

Sixth Informal Thematic Session on Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Statement by Nepal at Panel 2: Decent work and labour mobility

Thank you, Mr. Moderator!

Nepal acknowledges and supports the statement delivered by Bangladesh as one the chairs of Thematic Areas Working Group of the Colombo Process.

Economic migration for salaried jobs has become a new reality of today for people in many countries. We all acknowledge that migrant workers play an important role in the development of destination, transit and origin countries.

As agents of economic growth and development in host and origin societies, migrant workers deserve to be empowered throughout the migration cycle to enhance their capacity to contribute more and become winners in the process.

We need to create synergy and complementarity of migration governance at the national, bilateral, regional and international levels to make the world of work more inclusive and productive.

Regional consultative processes on migration such as the Colombo Process of which Nepal is the current chair should be strengthened to work as a bridge between the national/bilateral and global governance of migration. Regional and sub-regional forums on migration can work in harmonization of policies and regulations in the countries of destination and origin, facilitate regional and bilateral dialogues for reforms in labour mobility, provide platform for sharing market trends and updates for informed choice on the labour corridors and launch collaborative initiatives in sharing successful experiences and best practices.

The low and semi-skilled workers are the ones who are often forced to pay the highest amount of recruitment fee by proportion. This unacceptable situation should be replaced by employer pay model of recruitment.

A universal policy of zero tolerance of fraudulent practices in migrant labour employment must be ensured as it most severely affects the poorest and most vulnerable segments of migrant labour.

It is necessary to bring the recruitment intermediaries under full regulatory control through harmonization of their operational modalities in the origin and destination countries. Fair and ethical recruitment becomes a reality when international benchmarks are applied to all deals in migrant recruitment. Training and orientation

of the migrants in the entire migration cycle, including prior learning, should be encouraged by building capacity, wherever necessary.

Migrant women workers in domestic and care-giving work need special attention. These are some of the areas where informality holds sway, and vulnerability are more pronounced than elsewhere. These sectors of migrant employment must be brought under the domestic regulation of the destination country, and equal treatment, including inclusive social security protection provided to migrant workers.

In conclusion, let me share with this august gathering that the Colombo Process is in the process of finalizing its joint recommendations to the GCM with a view to submitting it for inclusion in due course of time.

Thank you!