



**Working together to ensure fair recruitment and decent work in the Philippines-Qatar recruitment corridor**

**IMRF Side event**

**Tuesday, 17 May 2022, 08:30 AM - 09:30 AM**

**Room 9**

**Background:**

As part of the continuous cooperation between the State of Qatar and the Republic of the Philippines in the field of fair recruitment, decent work and protection of migrant workers, an event will be organized on the sidelines of the international Migration review Forum 2022 that will be held from 17 to 20 May 2022 in New York. The side event aims to highlight the strong partnership for migrant workers welfare between the Philippines as a labor-sending country and Qatar as a labour-receiving country. The event will also highlight the achievements that have been made and discuss future steps that are expected to be taken in the country of origin and the country of destination to enhance compliance with Goals 6, 10 and 23 of the Global Compact for Migration and good practices that can be adopted in this field.

The State of Qatar hosts about 2 million migrant workers, of whom (240,000) are Filipino workers, Qatar has recently accomplished important labor reforms to support fair and ethical recruitment of migrant workers, especially by completely abolishing the sponsorship system, enhancing labor mobility and ensuring worker protection from human trafficking and exploitation, in line with Qatar commitment to implement the Global Compact for Migration objectives, and SDGs.

The Republic of the Philippines has also shown great interest in adopting the Global Compact for Migration and enhancing compliance with its objectives, particularly by supporting international cooperation and developing partnerships with Middle Eastern countries in the field of fair recruitment and combating human trafficking. The State of Qatar and the Republic of the Philippines share the same goals aimed at supporting the protection of migrant workers' rights. Filipino workers have benefited from the abolition of the sponsorship system and the new labor laws in the State of Qatar, and there is a continuous cooperation and coordination between the Ministries of Labor of both countries through a series of joint committee meetings with the aim of providing better protection for Filipino migrant workers.

These efforts shall move forward to maintain the years-long momentum that has been formed in the long run. The conduct of the first international Migration review Forum is an excellent manifestation of Objective 23: Strengthening international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration.

**Content and expected outcomes**

This side event aims to highlight the strong partnership between the Philippines and Qatar in the welfare of migrant workers, and specifically will discuss the relationship between the two countries regarding the implementation of the following objectives of the Global Compact for Migration:



- **Objective6:** Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work
- **Objective10:** Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration
- **Objective23:** Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration

The Forum further intends to answer and elaborate the following discussion concepts:

- Migration policy reforms that are expected from countries of origin to comply with objectives 6 and 10 of the Global Compact for Migration?
- What is expected from a country of destination to be able to harmonize its immigration policies with the policies of the country of origin and objectives 6 and 10 of the Global Compact for Migration?
- What are the good practices that can help in the implementation of objectives 6, 10 and 23 of the Global Compact for Migration?
- Stakeholder views on the partnership between the countries of origin and the countries of destination in the context of goals 6, 10 and 23 of the Global Compact for Migration.

#### **Format and envisioned Program:**

The program will be in the form of an hour-long interactive panel discussion, as follows:

#### **Agenda:**

**Moderator:** H.E. Evan P. Gracia, permanent representative to the UN

#### **Panel Discussion**

- H.E. Mohammed Hassan Al Obaidly, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Labour, Qatar
- H.E. Paul Raymund Cortes, Assistant Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Philippines
- Mr. Mohammed Al Attiq, Ministry of Interior, Qatar
- Ms. Amy Pope, Deputy Director-General, IOM
- Mr. Max Tuñón, Head of the Project Office, ILO-Qatar
- Ms. Paola Camilli, Global Director for Campaigns, BWI

#### **Q&A**

**Closing by Moderator.**