

Migrants and refugees as actors of development: Bringing and amplifying migrants and refugees' voice in the population and development discourse

*Side event during the 7<sup>th</sup> Asian and Pacific Population Conference*

Preferred date and time: 17 November 2023, 10:00-11:15 AM

Organisers:

Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants (APMM)

Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN)

Description of event:

The side event brings the issues and voices of grassroots migrants and refugees in Asia Pacific as they share their current situation post-pandemic. Migrants and refugees are part of the region's population regardless of their number, status and situation. Yet their rights and freedoms have been severely limited, as have their access to quality services, justice and livelihood opportunities. Many people on the move remain undocumented and are easy targets of exploitation, racism and discrimination.

With international migration identified as one of the 11 priority actions in the International Conference on Population and Development, it is only important for migrants and refugees to speak up on matters that impact them as part of the continuing advocacy for migrants and refugees' meaningful participation in advocacy spaces such as the 7<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Population Conference. Specifically, it is important that undocumented people be included in resource planning.

Objectives:

1. To provide space for migrants and refugees to articulate and highlight existing and emerging concerns confronting them with a focus on particularly vulnerable migrants and refugees;
2. To showcase good and emerging practices of migrants and refugee-led organisations and initiatives;
3. To put forward policy recommendations in relation to issues and concerns raised; and
4. To submit a statement reflecting issues and recommendations to governments and relevant UN agencies.

Speakers:

Speakers of the side event will be the following:

- a) Katrina Capeding, SANDIGAN, Philippines
- b) Hafsar Tameesuddin, Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN)
- c) Antonia Lili, Pasefeka Fono, Aotearoa/New Zealand

- d) A representative from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Regional Office, Asia and the Pacific
- e) A representative from ALTSEAN-Burma

Moderator: Klaus Dik Nielsen, APPRN

Expected outcomes:

The expected outcome of the side event is a submission of a statement that contains the concerns and policy recommendations discussed and united upon in the side event.

Priority Actions of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development: International migration

Planned modality of the side event: Hybrid, using Zoom as an online platform

Draft agenda, including speakers:

09:30 – 10:00	Registration
10:00 – 10:10	Opening and welcome, Rey Asis, Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants
10:10 – 10:45	Panel of speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Katrina Capeding, SANDIGAN</li><li>Hafsar Tammesuddin, APPRN</li><li>Antonia Lili, Pasefeka Fono</li><li>A representative from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Regional Office, Asia and the Pacific</li><li>A representative from ALTSEAN-Burma</li></ul>
10:45 – 11:05	Open forum
11:05 – 11:15	Presentation and approval of draft submission