



**Spotlight Initiative**



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## Labour mobility between Asia and the Arab States: Sharing of Experiences and Progress under the Bali Declaration with specific focus on women migrant workers

### Inter-regional Meeting

3-4 December 2019

Bangkok, Thailand

### Agenda

Time	Agenda	Speakers	Moderators and Discussants
8:30 -9:00	Registration		
9:00 -9:45	<b>Opening Remarks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tomoko Nishimoto</b>, Regional Director, ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP)</li> <li>• <b>Frank Hagemann</b>, Deputy Regional Director, ILO Regional Office for Arab States (ROAS)</li> <li>• <b>Anna-Karin Jafors</b>, Deputy Regional Director, UN Women, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP)</li> <li>• <b>Amb. Pirkka Tapiola</b>, EU Ambassador to Thailand</li> </ul>	
9:45-10:00	Photo session		
10:00 – 11:00	<p><b>Session 1: Introduction</b></p> <p><i>Speakers will:</i></p> <p>(i) <i>Present ILOs Global Programme on Migration and Mobility</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>Present the meeting's background paper: Labour migration trends in Asia and</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Michelle Leighton</b>, Chief, Labour Migration Branch, ILO Geneva</li> <li>• <b>Nilim Baruah</b>, Senior Migration Specialist, ILO ROAP</li> </ul>	<p>Moderator:</p> <p><b>Patana Bhandhufalck</b>, Assistant Permanent Secretary, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Thailand</p>

	<i>the Arab States, policy developments and key issues with a focus on women migrant workers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ryszard Cholewinski</b>, Senior Migration Specialist, ILO ROAS</li> </ul>	
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee break		
11:15 – 12:30	<p><b>Session 2: Fair recruitment, with a focus on women migrant workers</b></p> <p><i>Speakers will:</i></p> <p>(i) <i>Share experience on steps that have been undertaken to promote fair recruitment, in line with the ILO General Principles and Operational Guidelines for Fair Recruitment and the Definition on Recruitment Fees and Related Costs</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>Discuss measures that could be undertaken to establish a fair recruitment system that efficiently matches available jobs to job-seekers with the appropriate skills and qualifications, reduces migration costs to both workers and employers, and is gender-responsive recognizing specific needs of women migrant workers.</i></p> <p>(iii) <i>Discuss measures that enhance women migrant workers' access to information, resources and services</i></p> <p><b>Open Forum</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Recruitment of Nepalese women migrant workers into the garment industry</i> <b>Umesh Dhungana</b>, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour Employment and Social Security, Nepal</li> <li>• <i>Trade union initiatives to support the establishment of fair recruitment systems, particularly for women migrant workers -</i> <b>Laxman Bahadur Basnet</b>, General Secretary, South Asian Regional Trade Union Council (SARTUC)</li> <li>• <i>Measures to promote and establish a fair recruitment system –</i> <b>Nick Forster</b>, Co-Founder and Senior Vice President, FSI Worldwide</li> </ul>	<p>Moderator: <b>Michelle Leighton</b>, Chief, Labour Migration Branch, ILO Geneva</p> <p>Discussant: <b>William Gois</b>, Regional Coordinator, Migrant Forum Asia (MFA)</p>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch		



<p>14:00 – 15:30</p>	<p><b>Session 3A: Protection, with particular focus on women migrant workers (policies and good practices)</b></p> <p><i>Speakers will:</i></p> <p>(i) <i>Share experiences on increasing the protection of migrant workers from exploitation, abuse and violence in the workplace by the adoption of national legislation in accordance with relevant international standards, effective enforcement of policies, and implementation of support services.</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>Share good practices in certification and recognition of skills and identify women’s specific needs in OSH, access to services, including justice, skills, and social protection (including maternity protection).</i></p> <p>(iii) <i>Information sharing on ILO C190</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Increasing the protection of migrant workers from exploitation, abuse and violence in the workplace -</i> <b>Iskander Zalami</b>, Adviser to H.E. the Minister, Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization, United Arab Emirates (TBC)</li> <li>• <i>Good practices on the certification and recognition of skills and addressing women’s needs in relation to OSH, and their access to services, justice and social protection –</i> <b>Carl Rookie Daquio</b>, Supervising Labor and Employment Officer, Employment Research Division, International Labor Studies, Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Philippines</li> <li>• <i>Role of trade unions in protecting and providing support services to women migrant workers -</i> <b>Abdulkarim Ali</b>, Assistant Secretary General, International Relations, General Federation of</li> </ul>	<p>Moderator: <b>Ryszard Cholewinski</b>, Senior Migration Specialist, ILO ROAS</p>
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	<p><b>Open Forum</b></p>	<p>Bahrain Trade Unions (GFBTU)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Role of recruitment agencies in protecting and providing support services to women migrant workers –</i> <b>Emmanuel Gomez</b>, Managing Director and Co-Founder, Staffhouse International Resources</li> </ul>	<p>Discussant: <b>Melissa Alvarado</b>, Regional EAW Programme Manager, UN Women, ROAP</p>
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee break		
15:45 – 17:00	<p><b>Session 3B: Protection, with particular focus on women migrants in key sectors of work in destination countries (e.g. domestic work , construction, , among others)</b></p> <p><i>Speakers will:</i></p> <p>(i) <i>Share experiences and good practices on increasing the protection of migrant workers, particularly women migrants in domestic work, construction and hospitality</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>Highlight the role of governments and workers and employers organizations in addressing sector-specific concerns and taking into consideration the needs of women migrant workers</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Experiences on the recruitment and employment of migrant domestic workers and measures to protect women migrant workers-</i> <b>Sultan Alzoubi</b>, Head of Disputes and Legal Division of the Domestic Workers Department, Public Authority of Manpower, Kuwait</li> <li>• <i>Organizing migrant domestic workers and the collaborations between trade unions and civil society organizations -</i> <b>Niken Anjar Wulan</b>, Program Officer, International Domestic Workers Federation</li> </ul>	<p>Moderator: <b>Deepa Bharathi</b>, Chief Technical Adviser, Safe and Fair Programme</p>



