

Statement on Monitoring, Review and Accountability

Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants

In behalf of the Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism

Thank you Mr. Chair. Migrants are some of those left behind when the MDGs were created and it is with great appreciation that migrants are getting a space now with major groups and other stakeholders in this process.

This, we hope shall continue beyond the formulation of the post-2015 agenda and carry over to their implementation, monitoring and review.

Monitoring and review, we believe cannot be dissociated from accountability; for they stem from and lead to accountability. CSOs have forwarded innovative ideas on principles and forms that these can take that will improve the credibility, ownership and effectiveness of the post-2015 and financing for development agendas.

For the agenda to be truly transformative, equitable and responsive to the needs of the people and the planet, a mechanism that is universal, human rights based, democratic, transparent, gender-responsive, data-driven, evidence-based, and verifiable is called for.

The agenda being set is an agenda for the people. Isn't it but right that their experiences, narratives and voices be part of checking up how the agenda is doing and what can be done to address challenges that may arise?

This must be realised in national, regional and global levels. Especially in the national level where the realities are most stark and data and evidences are most available, development plans must include a mechanism that does not discriminate even to migrants who are often unrecognised as development stakeholders of the country where they are from and where they are in.

Yes, we should leave no one behind but we don't also let anyone get away. Increasingly, power and resources through unfair investment rules and skewed taxation, are given to the private sector to implement the SDGs. But human rights-based monitoring, review and accountability mechanisms are not in place to curb destructive activities that destroy the environment, displace people, destroy livelihood, and perpetuate poverty that all fuels forced migration. Transnational and multinational corporations, international financial institutions, donor agencies and so on must adhere to human rights-based accountability mechanisms. Public private partnerships (PPPs) should comply with human rights, gender equality, labour and environmental standards. The question is: how can this be done?

Lastly Mr. Chair, in the interest of inclusivity and leaving no one behind, may the CSOs under the AP-RCEM request that marginalised constituencies' statements that they were not able to read from yesterday can be submitted and included in the final report of the APFSD. Thank you very much.