

PHILIPPINES

GLOBAL COMPACT FOR SAFE, ORDERLY, AND REGULAR MIGRATION PREPARATORY STOCKTAKING MEETING

4-6 December, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

Action Group No. 1 - Human Dimension

Delivered by

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Commission on Filipinos Overseas, Philippines

Madame Chair,

(Salutations)

- a. The GCM should contain the affirmation of the human rights of all migrants, regardless of their migration status.
 - States should recognize and respect fundamental freedoms and human rights of migrants through access to justice, social services, healthcare and education systems and effective remedy
 - Ensure access to civil registry documents to address statelessness, especially among children
 - Avoid criminalization of migrants who are victims of human trafficking and smuggling through Establishment of common regional framework on anti-trafficking and smuggling issues
 - Ensure that migration status of migrant workers are not conditional on the sponsorship or guardianship of the employer
 - Guarantee social protection not just for migrant workers, but also to children of migrants and women migrants and the families left behind
 - Provide free legal aid and access to gender-responsive and culturally appropriate legal representation, counselling information and other material assistance, including interpretation and translation services
 - Promote migrant-sensitive health policies; equitable access to health promotion, disease prevention and care for migrants; and advocate for bilateral and multilateral cooperation on migrants' health
 - Urge countries of origin and destination to establish and strengthen pre-departure and post-arrival process to better prepare migrants for integration at work and in the community

- b. The GCM should also underscore that migrants should be empowered and seen as agents of development. Migrants should be recognized and acknowledged for their positive contribution to the development of countries of origin and destination.
- Facilitate greater labour mobility and social and financial inclusion of migrants, as well as draw on existing international instruments
 - Facilitate not only financial but highlight the social remittances of migrants
 - Foster reciprocity and encourage universal social security and portability of earned benefits
- c. The GCM should facilitate and expand existing regular pathways of migration, and address the pitfalls of irregular labour migration.
- Multiple vulnerabilities of migrants should be addressed with national policies, laws and capacity building of key actors to protect migrants, including positive integration between migrants and the local population
 - Ensure freedom of movement of workers and migrants with guarantees of social protection
 - Allocation of financial resources to state and non-state actors to research, design and implement migration policies
 - States to consider regularizing and professionalizing traditional and undervalued sectors including domestic and care work

Thank you.