

CONCEPT NOTE

Experts Meeting: Piloting Mutual Recognition of Skills (MRS) on
Logistics/Transport Skills Area
3 - 5 September 2019
at ILO Regional Office, Bangkok, Thailand

A. BACKGROUND

All ASEAN Member States exert ongoing effort to accelerate the integration of the ASEAN in economic priority sectors to maximize potentials gains for the region. There were eleven priority chosen for their comparative advantage in natural resource endowments, labour skills, cost competitiveness, and value-added contribution to ASEAN Economy Community. In 2006, ASEAN Economic Ministers decided ***the logistics sector as the twelfth priority sector in ASEAN*** for accelerated economic integration under AEC. The Roadmap for the integration of logistics services was adopted in 2007. It aims to create an ASEAN single market by strengthening ASEAN economic integration through liberalization and facilitation measures in the area of logistics services and to support the establishment and enhance the competitiveness of an ASEAN production base through the creation of an integrated ASEAN logistics environment.

Since 2014 ILO has facilitated a series of regional and national consultation meetings to support the implementation of Mutual Recognition of Skills (MRS) for AEC 2015 and beyond with the support of the Government of the Republic of Korea. The implementation of MRS has further facilitated the sharing of knowledge and experience, and the enhancement of technical cooperation among AMS.

Building on the efforts in preparing for MRS in the past years, the MRS has come to a critical juncture. AMS has made significantly progress at the ASEAN level after efforts in several years to link the MRS with AQRF as well as other initiatives from the theory to the planning. The benefits of the MRS implementation outweighs the costs including the challenges.

In July 2018, the ILO/Korea Partnership Programme and the ILO's TRIANGLE in ASEAN programme¹, were the key partners providing vital funding support for the organization of the 4th RSTWG meeting in Philippines 10-11 July 2018. The meeting discussed on the next steps for taking the MRS programme forward, including a draft 'Roadmap for the Implementation of MRS' and a proposal for pilot implementation of MRS. The discussion on the pilot implementation was include the identification of the participating pilot countries (in two sets of corridors); and selection of sectors and occupations.

The meeting agreed to follow the Roadmap to Mutual Recognition of Skills which the sending member states will collaborate with the receiving member states to working through the steps for skill recognition. Based on the bilateral and trilateral discussions, the pilot implementation of MRS, as guided by the roadmap, is agreed and now be initiated. Thailand agreed to participate in the MRS pilot implementation in collaboration with CLM countries in the selected skill areas. ***Also, there was agreed the collaboration between Thailand, Vietnam, and the Philippines with logistic skills development as the skills area for the mutual recognition process through the facilitation of the ILO/Korea Partnership Programme.***

¹ Funded by Governments of Australia and Canada.

The forthcoming Experts Meeting on 3- 5 September 2019 will be the preliminary discussion of the ideas, objectives and workplan to be pursued in the project timeframe.

PARTICIPANTS:

Collaborating agencies and institutions include:

- Ministry of Labour, Thailand (MOL), Department of Skills Development (DSD)
- Thailand Professional Qualifications Institute (TPQI)
- Ministry of Labour, Invalids – Social Affairs, Vietnam (MOLISA), Department of Vocational Education Training (DVET)
- Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, Philippines (TESDA)
- Industrial Representatives from each country

One representative from above organizations in each country --Thailand, Philippines and Vietnam would be the Skills Focal Points. One another representative from relevant industrial on logistics and Transport will also be invited. It is expected that the Skills Focal Points are familiar with skills/competency standards, training and certifications in Logistics/Transport and MRS/AQRF initiatives.

B. OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the Experts Meeting – Piloting Mutual Recognition of Skills (MRS) on Logistics/Transport Skills Area are to:

- Identify skills area and explore the policy options and the best practices for the pilot implementation of MRS on Logistics/ Transport among Thailand, Philippines, and Vietnam.
- Share preliminary benchmarking of skills/competency standards among/between each country's existing standards in the area of logistics and Transport.
- Explore ways forward and necessary action and collaboration to be taken by parties, stakeholders and organization in relation to the up-scaling of MRS implementation on Logistics/ Transport.

C. EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- Identified skills area for mapping and benchmarking on logistic/Transport for each country (Thailand, the Philippines, Vietnam).
- Drafted action plan of the pilot implementation of MRS Logistics/Transport and tentative timeframe in 2019-2020 as well as platform to use for mapping and benchmarking of skills area in each country.

D. PROPOSED DATES AND PLACES

Date of meeting: 3 – 5 September 2019
 Venue: ILO Regional Office, UNESCAP Building
 Rajdamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok, Thailand

E. AGENDA

Day 1	
	Opening session
	Session 1: Overview and objectives of the meeting
	Session 2: MRS Roadmap on Logistics/Transport
	Session 3: Country presentations on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the overview of the logistics and transport sector, and skills and labour demands in the sector (industry reps) current skills policy and existing framework on their Logistics/Transport sector
	Session 4: Sharing of preliminary analyses and observation on comparability of skills/competency standards
Day 2	
	Session 5: Challenges and opportunities of the pilot implementation of MRS on Logistics/ Transport sector – country perspective, industry perspective etc.
	Session 6: Draft action plan and timeframe
	Session 7: Presentation of Draft Action Plan
Day 3	
	Site visit (to be confirmed by DSD Thailand)