

Business – Government Dialogue
Follow up to the 13th Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Summit

20 May 2021 – 14:00-16:00 (ICT Bangkok) - Zoom

The Business Advisory Group on migration¹, housed at the International Organisation of Employers (IOE), hosts together with the Republic of Indonesia a dialogue between the private sector and governments on skills mobility with the aim to strengthening the much-needed cooperation between representative employers and governments in crafting migration policies that respond to today's labour market realities. Based on the 2020 Asian employers' organizations' call to policymakers for stronger dialogue on migration related issues², this online exchange will be key as both stakeholders are identifying solutions towards economic recovery.

Why should Asian employers and governments take part in the dialogue?

This dialogue will serve businesses as it provides them a direct access to governments to share best practices, challenges and perspectives on accessing and recruiting foreign skills, as border are reopening. It will also serve governments, while reviewing migration regulatory frameworks aligned with the Global Compact for Migration (GCM)³. Adopted in December 2018 by the United Nations General Assembly, the GCM is an instrument that sets a framework for the governance of safe, orderly and regular migration.

What are employers' priorities on migration?

The Business Advisory Group on migration, a global network of employers' organizations and businesses, provides business outlook on three priorities issues on labour migration governance:

1. Flexible, transparent, and predictable labour mobility frameworks that respond to labour market needs
2. Regulatory frameworks that promote and ensure responsible recruitment of foreign workers
3. Improved systems for identification, recognition, and development of skills to enhance business access to foreign skills

Leveraging emerging technologies is promoted across these three thematic areas to improve migration governance.

Why does the GCM matter for employers?

Through the Business Advisory Group on migration, employers' priorities were raised at the GCM negotiations and are reflected in the following GCM objectives:

- ➔ Objective 5: Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration
- ➔ Objective 6: Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work
- ➔ Objective 18: Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences

As governments are implementing the GCM, employers have a key role to play to bring forward business recommendations to address the challenges associated with tomorrow's needs for skills.

Employers and Governments: Join the dialogue for Asia!

As all stakeholders are adapting to new economic realities, it is now high time for stronger collaboration between governments and the private sector on labour migration issues. Join the dialogue and contribute to improving the narrative on migration.

¹ Information on the Business Advisory Group on migration: www.business-migration.org

² Link to the Asian Employers' organisations call to policymakers: "[Migration policies in view of changing employment landscape](#)", 2020

³ Link to the GCM: https://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/73/195

Program

Date: Thursday, 20 May 2021, 9:00am -11:00am (CET) / 14:00pm -16:00pm (ICT)

Online platform: Click [here](#) to join the Zoom meeting

Theme: **Business Perspectives on Skills Mobility: A roadmap to recovery. Focus on Asia**

Introduction and scene setting

- **Stephanie Winet**, Head of Stakeholders Engagement, IOE
- **Eva Trisiana**, Secretary to the Directorate General of Labour Placement Development and Job Opportunities Expansion, Ministry of Manpower, Indonesia
- **Siriwan Romchatthong**, Secretary-General of ASEAN Confederation of Employers (ACE) and of Employers Confederation of Thailand (ECOT)

What does Skills Mobility mean for business? A discussion on effective policies and challenges

Moderated by Mr. Mark Buchanan, Regional Partner, APAC, Fragomen

- **Dr Arif Dowla**, Managing Director, ACI Group, Bangladesh
- **Dr Shahida M Mohamed**, Vice President, National Federation of Maldivian Employers (NFME)
- **Cheryl L. Datec**, Head, Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO), Philippines

Open discussion

Responsible recruitment of foreign workers: what does an effective regulatory framework look like?

Moderated by Jochem de Boer, Global Public Affairs Manager, World Employment Confederation

- **Greg Chen**, CEO, PT. Outsource Indonesia / Executive Board Member, APINDO
- **Sam Haggag**, Country Manager – ManpowerGroup, Malaysia
- **Rendra Setiawan**, Act. Director Workers Placement Overseas, Ministry of Manpower, Indonesia

Open discussion

Skills assessment, recognition and development: a skills agenda aligned with migration policies

Moderated by Vijay Padate, Director General, Employers' Federation of India

- **Dasun Kodithuwakku**, Manager Information Technology and Specialist Work Study of the Employers' Federation of Ceylon
- **Bunhak An**, Chairman of Manpower Association of Cambodia and Member of CAMFEBA
- **Hou Vuthy**, Secretary of State of Ministry of labour and Vocational Training, Cambodia
- **Vasanthan Balasubramaniam**, Senior Assistant Secretary Ministry of Labour, Sri Lanka

Open discussion

Conclusion