



## Agenda

### Inter-Regional Experts Forum on Skills and Migration in the South Asia – Middle East Corridor

25-26 July 2017

Venue: Long Champ Hall, The Taj Mahal Hotel, 1 Mansingh Road, New Delhi

DAY 1: Tuesday 25 July 2017			
Time	Agenda Item		Session Objectives
9:00	<b>Registration</b>		
9:30	<p><b>Inaugural Session</b></p> <p><b>Chief Guest:</b> Mr. Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Honourable Minister, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Welcome Remarks:</b> Ms Panudda Boonpala, Director, ILO Decent Work Team for South Asia and Country Office for India</li> <li>• <b>Opening Remarks:</b> Dr. K.P. Krishnan, Secretary, MSDE</li> <li>• <b>Special Address:</b> Mr. Dhyaneswar M. Mulay, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs</li> <li>• <b>Keynote Address:</b> Ms Deborah Greenfield, Deputy Director-General, ILO Geneva</li> <li>• <b>Chief Guest:</b> Mr. Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Skills Development and Entrepreneurship</li> <li>• <b>Vote of Thanks:</b> Mr. Sher Verick, Deputy Director, ILO Decent Work Team for South Asia and Country Office for India</li> </ul>		<p>To welcome dignitaries and participants, and to frame the theme and the forum within national, regional and global priorities.</p> <p>MC: ILO</p>
10:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
10:45	<p><b>Session 1:</b> Setting the scene: perspectives from the global and regional levels</p>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Dr. Sunita Chhibba, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Director-General, National Skill Development Agency, Government of India</p> <p><b>Presentations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Strengthening skills recognition systems: key findings from global analysis</i> – Mr. Max Tunon, Migration Specialist, ILO Decent Work Team for South Asia</li> <li>• <i>Skills recognition for migrant workers – a regional and national perspective</i> – Mr. Mudiyansele</li> </ul>	<p>To present recent ILO global analysis on skills recognition systems; and ongoing cooperation in this area under the regional consultative processes on migration.</p>



		<p>Wansekara, Additional General Manager, Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment and Chair of the Colombo Process Working Group on Skills</p> <p><b>Plenary discussion / Q&amp;A</b></p>	
11:30	<p><b>Session 2:</b> Building on evidence: Research findings</p>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Mr. Umesh Upadhyaya, Director, Trade Union Policy Institute, Nepal</p> <p><b>Presentations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Impact of skills training on Nepali workers going to the GCC</i> – Ms Barbara Weyermann, Programme Manager, SDC, Nepal</li> <li>• <i>Prevailing attitudes towards the skills of Bangladeshi construction workers in Saudi Arabia</i> – Mr. Sarat Das, IOM Chief of Mission for Bangladesh and Special Envoy to India</li> <li>• <i>Employment opportunities for migrants returning to India and Nepal</i> – Mr. Avinash Kumar, Centre for Informal Sector and Labour Studies, JNU and Ms Niyama Rai, ILO Nepal</li> </ul> <p><b>Plenary discussion / Q&amp;A</b></p>	<p>To present key findings of research on the impact of skills training, certification and recognition on employment opportunities, wages and working conditions – in destination countries and on return home. The purpose of this session is to defend or upend some of the assumptions and misconceptions regarding skilling of migrant workers, so that policies and programmes are more evidence-based.</p>
13:00	<b>Lunch</b>		
14:15	<p><b>Session 3:</b> Finding solutions: Sharing experiences</p>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Md. Shujayet Ullah, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare &amp; Overseas Employment, Bangladesh</p> <p><b>Presentations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Strategic alignment of skills training in construction</i> – Mr. Raaj Singh, Managing Director, Snahe Skills Training, UAE</li> <li>• <i>Skills training and recognition across borders for domestic workers</i>, Ms Marie-Jose Tayah, Regional Coordinator for MENA, International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF); and Ms Denise McGinty, General Manager, Housekeeping Co., UAE</li> <li>• <i>India's International Skilling Centres – inter-ministerial and private sector cooperation</i> – Government of India, Mr. Rajesh Agarwal, Joint Secretary, MSDE</li> </ul>	<p>To highlight specific issues and challenges in the skilling and skills recognition of migrant workers – particularly in construction and domestic work – and some of the measures and models that could be introduced to address these challenges.</p>



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		<b>Plenary discussion / Q&amp;A</b>	
15:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
16:00	<b>Session 4:</b> The future is now: assessing and forecasting labour market needs	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Mr. Hani Sliman Mfleh Al, Sawalah, Human Resources Director, Ministry of Labour, Jordan</p> <p><b>Presentations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Methods for improving the collection and sharing of labour market information</i> –Mr. Kinan Albahnasi, Project Manager, Innovations in Labour Market Governance, ILO, UAE</li> <li>• <i>The future of work: Skills and migration in the Middle East</i> – Mr. Froilan Malit, independent consultant, UAE</li> </ul> <p><b>Plenary discussion / Q&amp;A</b></p>	To present observations on the current and future demand for migrant labour at different skills levels. To document considerations for how to assess changing demand and adapt accordingly.
17:30	<b>Close of Day 1</b>		
19:00	<b>Dinner Reception</b> hosted by Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (by invitation only) Venue: “Diwan-I-am and Diwan-I-Khas” Halls.		
<b>DAY 2: Wednesday 26 July 2017</b>			
<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>		
9:00	<b>Session 5:</b> A common agenda: benchmarking qualifications	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Ms Rita Dhital, Director, SAARC Secretariat</p> <p><b>Presentations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework</i> – Dr. Mega Santoso, Vice-Chair of the AQRFC Committee, ASEAN Secretariat</li> <li>• <i>Policy options for a common reference tool for migrant workers from South Asia</i> – Mr. Gabriel Bordado, Senior Skills Specialist, ILO Decent Work Team for South Asia</li> </ul> <p><b>Plenary discussion / Q&amp;A</b></p>	To determine whether there is sufficient common interest in the development of a tool for benchmarking qualifications across countries; and to propose policy options and collect feedback on the necessary steps, building on experiences, including from the ASEAN region.
10:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
11:00	<b>Session 6:</b> Ways forward	<p><b>Chair:</b> Dr. K.P. Krishnan, Secretary of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India</p> <p><b>Summary</b> by rapporteurs of key issues raised and recommendations on the way forward</p>	To present a summary of the discussions, and gather feedback from the countries and the Chair on the conclusions, recommendations and follow up steps for national,



		<p><b>Next Steps:</b> Reflections from country representatives</p> <p><b>Way Forward and Chair's Remarks:</b> Dr. K. P. Krishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India</p>	bilateral, regional cooperation.
12:15	<b>Lunch</b>		
13:45	<b>Field visits</b>	Skills training centres	