



## Recommendations from Thailand National Tripartite Preparatory Workshop

### 15th ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour

#### “Resumption of Labour Migration and Regional Cooperation”

19 September 2022

#### Sub theme 1 “Economic Recovery and Labour Migration”

1. Promote job-rich, inclusive, sustainable economic growth and recovery to improve availability of employment in countries of origin and destination to reduce adverse drivers of labour migration.
2. Re-negotiate Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) or Bilateral Labour Agreements (BLAs) with countries of destination to resume labour migration and demand better wages, conditions of work, health care and social protection coverage, maternity and child rights protections including rights to basic education and health, access to justice for migrant workers, and non-discrimination in health checks or hiring for women, LGBTQIA+ workers and migrants with disabilities.
3. Streamline and simplify migration processes to make regular migration channels attractive and accessible for migrant workers, taking into account local contexts such as border employment. Remove some administrative requirements including 90-day reporting and 30-day reporting (for the case of Section 64), and extend validity of related documents particularly work permits.
4. Repeal all gender-based restrictions on labour migration. Ensure equal opportunities for women, LGBTQIA+, and migrants with disabilities. Change the retirement age for migrant workers from 55 to 60 years of age.
5. Negotiate with countries of destination to open recruitment of migrant workers for semi-skilled jobs and include skills matching in the recruitment process.
6. Give migrant workers access to skills training and skills recognition including certification, before migration, during employment and upon return, including recognition of prior learning.

7. Expand services provided to migrant workers to assist with return and reintegration, including skills recognition and job matching, including to women, LGBTQIA+ and returnees with disabilities. Ensure access to social protection during employment and upon return.
8. Facilitate financial inclusion of migrant workers before migration, during employment and upon return by giving them access to bank accounts and other financial services, including awareness-raising and training on financial management.

**Sub theme 2 “Rights protection to maximize development impacts of labour migration”**

9. Improve or renegotiate MOUs that enable simple and efficient procedures as well as supporting zero recruitment costs for migrant workers in countries of origin and destination.
10. Develop standard operational procedures on how to regulate recruitment agencies, and conduct regular, random monitoring and inspection visits, and duly apply sanctions for recruitment related violations. Establish an effective recruitment-related complaint channel with time-bound procedures and efficient tracking system.
11. Put in place protection for both regular and irregular migrant workers against intimidation during complaints procedures. Ensure effective complaint tracking system and access to remedy. Promote migrant workers’ understanding on access to justice via predeparture and post arrival trainings. Promote interagency collaboration on migrant worker’s access to justice.
12. Set up or improve social protection schemes and/or migrant welfare funds to protect migrant workers against risks such as delayed deployment, repatriation, and need for subsistence and legal aid in destination. These mechanisms can also offer subsidised loans to migrant workers.
13. Work towards portability of social protection with an initial aim of exporting cash benefits once eligibility is established.



14. Support labour attaché and consular support services to migrant workers through embassies in countries of destination. Establish contacts with, and give support to, organizations providing legal support and shelter for migrant workers.
15. Promote migrant workers' freedom of association in countries of origin and destination in accordance with ILO Convention 87 and 98.