

## Consultation on Labour Migration

Advancing resilient, inclusive and sustainable policies and institutions in India

*Promoting Decent Work for All*

28 - 29 July 2022

Silver Oak, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi- 110003

### PROVISIONAL AGENDA

#### Day 1: 28 July 2022

9.00 – 9.30 AM	<b>Registration and Welcome Tea</b>
9.30 – 10.30 AM	<p><b>INAUGURAL SESSION:</b></p> <p><b>Address by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ms. Chihoko Asada-Miyakawa, Assistant Director General and Regional Director, ILO office for Asia and the Pacific</li> <li>▪ Mr. Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator in India</li> <li>▪ Dr. A. Didar Singh, Ex-Secretary, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, and Advisor to All India Organisation of Employers on Migration</li> <li>▪ Mr. Hiranmay Pandya, Workers' Representative, President, Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh</li> <li>▪ Mr. Sunil Barthwal, Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment</li> <li>▪ Dr. Ausaf Sayeed, Secretary (CPV&amp;OIA), Ministry of External Affairs</li> <li>▪ <b>Chief Guest Address by</b> Mr. Bhupender Yadav, Honourable Minister for Labour and Employment &amp; Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India</li> </ul> <p><b>Session Chair:</b> Ms. Dagmar Walter, Director, ILO Decent Work Team for South Asia and Country Office for India</p>
10:30 – 10:45 AM	<b>TEA BREAK</b>
10:45 – 12.00 PM	<b>Migrant's voice - vox populi video</b>

	<p><b>SESSION 1: Exploring new labour migration corridors</b></p> <p><b>Session Brief:</b>  <i>The speakers in this session will speak on the development of new labour migration corridors with India. Speakers from countries of destination will highlight recent regulatory and policy changes to better govern labour migration.</i></p> <p><i>Presentations will highlight skills requirements, social protection measures and bilateral labour migration agreements recently negotiated.</i></p> <p><i>Speakers will have the opportunity to discuss how the policy landscape in new labour migration corridors will affect educational and skill development investments, such as those on language or specific skills – sought in countries of destination.</i></p> <p><b>Session Moderator:</b> Mr. Gabriel Bordado, Skills Specialist, ILO DWT/CO New Delhi</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mr. Anurag Bhushan, Joint Secretary, OIA-I, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India</li> <li>▪ Ms. Gonda Ai, Counsellor in Economic Section, Embassy of Japan, India</li> <li>▪ Dr. E. Gangadhar, Addl. Commissioner of Labour, Government of Telangana</li> <li>▪ Mr. Manvesh Singh Sidhu, I.A.S, Secretary Labour, Government of Punjab (<i>tentative</i>)</li> <li>▪ Ms. Adriana Radu, Member, Concordia Employers' Confederation, Romania</li> <li>▪ Ms. Mariko Ouchi, Senior Social Protection Specialist, ILO DWT/CO New Delhi</li> </ul>
12:00-1:30 PM	<p><b>SESSION 2: Looking forward in the existing labour migration corridors</b></p> <p><b>Session Brief:</b>  <i>Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) is still the largest destination region for Indian migrant workers, with over 9 million workers. This session will present the labour market emerging trends and reforms in the GCC. Speakers will highlight the government, employers' and workers' perspectives in GCC countries. The session will also take into consideration State perspectives from India.</i></p> <p><i>Speakers will discuss how existing labour migration corridors are changing and what trends India should be following in order to foresee future employment opportunities for Indian nationals.</i></p> <p><b>Session Moderator:</b> Dr Surabhi Singh, Chief Administrative Officer, India Centre for Migration, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dr. Krishna Kumar Dwivedi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India</li> <li>▪ Mr. Venu Rajamony, Officer on Special Duty - External Cooperation, Government of Kerala</li> <li>▪ Ms. Haya Alkubasi, Head, Labor Migration Section, Ministry of Labour, State of</li> </ul>

