



GMPA

Global Migration Policy Associates

*An International research, policy development,
advisory services and advocacy group*

GMPA SUMMARY ACTIVITY REPORT

2020

About GMPA

Global Migration Policy Associates is a unique network among migration experts in all regions of the world. Its Associates reflect diverse academic and practical disciplines addressing multiple aspects and impacts of migration. The organisation seeks to support, encourage and generate knowledge and analysis for a broad international defence of the rights-based approach. It challenges and articulates alternatives to the instrumental cost-benefit logic of 'migration management' predominant today. In order to 'make a difference', GMPA conducts research and develops analysis and policy directions independent of the dominant framework while supporting partner activities.

GMPA conducts its activity with financial and other resources from modest member dues and project funding for research, advisory, and training activities. GMPA has never received external grant or other funding to sustain core operations and administration, instead 'supporting itself' by *pro-bono* voluntary staff work by member Associates and *cooperants*. It thus retains an ability to function independently of agendas, grant conditionalities, and funding cycles of other international or national institutions, philanthropic foundations, or governments.

GMPA's comparative advantage

We represent and give life to a rights-based agenda rooted in practice, the experience of migration worldwide, and engagement and advocacy in the field. We give emphasis to migrants as human beings first and foremost, addressing discrimination and equality of treatment for all migrants and immigrants. We offer alternatives to emphasis on migrants as "agents of development" praised for their utilitarian value but encouraged to trade away universal rights in exchange for presumed development gains. We uphold human rights, democratic approaches and social justice as defining principles for migration whether temporary or permanent, and we promote leadership and action by government, social partners, civil society and migrant organizers and organizations.

In 2020, GMPA was significantly constrained --as were all other actors-- by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic with the severe lockdowns and travel restrictions imposed world-wide in March, some continuing to date. However, GMPA Associates were able to continue work at a pace unabated from that of 2019 on global cutting-edge research and policy challenges. The most salient activity and accomplishment was research, a five-country field mission, and preparation of a 100-page *Background Report* followed by draft *Guidelines* for an IGAD *common approach* to BLAs. GMPA also researched and drafted a comprehensive global parliamentarians brief on COVID-19 and migrants, refugees, stateless persons and mobile workers. GMPA furthermore advanced --if too slowly-- on the 200 plus page manuscript for the *Cities Welcoming Migrants and Refugees Handbook*, already 3 years in the making. GMPA Associates also continued to provide high level professional training for various constituencies on migration for employment.

I. Main GMPA Research, policy advisory services, evaluation, and training in 2020:

Four main activities fully occupied the core GMPA team over the course of the year. These contributed significantly to development of knowledge and analysis of key contemporary law-policy-practice issues, notably BLAs and migration governance and addressing the huge challenges of COVID and inappropriate responses for migrants and migration.

