

Consultation of Senior Labour Officials for the Development of Regional labour Migration Policy Framework and Action Programme for CARICOM 29-30 July, 2025 (Virtual)

AGENDA

Day 1: Tuesday 29 July 2025

10:00 AM - 10:20 AM Opening session and Introductions

Welcome Remarks

Mr. Sherwin Toyne-Stephenson, Programme Manager, Directorate of Human and Social Development ; Representative of the Caribbean Community Secretariat

Introductory Remarks

Mr. Abdelmalik Muhummed, Employment Specialist, (on behalf of Director, ILO Office for the Caribbean)

Ms. Gloria Joseph, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Public Service Reform, Social Partnership, Entrepreneurship & Small Business Development, Dominica; Representative of Member States

10:25 AM- 11:25 AM Session 1: Advancing Regional Mobility- CSME Free-Movement Update & Overview of the Draft CARICOM Migration Policy Framework

Presentation by CARICOM Secretariat on the current situation of free movement of Community Nationals, and presentation of the draft regional migration policy framework, its key pillars- including Labour Migration, and status of process for its development.

CSME Free-Movement Update: Ms. Wanya Illes, Deputy Programme Manager, Free Movement and Labour, CARICOM Secretariat

Overview of the Draft CARICOM Migration Policy Framework: Mr. Sherwin Toyne-Stephenson, Programme Manager, Directorate of Human and Social Development

11:25 AM- 12:00 PM Session 2: Key Findings of the CARICOM Labour Market Assessment- Labour Market Characteristics

Presentation by expert consultant on the assessment's methodology, key findings and recommendations on labour force size, unemployment rates, and employment patterns by sector, skill level and informality—drawing on regional estimates and national data; and examination of climate-change vulnerability implications.

Presenter: Mr. Richard Horne, Lead Consultant, EMPSTAT Ltd.

Discussion and interactive feedback: <https://app.sli.do/event/hLSR9i8x8N2pAjBLmbpL6G>

Moderated Q&A and use of the online application (SLIDO) for feedback: Participants will be invited to identify challenges/ opportunities for CARICOM-level collaboration on cross-cutting issues like youth unemployment, informality and climate risks; recommend ways to bolster national labour market information systems; develop data-sharing and education strategies to prepare a climate-resilient workforce and provide design ideas for a regional mechanism for ongoing skills-needs assessments;

12:15 PM- 12:30 PM (INTERMISSION)

12:30 PM- 13:15 PM Session 3: Key Findings of the CARICOM Labour Market Assessment- Labour Migration Characteristics

Presentation by expert consultant on key findings on migration flows into and out of CARICOM—contrasting characteristics of CARICOM nationals and non-CARICOM migrants, demographic and skill-level profiles, and outward migration trends—followed by targeted recommendations and a discussion of climate-change vulnerabilities and resilience strategies for regional labour mobility.

Presenter: Mr. Richard Horne, Lead Consultant, EMPSTAT Ltd.

Discussion and interactive feedback: <https://app.sli.do/event/uMoB9c6Y9PwrySrZ72LTMA>

Moderated Q&A and use of the online application (SLIDO) for feedback: Participants invited to discuss whether the CARICOM Skills Certificate is effective in enabling free labour movement or removing main barriers; recommendations for balancing skilled emigration with national/ regional development needs; and propose regional measures to enhance national capacity for international labour migration statistics.

13:15 PM- 14:00 PM Session 4: Key Findings of the CARICOM Labour Market Assessment- Labour Migration Governance

Presentation by expert consultant on methodology of the labour migration governance assessment and key findings under the thematic areas of the analytical framework (of 5 key pillars aligned to the ILO Regional Strategy on Labour Migration and Human Mobility in Latin America and the Caribbean 2023–2030.)

Presenter: Ms. Emmerentia Erasmus, Lead Consultant, EMFLOW (Pty) Ltd.

Discussion and interactive feedback: <https://app.sli.do/event/w6hEgf5vVPRVMEQps7UHLD>

Moderated Q&A and use of the online application (SLIDO) for feedback: Participants will review the Labour migration governance assessment, identify any additional governance challenges, propose measures to strengthen labour migration governance for decent work and regional integration, and pinpoint priority issues for the Regional Labour migration policy framework (RLMPF) to address.

14:00 PM- 14:10 PM

Recap & End Day 1

Day 2: Wednesday 30 July 2025

10:00 AM- 10:20 AM Opening day 2

Session 5: Regional Strategy on Labour Migration and Human Mobility in Latin America and the Caribbean 2023–2030.

Presentation by ILO Labour Migration Focal Point, providing overview of the LAC strategy as a key guiding framework for the process of development of Labour Migration policies/ action programmes.

Presenter: Ms. Resel Melville, ILO Project Coordinator and Focal Point on Labour Migration

10:20 AM- 10:50 AM Session 6: Discussions on Thematic Sections proposed for a Regional Labour Migration Policy Framework and Action Programme: PILLAR 1- Labour Migration Governance and Policy Coherence

Brief presentation by expert consultant on the alignment of recommendations in the Labour Market Assessment and CARICOM Migration Policy Framework with the 5 thematic pillars of the ILO LAC Strategy (i.e.: Labour migration governance and policy coherence; Fair Recruitment; Access to employment and improvement of working conditions; Labour mobility, training, certification and recognition of skills, including prior learning; Social protection and social cohesion)

Presenter: Ms. Emmerentia Erasmus, Lead Consultant, EMFLOW (Pty) Ltd.

Discussion and interactive feedback: <https://app.sli.do/event/mG9afezk6wB6F2gi3FsWMJ>

Moderated Q&A and use of the online application (SLIDO) for feedback: Participants will provide their perspectives on each of the thematic pillars and make inputs on the organisation and prioritisation of strategic actions aligned to each pillar, identifying gaps or additional policy dimensions for consideration.

10:50 AM- 11:30 AM Session 6 Cont'd: PILLARS 2 & 3 - Fair Recruitment and Access to employment and improvement of working conditions

Discussion and interactive feedback:

Moderated Q&A and use of the online application (SLIDO) for feedback

11:30 AM - 12:15 PM Session 6 Cont'd: PILLAR 4 - Labour mobility, training, certification and recognition of skills, including prior learning

Discussion and interactive feedback:

Moderated Q&A and use of the online application (SLIDO) for feedback

12:15 PM- 12:30 PM (INTERMISSION)

12:30 PM - 13:10 PM Session 6 Cont'd: PILLAR 5 - Social protection and social cohesion

Discussion and interactive feedback:

Moderated Q&A and use of the online application (SLIDO) for feedback

13:15 PM- 14:00 PM Session 7: Way Forward and Next Steps

Presentation of a proposed timeline for the development of the draft Labour Migration Policy framework and work programme (expected to be finalised by 2026), and discussion on opportunities for ongoing support from ILO and other development partners.

Facilitator: Ms. Wanya Illes, Deputy Programme Manager, Free Movement and Labour, CARICOM Secretariat

14:00 PM- 14:10 PM Closing Remarks/ End of Consultation

Closing remarks from Officials of the CARICOM Secretariat and the ILO.

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