	<p>Qatar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mr. Shamim Akhtar, Deputy Labour Commissioner, Government of Uttar Pradesh</li> <li>▪ Mr. V.S Abdulkareem, President, Indian Personnel Export Promotion Council</li> <li>▪ Mr. Hassan Al-Halwachi, Deputy Secretary-General, Head of the Migrant Workers Committee, General Federation of Bahrain Trade Unions</li> <li>▪ Mr. Ryszard Cholewinski, Senior Migration Specialist, ILO Regional Office, Arab States/DWT-Beirut</li> </ul>
1.30 – 2:30 PM	<b>LUNCH</b>
2.30 – 4.00 PM	<p><b>SESSION 3: Regional, Interregional and Global perspectives – sharing lessons learned and good practices</b></p> <p><b>Session Brief:</b>  <i>This session will highlight the lessons learned in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, with reference also to the measures and approaches taken by countries of origin to reintegrate migrant workers in their labour markets. It will highlight effective practices for promoting fair recruitment and addressing gender issues and non-payment of wages.</i></p> <p><i>Speakers will also focus on new developments on skills and qualification recognition systems that facilitate better job matching opportunities.</i></p> <p><i>The session will also build upon the progress being made in the framework of regional cooperation mechanisms (e.g. by sharing good practices from ASEAN) and global forums (including the International Migration Review Forum) – to explore how India can effectively engage and follow-up on such processes and mechanisms.</i></p> <p><b>Session Moderator:</b> Mr. Nilim Baruah, Senior Migration Specialist for Asia and the Pacific, ILO DWT, Bangkok</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Atty Francis Ron De Guzman, Department of Migrant Workers, Government of the Philippines</li> <li>▪ Mr. K.L.H.K Wijeratne, Deputy General Manager – Foreign Relations, Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment, Government of Sri Lanka</li> <li>▪ Mr. Md Zahidul Islam, Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Expatriates’ Welfare and Overseas Employment, Government of Bangladesh</li> <li>▪ Mr. Rafeek Ravuthar, Executive Director, Centre for Indian Migrant Studies</li> <li>▪ Mr. Paul Tacon, Specialist Labour Migration, MIGRANT, ILO HQ, Geneva</li> </ul>
4:00 – 4:15 PM	<b>TEA BREAK</b>
4:15 – 5:45 PM	<b>SESSION 4: Partnerships and Collaboration for effective governance of labour migration</b>

	<p><b>Session Brief:</b>  <i>The session will discuss the importance of partnerships to promote effective labour migration governance. Presentations will highlight the need for comprehensive and integrated approaches to facilitate fair, safe, orderly and regular labour migration. Speakers will share examples of existing partnerships and collaborations and lessons learnt as well as explore possibilities for future collaborations.</i></p> <p><b>Session Moderator:</b> Mr. Shabari Nair, Migration Specialist, ILO DWT/CO New Delhi</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ International Centre for Migration and Policy Development (TBC)</li> <li>▪ Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (TBC)</li> <li>▪ Sanjay Awasthi, Head of Office, International Organization for Migration</li> <li>▪ Ms. Sanya Seth, Programme Lead, UN Women</li> <li>▪ Dr. Sonia George, General Secretary, Self Employed Women's Association, Kerala</li> <li>▪ Mr. Arvind Francis, Executive Director, All India Organisation of Employers</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussants:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prof Kailash Chandra Das, International Institute for Population Sciences</li> <li>▪ Mr. Bheem Reddy, President, Emigrants Welfare Forum</li> </ul>
5:45 – 6:00 PM	<p><b>Closing comments and transition to Day–2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mr. Satoshi Sasaki, Deputy Director, ILO Decent Work Team for South Asia and Country Office for India</li> </ul>

