

GLOBAL MIGRATION POLICY WORKSHOPS: A TRILOGY

UNDERSTANDING REALITIES, DEFENDING MIGRANTS, PROMOTING GOVERNANCE BY AND FOR ALL

Three complementary “round-table” workshop sessions following the main themes of WSFM 2012 intended to tell the whole story, build the narrative and trace the roadmap on global migration, human rights, social participation and governance of migration today and tomorrow:

- 1) Summarizing knowledge and analysis on migration today: its relationship to economies, societies and the world of work; conditions and treatment of migrants; social change and cohesion, and who are the stakeholders*
- 2) Addressing human rights in migration, international conventions and the rule of law; using mechanisms to defend migrants; and building action alliances among key stakeholders*
- 3) Assessing the existing system of migration governance; challenging the global deregulatory assault on migrants and on international standards and institutions; **imaging the future of migration and its governance***

The Narrative

Economic, demographic and technological trends are increasing dependency of countries worldwide on foreign skills and labour, while absence of decent work and repressive conditions displace millions, making human mobility a predominant feature of contemporary globalization. The very viability of labour forces and economies in the South as well as the North depends on labour and skills mobility, and will more so in coming years. Yet widespread abuse and exploitation of migrants/foreigners undermines decent work and social welfare in many situations. Discrimination and xenophobia are on the rise in every region. News media, public discourse and political campaigns are dominated by imagery of migrants and migration threatening security, society and the very identity of nations.

The rule of law and legal mechanisms remain the essence of guaranteeing protection for migrants as well as democratic governance. They are also vital means for organizing migrants and winning hearts and minds. However, the standards, institutions and mechanisms to protect migrants and regulate migration that were carefully constructed over the last century are today deliberately abandoned.

The disabling of existing protections and institutions takes place with little resistance and no alternative. The coherency of intergovernmental organizing around a deregulatory agenda is unmet by social partner, civil society and migrant organizing to defend and extend their rights and gains and to promote a future built on human rights, democratic participation and attainment of welfare for all. A shared new vision is needed, as is an adequate grasp and knowledge of current realities. Viable, democratic and rights-based governance requires mobilizing stakeholders, building alliances and conducting effective advocacy. These in turn depend on having a clear roadmap for cooperation and common action.

TOPICS & PANELISTS

MONDAY 26 November, THEME 1:

WORKSHOP 1: Migration Today: Global Realities, Crises, Impact and Consequences

-Global Migration crisis or no crisis: vital importance to economies and societies, the real stories

Raul Degado-Wise, Coordinator, *Red Migraciones y Desarrollo*; UNESCO Chair, migrations

-Migrant experiences and consequences

Bandana Patanaic, Director, Global Alliance Trafficking Women

-Migration transforming nations and societies: identifies, diversity, and social cohesion

William Gois, Regional Coordinator, Migrant Forum in Asia

-Migration Stakeholders: who, why and how

Marla Asis Scalabrini Migration Centre

Moderator: **Patrick Taran**, President, GMPA

TUESDAY, 27 November

THEME 2: Rights: Migrants Rights are Human Rights

Workshop 2: Human rights, rule of law, defending migrants & building alliances

-Migration, Human Rights and the Rule of Law: why the construct and how it works
Patrick Taran, President, Global Migration Policy Associates

-The Conventions on migrants rights, effects, implementation and supervision
Abdelhamid El Jamri, Chairman, UN Committee on Migrant Workers

-Migration today in regional free movement regimes; African experience
Badara Ndaiye, PANiDR – Pan-African Network for Development and Rights

-Alliance building, working together, building pressure: defending the undocumented
Eve Geddie, PICUM (Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migration)

Moderator: **Nicola Piper**, Vice-president, GMPA

THURSDAY, 29 November

THEME 3: Global Models: Re-imagining migration, proposing alternatives, exploring models

3. Organizing for migration governance for rights, democratic participation & well-being

-Revitalizing the global architecture of governance; beating back the deregulatory assault
Patrick Taran, President, Global Migration Policy Associates

-Resurrecting global commitments: Cairo, Copenhagen, Beijing, Durban, Geneva
Pia Oberoi/OHCHR Bangkok alternate), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

-New challenges, new allies: environment, climate change, cities, communities
Sophia Wirsching, Migration Officer, Brot für die Welt, Germany

-Framing the issues: reconstructing the architecture
Jin Sook Lee, Migration officer, Building and Woodworkers International Union -BWI

-Campaigning for and with migrants: the players, stakeholders, alliances and action plans

Organized by: **Global Migration Policy Associates**

In cooperation with organizations associated with GMPA and with the **Steering Committee on the Global Campaign on the migrants rights conventions**

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