

ASIAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS ON LABOUR MIGRATION
Bangkok, Thailand, 23 November 2013

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Members of Parliament from thirteen (13) Asian countries and Civil Society groups and other organizations which advocate for the protection of the human and labour rights and welfare of migrant workers met at the 2013 Asian Inter Parliamentary Caucus on Labour Migration on November 22-23 to discuss Gender Responsive Social Protection for Migrant Workers; organized by Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA), Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), UN Women and the Philippine Congress House Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs (COWA);

WHEREAS, it was proposed that there is a need to call on the governments of origin countries to ensure that the right of suffrage of migrant workers and their families is respected;

WHEREAS, it was proposed that there is a need to call on States to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrants and Members of Their Families (Migrant Workers Convention) and other human rights instruments including ILO Conventions 97 (Migrant for Employment Convention), 143 (Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention) and 189 (Domestic Workers Convention), and for these States to enact, harmonize and implement existing national legislations to support the ratification of these conventions, and to create monitoring mechanisms to ensure the implementation of such policies as well as support for shadow reporting from civil society or other groups;

WHEREAS, it was proposed that there is a need for Parliamentarians to raise awareness on gender sensitive social protection for migrant women workers within government channels, including the judiciary and through media-based campaigning;

WHEREAS, it was proposed that there is a need to conduct research studies within countries and across the region:

- 1) to identify the causes of gendered discrimination against migrant workers and the need to introduce and implement gender specific legislation that puts an end to the discrimination and violence against migrant women;

- 2) to identify the specific needs and issues of women and men migrant workers and enacting gender sensitive specific laws and policies and to align them with gender responsive international standards and instruments such as Convention on the

Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), UN Migrant Workers Convention and ILO Conventions 97, 143 and 189; and

3) to understand the implications of regional and sub-regional economic integration processes on women migrant workers and the adequacy of social protection measures;

WHEREAS, it was proposed that there is a need to call on relevant government institutions, especially their officials who are stationed or posted at their embassies and other offices abroad, to take greater responsibility for the protection and promotion of the rights and welfare of migrant workers, especially women, and for these government institutions to work with civil society and gender sensitive migration experts to develop gender sensitive migration training programs for their government officials;

WHEREAS, it was proposed that there is a need to create a Parliamentary Caucus at the national level to look at the gendered issues of migration to interact with local governments bilaterally and regionally;

WHEREAS, it was proposed that there is a need to expand and extend legislation on social security coverage and portability to all migrant workers with special attention to women migrant workers, and to facilitate their right to organize or join trade unions;

WHEREAS, it was proposed that there is a need for an Advisory Group to be formed to elaborate on a program of action to carry-out the proposed actions and other provisions of this resolution;

WHEREFORE, WE THE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT IN ATTENDANCE AT THE 2013 INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS ON LABOR MIGRATION, HEREBY AGREE AND RESOLVE TO FORM AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE WHOSE MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES ARE:

1. The advisory group will work with the Migrant Forum in Asia Secretariat (MFA) and its partners in drafting a program of action drawn by the Caucus.
2. The advisory group will promote the objectives and program of the caucus to intergovernmental processes at the national and international level. This will include engaging with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).
3. The advisory group will identify and invite additional parliamentarians for the Caucus.

4. The advisory group will strategize on ways to increase the visibility of the parliamentarians' caucus at the national and international levels.
5. The advisory group will meet annually.

**Approved unanimously
November 23, 2013**

Signed by:

Mr. MD Israfil Alam

*Member of Parliament, Ministry of Labour and Employment
Bangladesh*

Mr. Mustaque Ahmed Ruhi

*Member of Parliament, Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment
Bangladesh*

Mr. Son Chhay

*Member of Parliament, Sam Rainsy Party
Cambodia*

Ms. Mu Sochua

*Member of Parliament
Cambodia*

Mr. Rama Chandra Khuntia

*Member of Parliament, Member of INTUC, Member of BWI
India*

Mr. Thampan Thomas

*Former Member of Parliament, Hind Masdoor Sabha
India*

Ms. Rieke Diah Pitaloka

*Member of House of Representatives, Member of the Commission IX of the Indonesian
Parliament on Overseeing Social and Welfare Affairs
Indonesia*

Mr. G. Manivannan Gowindasamy

*Member, Parliament of Malaysia
Malaysia*

Mr. S. Ramakrishnan

*Former Member, Senate of Malaysia
Malaysia*

Mr. Charles Santiago

*Member of the Parliament
Malaysia*

Mr. U Maung Maung Soe

*Member of Parliament, Amyoutha Hluttaw
Myanmar*

Mr. Khin Saw Wai

*Member, National Assembly of Parliament, Pyithu Hluttaw
Myanmar*

Mr. U Soe Win

*Member of Parliament, Amyoutha Hluttaw
Myanmar*

Ms. Shanti Basnet Adhikari

*Former Member of Parliament of Nepal
Nepal*

Ms. Binda Pandey

*Former Member of Parliament
Nepal*

Mr. Mian Najeebuddin Awaisi

*Member of the National Assembly of Pakistan
Member of the Committee Overseas Pakistanis
Pakistan*

Ms. Sabiha Nazir

*Member of National Assembly
Pakistan*

Mr. Walden Bello

*Member, House of Representatives
Chairperson, Philippine Congress House Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs (COWA)
Philippines*

Mr. Weslie Gatchalian

Member, House of Representatives

Philippines

Ms. Thalatha Atukorale

*Member, Parliament of Sri Lanka
Sri Lanka*

Mr. Akila Viraj Kariyawasam

*Member of Parliament
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