1. Implementation of a large scale project for **research and evaluation of Bilateral Labour Agreements (BLAs)** and **development of guidelines on a common approach for the IGAD**–Intergovernmental Authority on Development (among East Africa-Horn of Africa countries Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda). Core team was Patrick Taran and GMPA Vice-President Piyasiri Wickramasekara, supported by Associate Olga Kadyshewa with research assistance by Marubini Muswede. The project was initiated in November 2019 and carried through to end of November 2020. The activity developed a first time ever detailed analysis of BLAs in practice across a regional context and of specific normative application point-by-point across an updated model matrix for BLAs. It included detailed analysis of how specific ILS apply or should apply to each component of a basic, rights-based BLA. Details below in *featured activity*, pages 7-8.
2. Continuation of research and revision of the draft comprehensive **City Practitioners Handbook on Welcoming Migrants and Refugees; towards inclusive and sustainable cities**, forthcoming 2021/22, to be published by/with UNESCO. A first comprehensive manual for cities, covering all relevant aspects; pioneering work, finding little or no academic nor practical literature specific to migrants in cities. Conducted new and further research and revision of chapters on health, COVID-19, employment and others, revision of order and contents. Each chapter text is intended to also be usable *as separata*.
3. Conducting extensive research and preparing a draft **Parliamentarians brief on COVID-19 and migrants, refugees and mobile workers** under an agreement with the IPU – Inter-Parliamentary Union. GMPA developed the structure/outline, identified and studied literature and data sources, and drafted a comprehensive report; at end of the year the draft was reviewed by UNHCR and IPU colleagues for revision and publication in early 2021. An edition of main points from this research was published in Spanish in 2021 in the Ecuadorian Polytechnic University journal *Compendium: "La Pandemia de Covid y Los Migrantes: una Agenda de Diez Puntos Para Mitigar el Desastre en Curso"*, Patrick Taran & Nayeth Idalid Solorzano Alcivar. <http://www.revistas.espol.edu.ec/index.php/compendium/article/view/933>
4. **Research and production of analytical reports on migration issues in the Asia region** by Piyasiri Wickramasekara: *Labour mobility between Asia and the Arab States: Sharing of experiences and progress under the Bali Declaration with specific focus on women migrant workers*, published by ILO; the chapter "Ensuring that migration is voluntary, safe and orderly" in the UN Asia-Pacific Migration Report 2020, produced by the United Nations Regional Network on Migration for Asia and the Pacific, and *Malaysia: Review of admission and recruitment practices of Indonesian workers in the plantation and domestic work sectors and related recommendations*, published by the ILO, Bangkok. (See below in *Publications*, pages 5-6)

II. GMPA/Associate Participation in forums, conferences, official consultations, and teaching/trainings in 2020

1. Associate **Evalyn Tennant** participated in **Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Civil Society Days** in Quito, Ecuador, 21 – 24 January 2020. Evalyn was one of three thematic leads for the *Climate-related migration and displacement* section, for which she co-wrote the background note and did the civil society report back. *Background Note* at: <https://gfmdcivilsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Theme-4-Background-note-Climate-related-migration-displacement-EN.pdf>

2. Patrick Taran and Piyasiri Wickramasekara conducted a *fact-finding* mission to IGAD Member States **Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda** from 21 February to 11 March to consult with and obtain data and perspective from *stakeholders* as a key element in preparation of the draft **IGAD Guidelines for Rights-Based BLAs** and its **Background Report**. Interview meetings were held in all five countries with senior officials of Ministries of Labour and Social Affairs (with the Minister himself in Djibouti), Ministries of Foreign Affairs, with the General Secretaries and/or senior officials of the national Employers Organisation and with the national Trade Union Federation (except in Sudan) and with executives of private employment agencies and/or their national associations (except Ethiopia). In one or several countries, meetings were also held with Ministries of Justice, national vocational training institutions, returned migrant workers, and others. Interview consultations were held with officials of the IGAD Secretariat and the EU delegation in Djibouti, with an IOM project officer in Uganda, and with GIZ project officers in Sudan and Uganda. From 15 to 20 meetings were held in each country, arranged by the national officer of the IGAD-ILO Free Movement of Persons and Transhumance programme. See Feature Activity summary, pages 8-9.

3. Patrick Taran, GMPA President taught two sessions of Executive Master in International Relations course 2020 at the Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations-GSD, on **Global Challenges, Crises and Opportunities for Governance: Environment, Human Rights, Mobility, Sustainable Development** and on **Current and Future Governance and Diplomacy: Civil Society, Civic Participation and Democratic Governance**, on 29 April 2020.

4. Formal consultative meetings were held 8-9 June (virtually) with key **Somalia** stakeholders: the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education and Federation of Somali Trade Unions by Patrick Taran and Piyasiri Wickramasekara to obtain perspective towards preparation of the draft **IGAD Guidelines for Rights-Based BLAs** and its **Background Report**. See feature activity summary, pages 8-9

5. Patrick Taran was the featured speaker at the online **Grey Talk** organised by GreyCells ("Association of former international civil servants for development") titled **Migrants and Migration under Covid-19: Demise of Solidarity, Failure of International Community**, on 16 June 2020. GreyTalks speakers present expert takes on conjunctural and developmental issues and engage in virtual dialogue with participants. Video recording at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8QI8AIEmbhI>



6. Formal consultative meetings were held 17-18 June (virtually) with the **South Sudan** Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Immigration Agency, and the Employers Association of South Sudan by Patrick Taran and Piyasiri Wickramasekara to obtain perspective towards preparation of the draft **IGAD Guidelines for Rights-Based BLAs** and its **Background Report**. See feature activity, pages 8-9.

7. Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) **eSymposium** Series on Covid-19 and Migration 'Build Back Better'. '**Migrant Workers of South Asia: Experiences of Return, Repatriation and Deportation**', 24 June 2020. Migration experts from several South Asian countries presented their views on the country situation. **Piyasiri Wickramasekera** joined in the open discussion and made critical observations on issues raised by the panel. He also contributed to the recommendations of the eSymposium. See announcement at: <https://t2sresearch.org/event/migrant-workers-of-south-asia-experiences-of-return-repatriation-and-deportation/> Press coverage: [Speakers seek collective negotiation to save migrant workers \(thefinancialexpress.com.bd\)](https://www.thefinancialexpress.com.bd) [Migrant Workers' Crises During Pandemic: Experts stress regional cooperation, govt action | The Daily Star](https://www.dailystar.com)

8. Webinar discussion on "**COVID-19 and its impact on out and return overseas labor migration from Pakistan: major issues and concerns**", Centre on international migration, remittances and diaspora (CIMRAD), Lahore School of Economics, Lahore, Pakistan, 30 June 2020. Dr. **Piyasiri Wickramasekera** served as a discussant of the plenary session and also contributed to the general discussion on *what role can government agencies play in ensuring a smooth re-absorption of a sudden rise in return migration and that Pakistani workers continue to find jobs in the overseas markets that are bound to become increasingly competitive?*

9. Online panel discussion: **Labour Intermediaries: International normative and regulatory frameworks and emerging good practices**, India Centre for Migration, 27 August 2020, Dr. **Piyasiri Wickramasekera** was one of the four panellists and delivered his thoughts on "**Labour Intermediaries: International normative and regulatory frameworks and emerging good practices**".

10. Patrick Taran, GMPA President taught the BA-International Relations course **International Migration: Current Challenges and Policy Responses** at the Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations-GSD, September to December 2020 (14 sessions).

11. Piyasiri Wickramasekera was a resource person and lecturer for several sessions of the ITC-ILO **E-Academy on labour migration: Promoting decent work for migrant workers**, 9 November to 18 December 2020. The Academy on labour migration is a regular ITC event addressing major issues related to migration. The e-version of the Academy was designed in 2020 in the context of Covid-19. Piyasiri Wickramasekera of GMPA was invited to participate in an online panel on "Global and regional labour migration trends and driving forces, including South-South movements: what impact on labour markets?" and make a presentation on the Asian context. He was also a lead trainer in the elective module on Bilateral Labour Agreements and conducted three webinars jointly with an ILO colleague (Ms. Kenza Dimechkie) and Vincent Williams (consultant). He also supported in the assessment of trainees and provided a list of relevant readings.

12. Patrick Taran, GMPA President, lectured (online) at the University of Lausanne, on '**Migration today: Governance Challenges**' and '**Public Administration at city level: Welcoming migrants and refugees**' for the 2020 edition of the MPA-Master in Public Administration course "Internationalisation des politiques publiques/ internationalisation of public policies," 2 December 2020.

13. Patrick Taran and Piyasiri Wickramasekera co-conducted with senior IGAD officials the **Validation Workshop** for the draft **IGAD Guidelines for Rights-Based BLA**, held on 9 December. Some 40 representatives from line government ministries of all IGAD Member States such as the Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Education, Federal Attorney General's office as well as representatives of social partners, international organizations, and CSOs attended the workshop. The meeting reviewed the draft guidelines section by section, provided guidance for corrections and final revision and endorsed the document to be forwarded for formal IGAD adoption as formal regional policy. See feature activity summary on pages 8-9.

