

PHILIPPINES

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

4-6 December, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

Action Group No. 5 - Regional Dimension Delivered by

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**Mister Chairman,
(Salutations)**

Participating in this Action Group on Regional dimension is very timely because the ASEAN summit which the Philippines, as Chair for 2017, hosted just last month produced a milestone document which we believe is worth sharing as a regional good practice to inform the Global Compact on Migration preparatory process.

I refer to the *ASEAN Consensus on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers* (ASEAN Consensus) which establishes a framework for cooperation on migrant workers by ASEAN member states. Ten years in the making, it follows the Cebu Declaration or the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of their Families.

The ASEAN Consensus acknowledges the legitimate concerns of ASEAN Member States as well as the need to adopt appropriate migration policies within their jurisdiction, including those related to labour intermediaries. It embodies a set of obligation of ASEAN Member States (AMS) to implement the purposes and commitments under the Cebu Declaration, and confirms the shared and balanced responsibilities of AMS to protect and promote the rights of migrant workers and their families in the entire migration process.

Through the ASEAN Committee on Migrant Workers or ACMW, a follow up, implementation and review mechanism is put in place.

Recommendations:

1. The Compact should encourage and support regional and sub-regional groups or processes to adopt a framework for cooperation that will protect and promote the rights of migrants within their region.

2. The framework should be supported by an Action Plan for implementation.
3. A monitoring, reporting and review mechanism must be in place to see to the implementation of the cooperation framework and action plan.
4. There must be sharing of good practices, including those from existing bilateral engagements.

Member States of regional groups and processes could collaborate and partner with other regional groups and learn from each other's experience. They can also seek the technical assistance and advice of relevant international organizations. And they should involve multi-stakeholders from the civil society, workers group, private sector and academia, among others from their region.

Indeed, regional institutions and agreements can play a transformative role for facilitating a safe, orderly and regular migration.

Thank you.