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	<p><b>Open forum</b></p>	<p>(IDWF)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Role of employers in implementing measures to support migrant workers, in particular women, in the construction sector -</i> <b>Ukrish Kanchanaketu</b>, Adviser, Employers Confederation of Thailand (ECOT)</li> <li>• <i>Organizing Nepali migrant workers through support groups established in destination countries, with particular focus on women migrants -</i> <b>Nisha Baniya</b>, Secretary of Labour Relations, General Federation of Nepalese Trade Unions (GEFONT)</li> <li>• <i>Measures to prevent the trafficking of women migrant workers -</i> <b>Runglawon Kantasit</b>, Director, Prevention and Problem Solving on Labour Protection Group, Department of Labour Protection and Welfare, Ministry of Labour (MOL), Thailand</li> </ul>	<p>Discussant: <b>Imco Brouwer</b>, Director, Gulf Labour Markets and Migration (GLMM)</p>
<p>18:30</p>	<p><b>Reception dinner:</b> Discussions with women migrant workers</p>		

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8:30 -9:00am	Registration		
9:00 – 10:15	<p><b>Session 4: Progress made in redressing employer-employee relationships that impede workers’ freedom of movement</b></p> <p><i>Speakers will:</i></p> <p>(i) <i>Discuss recent laws and regulations and reflect on progress made</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>Share international standards and experiences on the possibility of migrant workers to change jobs</i></p> <p>(iii) <i>Share tripartite approaches and experiences in protection of migrant workers</i></p> <p><b>Open Forum</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Qatar’s Visa Centres, changes to Qatar’s sponsorship system and related reforms –</i> <b>Mohammed Hassan M H AIObaidli</b>, Deputy Under Secretary for Labour Affairs and <b>Salem Ahmed M S - Almarzouqi</b>, Senior Labour Specialist, International Labour Relations Department, Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs, Qatar</li> <li>• <i>Role of trade unions in implementing measures to support migrant workers, particularly women migrant workers -</i> <b>Apolinar Z. Tolentino, Jr.</b>, Regional Representative, Building and Wood workers International (BWI)</li> <li>• <i>Singapore’s approach to ensuring well-being of migrant workers –</i> <b>Pin Sin Chia</b>, Assistant Director, Foreign Manpower Unit, Workplace Policy &amp; Strategy Division, Ministry of Manpower (MOM), Singapore</li> </ul>	<p>Moderator: <b>Nilim Baruah</b>, Senior Migration Specialist, ILO ROAP</p> <p>Discussant: <b>Sophia Kagan</b>, Chief Technical Adviser, Fairway Project</p>



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<p>10:15 -12:00</p>	<p><b>Session 5: Priorities and opportunities for expanding fair recruitment and protection systems in the Asia-Arab States migration corridors, particularly to enhance protection of women migrant workers</b></p> <p><i>Group work with guiding questions and sharing in plenary</i></p>		<p>Moderator: <b>Shabarinath Nair</b>, Migration Specialist, ILO South Asia</p>
<p>12:00 – 13:30 Lunch</p>			
<p>13:30 - 15:00</p>	<p><b>Session 6: Partnerships</b></p> <p><i>A discussion in talk show format will take place on partnerships to further implementation of the Bali Declaration and safe and fair migration for women.</i></p> <p><i>Such partnerships include State led global and regional mechanisms and processes, bilateral arrangements, and collaboration among trade unions, employers' organizations and CSOs.</i></p> <p><i>Support to the implementation, monitoring and review of the decent work, labour migration and gender components of the GCM will also be discussed.</i></p> <p><b>Open Forum</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Iskander Zalami</b>, Adviser to H.E. the Minister, Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratization, United Arab Emirates (UAE)</li> <li>● <b>Imaduwa Vithanage Nilanthi Preethika Kumudunie</b>, Director (Planning), Ministry of Telecommunication Foreign Employment &amp; Sports, Sri Lanka</li> <li>● <b>Giuseppe Busini</b>, Deputy Head of Mission, EU Delegation to Thailand</li> <li>● <b>Dana Graber Ladek</b>, Chief of Mission to Thailand, International Organization for Migration</li> <li>● <b>Michelle Leighton</b>, Chief, Labour Migration Branch, ILO Geneva</li> </ul>	<p>Moderator: <b>Frank Hagemann</b>, Deputy Regional Director, ILO ROAS</p>
<p>15:00 – 15:15</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>		