14. Piyasiri Wickramasekara was a resource person-cum-expert at a **Short Course on Migration-A Virtual Learning Experience "Framings and Discourses on Mobility and Crisis: Blessing or Curse?"** organised by the **Centre for Poverty Analysis (CEPA)**, Sri Lanka, and held online from 4 November to 3 December 2020. The 2020 programme focussed on the impact of COVID-19 pandemic migration regimes, mobility, and regulation. The course explored internal and external mobility dynamics introduced and exacerbated by COVID-19. The GMPA resource person delivered a presentation on: "International migration: Challenges of global migration governance and relevance of global frameworks (2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration)". He also provided written answers to various questions from the participants. See detailed course description at: <https://www.cepa.lk/events/migration-short-course/framings-and-discourses-on-mobility-and-crisis-blessing-or-curse/>

SHORT COURSE ON MIGRATION 2020
FRAMINGS AND DISCOURSES ON MOBILITY AND CRISIS: BLESSING OR CURSE?
 A VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE

DATE
 NOV 4 - DEC 3

The course will focus on processes, issues, recent dynamics and experiences of migrants, media and gender analysis skills to assess migration trends and the impact of COVID-19 on migration

THE FACULTY

Prof. Binod Kadhria
 SGT University
 Dr. Piyasiri Wickramasekara
 Global Migration Policy Associates
 Dr. Shyamika Jayasundara-Smita
 ISS/Erasmus University Rotterdam
 Dr. Lothar Smith
 Radboud University
 Prof. Georg Frerks
 Utrecht University
 Prof. Thea Hilhorst
 International Institute of Social Studies
 Dr. Nadeera Rajapakse
 University Pantheon-Sorbonne
 Dr. Idil Akinci
 University of Edinburgh
 Dr. Shweta Singh
 South Asian University

OPEN FOR GRADUATES AND PROFESSIONALS

COURSE FEE
 LKR 12,000 (USD 65)

BURSARIES AVAILABLE FOR GOVERNMENT SECTOR OFFICIALS AND OTHER SELECTED PARTICIPANTS

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT

☎ 011 4 690200/ 011 2 503009
 ✉ sarianie@cepa.lk

📄 Apply at www.cepa.lk/shortcourse2020
 Deadline: 23rd of October 2020

CONDUCTED BY: **cepa** (centre for poverty analysis)
 IN COLLABORATION WITH: International Institute of Social Studies, Radboud University, Utrecht University
 SUPPORTED BY: Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft, Confédération suisse, Confederazione Svizzera, Confederaziun svizra, Embassy of Switzerland to Sri Lanka and the Maldives

15. Associate **Evalyn Tennant** was a panel speaker at the session "**We didn't cross the borders, the borders crossed us; advocating for pathways for regular migration**" at the *International Migrants Day Global Celebration of our rights and our struggle* online program 18-19 December 2020, organized by the Civil Society Action Committee. See full program at: https://csactioncommittee.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/IMD_booklet_program_final.pdf

III. Publications in 2020, including research papers, reports and online documents by GMPA and by Associates credited in association with GMPA:

1. ***The International Community and Global Society: What Are Pandemics Changing?***

Expert Opinion by Patrick Taran. The Valdai Club. 3 June 2020.

<https://valdaiclub.com/a/highlights/the-international-community-and-global-society/>

2. Briefing paper ***Migrants and Migration under Covid-19: Demise of Solidarity, Failure of International Community*** by Patrick Taran for GreyTalks (online 16 June 2020).

<http://www.globalmigrationpolicy.org/articles/Health/GreyTalk%2016June2020%20COVID%20&%20Migration%20Brief%20by%20PATaran.pdf>

3. Piyasiri Wickramasekara. "***Framings and Discourses on Mobility and Crisis: Blessing or Curse?***". Text(s) prepared for a *short Course on Migration* Centre for Poverty Analysis (CEPA), Sri Lanka, December 2020.

