Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Asia-Pacific Regional Review of Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
Bangkok, 10–12 March 2021
Agenda item 4
Consideration and adoption of the outcomes of the meeting

Draft report

I. Matters brought to the attention of the Commission

1. The following decision adopted by the Asia-Pacific Regional Review of Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration is brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP):

Decision

The meeting decides to submit its report, including the Chair’s summary, as well as pre-session documents ESCAP/GCM/2021/1, ESCAP/GCM/2021/2, ESCAP/GCM/2021/CRP.1 and ESCAP/GCM/2021/CRP.2 to the International Migration Review Forum, scheduled to be held in 2022, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 73/195 and 73/326.

II. Organization

A. Opening, duration and organization of the meeting

2. The meeting was jointly organized by ESCAP and the Regional United Nations Network on Migration for Asia and the Pacific1 and held in Bangkok and online from 10 to 12 March 2021. The meeting was opened by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP. The Coordinator of the United Nations

1 The following United Nations entities are members of the Regional United Nations Network on Migration for Asia and the Pacific: ESCAP; International Labour Organization (ILO); International Organization for Migration (IOM); Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Environment Programme; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women); World Food Programme; and World Bank.
Network on Migration and Director General of IOM delivered a video message. The Assistant Director-General and Regional Director, ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific; Mr. Don Pramudwinai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Thailand; and Ms. Shiella Estrada, Chairperson, Progressive Labour Union of Domestic Workers of the Philippines, Hong Kong, China, made statements.

B. Attendance

3. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following members and associate members of the Commission: Azerbaijan; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Cambodia; China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Kazakhstan; Lao People’s Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Maldives; Mongolia; Myanmar; Nauru; Nepal; Pakistan; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Sri Lanka; Tajikistan; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Turkey; Turkmenistan; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United States of America; Uzbekistan; Vanuatu; and Viet Nam.

4. Representatives of the following Permanent Observers to ESCAP attended: Austria and Switzerland. In addition, representatives of Sweden attended as observers.

5. Representatives of the following offices of the Secretariat attended: Development Coordination Office; Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; OHCHR; Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs; UNHCR; and UNODC.

6. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, and other United Nations entities and related organizations attended: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; ILO; IOM; secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; UNDP; UNESCO; UNFPA; UN-Habitat; UNHCR; UNICEF; United Nations Industrial Development Organization; and UN-Women.


8. Representatives of the following other entities attended: Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; International Committee of the Red Cross; International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants; and Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children.

9. The list of stakeholders who registered for the meeting is available online at www.unescap.org/intergovernmental-meetings/asia-pacific-regional-review-implementation-global-compact-safe-orderly.

C. Election of Officers

10. The meeting elected the following officers:

   Chair: Ms. Sarah Lou Y. Arriola (Philippines)
   Vice-Chairs: Mr. Mohammed Abdul Hye (Bangladesh)
                Mr. Dicky Komar (Indonesia)
                Mr. Nadhavathna Krishnamra (Thailand)
D. Agenda

11. The meeting adopted the following agenda:

1. Opening of the meeting:
   (a) Opening statements;
   (b) Election of officers;
   (c) Adoption of the agenda.

2. Review of progress and challenges with regard to implementing the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Asia and the Pacific, including the implications of the coronavirus disease pandemic.

3. Thematic discussions on progress and challenges with regard to implementing the Global Compact at all levels, with due respect to the cross-cutting and interdependent guiding principles of the Global Compact:
   (a) Ensuring that migration is voluntary, regular, safe and orderly (addressing objectives 2, 5, 6, 12 and 18);
   (b) Protecting migrants through rights-based border governance and border management measures (addressing objectives 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 and 21);
   (c) Supporting migrants’ protection, integration and contribution to development (addressing objectives 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 and 22);
   (d) Strengthening evidence-based policymaking, public debate and cooperation for safe, orderly and regular migration (addressing objectives 1, 3, 7, 17 and 23).

4. Consideration and adoption of the outcomes of the meeting.

E. Other events

12. The following side events were held in conjunction with the meeting:

   (a) 10 March 2021, side event: “A migrant’s journey: a human perspective and humanitarian implications”, organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross;

   (b) 11 March 2021, side event: “Labour mobility and human rights: examining migrant labour governance in the Middle East in the context of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration”, co-organized by the Government of the Philippines with the IOM Regional Offices for Asia and the Pacific and for the Middle East and North Africa;

   (c) 11 March 2021, side event: “On the move and out of school: migrant children’s struggles to access education in Asia”; organized by Save the Children, the Burmese Migrant Teachers’ Association, Child Rights Coalition Asia, Help Without Frontiers Thailand Foundation and TeacherFOCUS;

   (d) 12 March 2021, side event: “Making migrants’ vulnerability history: highlighting and addressing living and working vulnerabilities of migrant workers”; organized by the Asia-Pacific Mission for Migrants;
(e) 12 March 2021, side event: “Implementing alternatives to detention: lessons learned from the global pandemic”, organized by the Government of Thailand, Bónigi Monitoring, the International Detention Coalition and the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth;

(f) 12 March 2021, side event: “Migrants, wages and the pandemic: where are we now on the issue of wage theft?”, organized by the Migrant Forum in Asia, the Council of Global Unions/Building and Wood Workers’ International, the Parliamentarians’ Caucus on Migration and Development in Bangladesh and the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines;

(g) 12 March 2021, side event: “Regular pathways for migrants in vulnerable situations in Asia and the Pacific”, organized by OHCHR, the United Nations Network on Migration working group on regular pathways for migrants in vulnerable situations and the Asia-Pacific Refugee Rights Network;

(h) 12 March 2021, side event: “Realizing the rights of children in the context of migration in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region”, organized by the Government of Thailand through the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security with support from ASEAN member States, UNICEF, Terre des Hommes Germany, IOM and UNHCR.

III. Chair’s summary

13. The deliberations during the hybrid meeting will be summarized in a Chair’s summary, which will be available within a week following the conclusion of the session and included as annex II to the present report.
Annex

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