

THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

Statement to Roundtable 1.2

From Global Agreement to Implementation—National action plans for migration-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Migrants play significant roles in the economic, social, and cultural development of the countries of origin, as well as the countries of destination. Countries should promote safe, regular, orderly, and responsible migration through planned and well-managed migration policies to ensure that migrations could fully contribute to inclusive growth and sustainable development, and to ensure that sustainable development would foster the wellbeing and safety of migrants and their families and communities.

The Government of Indonesia acknowledges the positive contribution of labor migration to national development. One of the many contributions of Indonesian migrant workers is remittance, amounting to 8.86 billion USD. Several policies and measures have been implemented to facilitate safe and regular labor mobility, empower migrant workers and their families, and therefore, help ensure the achievements of migration-related SDGs.

We initiated Migrant Care Village, Productive Migrant Village, and Development Program for Migrant Workers' Families. These programs offer services to migrant workers and their families, such as information on safe migration, papers needed for migration process, economic empowerment for migrant workers and their families, and training on parenting skills and childcare. These programs are expected to contribute to the achievement of relevant goals of SDGs, notably on promoting the rights of migrant workers, preventing the trafficking and smuggling of peoples, and reducing the cost of sending remittances.

Indonesia is also of the view that access to education is fundamental in leaving no one behind in our thrust towards SDGs. In that regard, Indonesia, working together with CSOs and private sectors, has established several community learning centers in Malaysia to ensure access to education for the children of Indonesian migrant workers in Malaysia. While appreciating the Government of Malaysia for this policy, Indonesia calls on receiving countries to give broader access to education for migrants and their families.

My Government is now revising the Law on the Placement and Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers Abroad. The new Law is expected to better incorporate the principles of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, to ensure stronger protection of Indonesian migrant workers and their families.

We are of the view that action plans to achieve migration-related goals of SDGs should entail collaboration at the bilateral, regional, and global levels. This is also in line with the global commitment as appears on the New York Declaration, to improve the migration governance.

To that end, Indonesia has entered into agreements with several countries of destination on various fields, such as on protection, training, professional certification, competency standard setting, and sharing of information related to labor market.

At the regional level, Indonesia and all ASEAN Member States in 2007 adopted ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers. The Declaration underlines ASEAN Member States' commitments to, among others, promote decent, humane, and dignified employment, as well as prevent and curb smuggling and trafficking of persons. Indonesia and ASEAN member states are now working towards the

establishment of a legally-binding instrument on the protection of all migrant workers, regardless of their employment status.

Indonesia emphasizes the need to establish a legally binding instrument on the protection of migrant workers in the ASEAN region, and calls for the strong commitment from the ASEAN member states to finalize the instrument as early as possible.

To prevent and counter trafficking and smuggling of migrants, Indonesia and Australia co-chair the Bali Process. Supported by large participations of countries and international organizations, the Bali Process has reaffirmed the importance of collective efforts of countries of origin, transit, and destination in addressing irregular migration in the region and the commitment to establish a regional mechanism to communicate and respond to emergency situation.

And at international level, Indonesia continues to encourage countries to ratify of ICRMW in order to strengthen commitment and obligation to protect migrant workers and their families.