4. ***Migration Legislation and Regulations in South Asia: An Unfinished Agenda?*** Book

chapter by Piyasiri Wickramasekara in: Irudaya Rajan, ***South Asia Migration Report 2020***, Routledge, New Delhi. <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/edit/10.4324/9780429321450-5/migration-legislation-regulations-south-asia-piyasiri-wickramasekara>

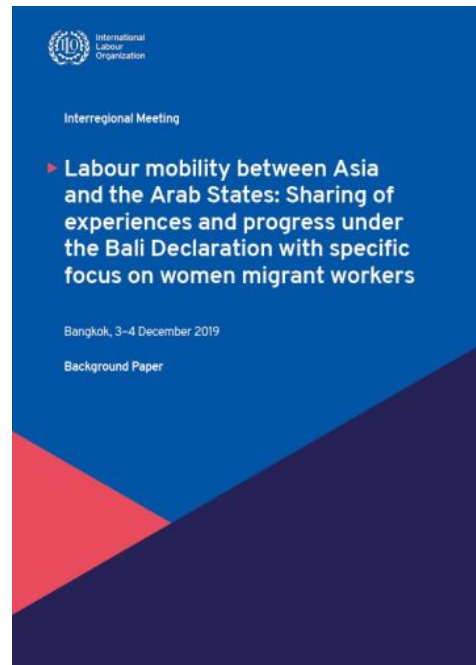
5. Piyasiri Wickramasekara (co-author) (2020). ***Ensuring that migration is voluntary, safe and orderly*** - Chapter 2 in ***UN Asia-Pacific Migration Report 2020***, United Nations Regional Network on Migration for Asia and the Pacific.

https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/2021-11/APMR2020_C2.pdf

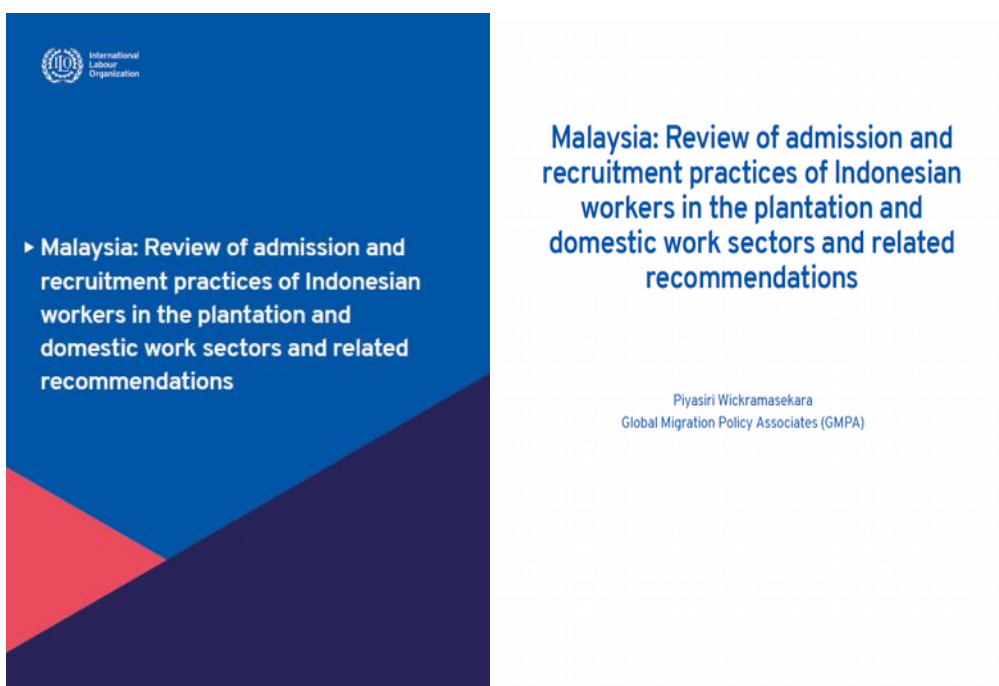
The Asia-Pacific Migration Report 2020 is a baseline assessment of the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) in Asia and the Pacific. It informed the Asia-Pacific Regional Review of GCM Implementation, held on 10-12 March 2021. Full report at https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/knowledge-products/APMR2020_Full%20Report.pdf



