a half of a massively followed strike, by not respecting the basic forms of social dialogue and existing collective bargaining within this Organization.
- the events they witnessed, and the positions taken (including yours), that occurred during the last session of the Governing Body.
- the fact that they, as committed and responsible workers for this organization, had not been informed in advance of the events that could occur during this session of the Governing Body.
- the fact that they have been, according to the expressions now infamous and consecrated since these events, in French "jetés sous les roues du camion" and in English "thrown under the bus".
- the trust they had built day after day towards you, that they had “knitted” with you and whose only drawn thread, that of non-communication, was enough to destroy the fabric and to put it back to square one.

After outlining these regrets, they asked me to tell you that:
- They take note that it is you, Mr Director-General, who took the decision to apply the ICSC decision to reduce their salaries, a decision based on errors.

- They take note of point (a) of the GB decision, and will take all necessary measures and actions to assert their rights.

- They take also note of point (b) of the GB decision, the first part of which is no longer relevant, since the 86th Session of the ICSC is over and the item on the 2016 post adjustment that was supposed to be discussed again was cancelled as soon as the GB decision was made.

- That they have instructed their elected representatives, of which I am today the spokesperson, to take all the necessary action to make sure that you and your administration will respect the rest of the commitment mentioned in this point (b). This commitment is, on the one hand, at the height of the fundamental principles and rights at work that the International Labour Organization promotes and, on the other hand, has to be accomplished - at the latest – by the celebration of its centenary, so that they can once again work and engage with a level of confidence equal to that existing before these sad events.

Thank you.