**Day 2: 29 July 2022**

9:00 – 9:30 AM	<p><b>Welcome and context setting – Ms. Ruchira Chandra, National Programme Officer, ILO DWT/CO, New Delhi</b></p> <p><b>Presentation on internal migration – Mr. Shabari Nair, Migration Specialist, ILO DWT/CO New Delhi</b></p>
9:30 – 10:45 AM	<p><b>SESSION 5: High Level Panel – Discussing India’s Internal Labour Migration Landscape</b></p> <p><b>Session Brief:</b>  <i>Migrant workers make essential development contributions to the economic and socio-cultural landscape of a nation. In this session, the panel will present an overview of the internal labour migration landscape in India and broadly assess the impact of covid-19 on labour migration. The speakers in this session will observe new corridor-based movements, existing skill gaps, employment trends, and assess the prospective challenges and opportunities while making a case for well-governed labour migration as a positive force for sustainable development.</i></p> <p><b>Session Moderator:</b> Mr. Rajiv Khandelwal, Founder and Executive Director, Aajeevika Bureau</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India (TBC)</li> <li>▪ Mr. Shishir Jaipuria, President, All India Organisation of Employers</li> <li>▪ Mr. Chandra Prakash Singh, Focal point Workers’ Information and Support Centre, Bihar, Indian National Trade Union Congress</li> <li>▪ Mr. Prawin Kumar Toppo, Principal Secretary, Department of Labour, Employment, Training and Skill Development, Government of Jharkhand</li> <li>▪ Mr. S.C Yadav, Additional Labour Commissioner, Government of N.C.T of Delhi</li> <li>▪ Dr. Ravi Srivastava, Director, Centre for Employment Studies, Institute for Human Development</li> </ul>
10:45 – 11:00 AM	<b>TEA BREAK</b>
11:00 – 12:30 PM	<p><b>SESSION 6: Policy visions for labour migration in India</b></p> <p><b>Session Brief:</b>  <i>Labour migration policy propositions must bring about substantial change in the working and living conditions of India’s labour migrant workers. In this session, panelists will engage in context-setting through the ‘lived experiences’ of migrant workers including access to social protection, Occupational Safety and Health, and sectoral policy challenges and opportunities.</i></p> <p><i>Speakers will anchor their discussions in ILO’s five policy visions in developing an effective policy framework, and thereon, address new contributors such as technology, effective data-management and innovation trends.</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Session Moderator:</b> Ms. Aya Matsuura, Gender Specialist, ILO DWT/CO New Delhi</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dr. S.K Sasikumar- Former Senior Fellow- V.V.Giri National Labour Institute, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India</li> <li>▪ Mr. Pradeep Bhargava, Co- Chairman- IR Committee, CII &amp; Former President-EFI</li> <li>▪ Mr. Amitav Guha, National Secretary, Centre for Indian Trade Unions</li> <li>▪ Ms. Chithra Arumugam, Principal Secretary Labour Directorate, Government of Odisha</li> <li>▪ Mr. Shailendra Pol, Deputy Commissioner, Labour, Government of Maharashtra</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussant:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dr. Nivedita Haran I.A.S (Retd.) Co-Chairperson-Advisory Committee, Road map for developing a policy framework for the inclusion of internal migrant workers in India</li> </ul>
12:30 – 1:30 PM	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>
1:30 – 1:45 PM	<b><i>Labour Migrant Voices</i></b>
1:45 – 2:45 PM	<p><b>SESSION 7: Internal labour migration Experiences in Asia</b></p> <p><b>Session Brief:</b></p> <p><i>The COVID-19 pandemic has posed severe challenges for migrant workers, their access to decent work and overall labour migration governance. In this session, panelists will present the impact of the coronavirus on migrant workers and how nations pivoted policymaking to support resilient migration-based governance mechanisms.</i></p> <p><i>The session will bring forth key advancements in labour migration governance, good-practices and overall key learnings that are adaptable to nations in the region.</i></p> <p><b>Session Moderator:</b> Dr Benoy Peter, Executive Director, Centre for Migration and Inclusive Development</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Professor Tasneem Siddiqui, Founding Chair, Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit, Bangladesh</li> <li>▪ Mr. Baoshan Deng, Former ILO Officer, China</li> <li>▪ Mr. Ashif Shaikh, Executive Director, Jan Sahas</li> <li>▪ Ms. Kanika Mahajan, Centre for Economic Data and Analysis, Ashoka University</li> <li>▪ Mr. S.M Fahimuddin Pasha, Senior Officer, International Trade Union</li> </ul>

	<p>Confederation - Asia Pacific</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ms. Shilpa Kumar, Partner, Omidyar Network India</li> </ul>
2:45 – 4:00 PM	<p><b>SESSION 8: A ‘whole of nation’ approach to effective labour migration governance in India</b></p> <p><b>Session Brief:</b>  <i>In this session, panelists will build on previous discussions and highlight the importance of collaborative institutional-based strategies to address labour migration challenges. The session will focus on the necessity for comprehensive partnerships that go-beyond traditional settings to catalyze resilient, inclusive and sustainable labour migration governance in India.</i></p> <p><b>Session Moderator:</b> Mr. Nilim Baruah, Senior Migration Specialist for Asia and the Pacific, ILO DWT, Bangkok</p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ministry of Labour and Employment (TBC)</li> <li>▪ Mr. D. Lal, Additional Secretary, Labour &amp; Skills department, Government Secretariat, Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram</li> <li>▪ Dr. Saurabh Garg, CEO-Unique Identification Authority of India</li> <li>▪ Mr. Satish Anand-Member, AIOE and President- HR, Hindalco Industries</li> <li>▪ Ms. Christine Nathan, Member of the Working Committee, Hind Mazdoor Sabha</li> <li>▪ Professor Binod Khadria, Former Professor of Economics and International Migration, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi</li> </ul>
4:00 – 4:20 PM	<p><b>Closing and vote of thanks</b></p> <p>Summing up - Deputy Director, ILO DWT/CO New Delhi</p> <p>Closing remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dr. Shashank Goel, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India</li> <li>- Regional Director/ Director ILO DWT/CO New Delhi</li> </ul>
4:20 PM	<b>High Tea</b>