



Thematic Meeting 3:

“Recognizing the contributions of women migrants to economic and social development in countries of origin and destination and addressing their specific needs”

Geneva: 8 September 2015
Salle II, R3 Level, ILO Building

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Registration and Welcome coffee (09h00 – 0930); Bar des Delegates, R3 Level

Opening : (09h30 – 10h30)

- Ambassador Mehmet Samsar, for the GFMD 2014-2015 Chair
- Ambassador Cecilia Rebong, Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the UNOG
- Keynote Speaker: Ms. Lakshmi Puri, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Deputy Executive Director of UN Women

Panel Session One: Exploring the Contribution of Women Migrant Workers to Development – Beyond Economic Remittances (10h30 - 12h30)

Moderator – Michelle Leighton, Chief, International Migration Branch, International Labour Migration (ILO)

- Ms. Katherine Brigera Brimon, Assistant Secretary, Department of Labour, Philippines
- Ambassador Eva Åkerman Börje, Swedish Ministry of Justice; GFMD 2013-2014 Chair
- Mr. David Khoudour, Head - Migration and Skills Unit, OECD Development Center
- Ms. Monami Maulik, Founder and Executive Director, DRUM NYC

Interactive discussions based on the following guiding questions:

1. *What initiatives are being undertaken by your government to recognize social remittances, particularly by migrant women workers, and realise their potential to contribute to development?*
2. *What economic and social benefits do women migrant workers bring to your country and how are these benefits measured?*
3. *Please cite a policy or program that your government has undertaken to promote the empowerment of women migrant workers not only in healthcare and domestic work, but other non-traditional /skilled areas of work.*
4. *What are some of the key socio-political contributions that women migrant workers can make and have made through their grass roots organizing and political engagement?*

Lunch to be hosted by the Chair, BIT Eurest, Level R2 North, (ILO Restaurant) (12h30 – 14h30)

Panel Session Two: Understanding the Challenges and Vulnerabilities of Women Migrant Workers – How are they Navigated? (14h30 – 16h30)

Moderator – Ms. Jin Sook Lee, Council of Global Unions Working Group on Migration

- Mr. El Habib Nadir, Secretary General, Ministry in Charge of Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration Affairs Morocco
- Dr. Can Ünver, Representative of Turkey, Member of The Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (CMW)
- Mr. Lars Lonnback, Senior Policy Officer, International Cooperation and Partnerships Division, International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Ms. Jasiaya Khatoon, Focal Point, Welfare Association for the Rights of Bangladeshi Emigrants Development Foundation (WARBE)
- Ms. Gretchen Khuner, Founder and Director, Instituto para las Mujeres en la Migración (IMUMI)

Interactive discussions based on the following guiding questions:

1. *Please outline the initiatives that your government has put in place to reduce the vulnerabilities of women migrant workers in transit.*
2. *How has your government improved the labour standards for women migrant workers? What impact have these initiatives had?*
3. *What is being done to improve capacities of countries in addressing the vulnerabilities of skilled migrant workers, or to factor these considerations into their development and policy planning?*
4. *What do you see as the key barrier to women migrant workers' ability to realise their potential through migration / contribute to development?*
5. *Given the vulnerabilities of migrant women in transit and working in your region what opportunities are there to protect them and enhance their contributions to development?*

Closing (16h30 – 17h00)

- Ms. Jenna Hennebry, Director, International Migration Research Centre (IMRC)
- Mr. Easton Williams, Director, Social Policy Planning and Research Division, Planning Institute, Jamaica
- Ms. Esen Altuğ, for the GFMD 2014-2015 Chair