

Comment by Nepal on the panel discussion on international cooperation and governance of migration in all its dimensions

My delegation thanks the distinguished panelists for their insightful views on the topic of discussion.

Migration governance is basically dominated by the rule and regulation of the State. Yet there are some commonalities in approaches and a need to harmonize some procedural and regulatory framework to better manage migration and make it safe, orderly and regular. Cooperation is necessary in managing movement across the border and in overall border management procedure at the bilateral and regional levels, which paves the way for similar cooperation at the international level. In case of migrants in vulnerable situation, it is always good that humanity and humanitarian consideration should take a precedence over security centred approach at the border cross points.

The political, social and economic aspects of migration governance should be best aligned with 2030 Agenda for sustainable development goals and other contemporary relevant international agreements and declaration. At the centre-stage of discussion, issues such as the value of human resource at an age of demographic shift, the need to fulfill gaps in demand and supply of labour of certain skills or orientation, and importantly, contribution of migration to sustainable development should come.

The UNGA declaration on separate compacts on migrants and refugees give clarity to the issues to be taken up.

First, the political will to have a managed migration for a win-win for the origin, transit and destination countries as well as the migrants themselves, which need to be reflected in harmonized national, regional and international policy initiatives and robust measures of cooperation, wherever possible. On the social aspect, emphasis on social cohesion and integration of migrants in the access to all basic services and social protection not only contributes to making of peaceful and harmonious societies, but also enhances productivity and contribution to overall development. On the economic governance, ethical recruitment, lowering the cost of recruitment and remittances transfer, mutual recognition of skills by origin and destination countries, and development and maintenance of a reliable data and information on migration to make migration a matter of choice, rather than compulsion, are very important issues.

Fostering a whole of government dialogue contributes to improvement of migration governance. For capacity-constrained countries, a Financing Facility for Migration would be much helpful in helping them putting more efforts towards fulfilling the migration related SDG goals.

Thank you!