6. Piyasiri Wickramasekara (co-author) (2020): **Labour mobility between Asia and the Arab States: Sharing of experiences and progress under the Bali Declaration with specific focus on women migrant workers**, Background paper presented at the inter-regional meeting "Labour mobility between Asia and the Arab States: Sharing of experiences and progress under the Bali Declaration with specific focus on women migrant workers" held 3-4 December 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, ILO, Bangkok, 1 September 2020. https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---sro-bangkok/documents/publication/wcms_754661.pdf



7. Wickramasekara, P. (2020). **Malaysia: Review of admission and recruitment practices of Indonesian workers in the plantation and domestic work sectors and related recommendations**, International Labour Organization, Bangkok. https://www.ilo.org/global/publications2/WCMS_749695/lang--en/index.htm See also https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/documents/publication/wcms_749695.pdf



2020 Featured Activity

ILO-GMPA Project on IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority for Development) regional guidelines for a rights-based approach to bilateral labour agreements

under the framework of the ILO project on “Free Movement of Persons and Transhumance in the IGAD Region: Improving Opportunities for Regular Labour Mobility” in collaboration with IGAD as a core element of “Towards Free Movement of Persons and Transhumance in the IGAD region” program financed by the European Union Trust Fund (EUTF).

Formulation and initiation of large scale project for **research and evaluation of Bilateral Labour Agreements (BLAs)** and **development of guidelines on a common approach for the IGAD**– Intergovernmental Authority on Development (among East Africa-Horn of Africa countries Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda). Core team was Patrick Taran and GMPA Vice-President Piyasiri Wickramasekara, supported by Associate Olga Kadyшева with research assistance by Maribini Muswede. The project was proposed by/to ILO in August and initiated in November 2019 and carried through to end of November 2020.

GMPA Team (**Patrick Taran** and **Piyasiri Wickramasekara**, assisted by **Olga Kadyшева** and **Marubini Muswede**) researched, prepared and produced two books (each nearly 100 pages, with and initial draft, peer reviews and three revisions over course of the year): a thorough comprehensive **Background Report** and complete **Guidelines**, to be published in 2021 by ILO/IGAD, following approval adoption of the Guidelines by a ministerial level IGAD meeting.

The GMPA was selected as the service agency for an initiative to support forging a common approach on BLAs and their implementation in the IGAD region. The IGAD regional economic community consists of seven member countries - Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda. It was sponsored by the ILO and the IGAD under the framework of the project on “Free Movement of Persons and Transhumance in the IGAD region: Improving Opportunities for Regular Labour Mobility” (FMPT) in collaboration with IGAD Secretariat and funded by the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF). The formal terms of reference defined the objective of the consultancy/project to develop regional-specific guidelines on rights-based bilateral labour agreements (BLAs) for the IGAD region in the form of a practical guide. The resulting guidelines are based both on the international rights framework and concrete country experiences in developing and implementing BLAs.

The project included a grueling three and a half week mission by Patrick Taran and Piyasiri Wickramasekara to Kenya, Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia and Djibouti mid-February to mid-March, and virtually visiting Somalia and South Sudan in May for multi-party tripartite consultative meetings. (See news story on ILO on website: https://www.ilo.org/global/docs/WCMS_743042/lang--en/index.htm)



Photos: GMPA and FMPT team colleagues in meetings with IGAD government and employer officials. Photos: ILO
Left photo: **Ethiopia**, meeting with Ethiopian Employers’ Federation. L to R: Patrick Taran; Piyasiri Wickramasekara; Dawit Moges Alemu, President, EEF and Vice-President, Confederation of IGAD Employers; Kidest Getahun, FMPT Addis, ILO; and Asmera Defa Bokore, Executive Director, EEF.

Center photo: **Sudan**, meeting with the International Law and Agreements Sector, Ministry of Justice. Sawсан Hussein Mohamed Nour, Head; Eltaib Mohamed Alnaseeh, Senior advisor; Hajwa Bakheet Azrag, Senior advisor; also pictured: Jamal Yagoob Abdalla, ILO FMPT, Khartoum; Piyasiri Wickramasekara; Patrick Taran, GMPA.

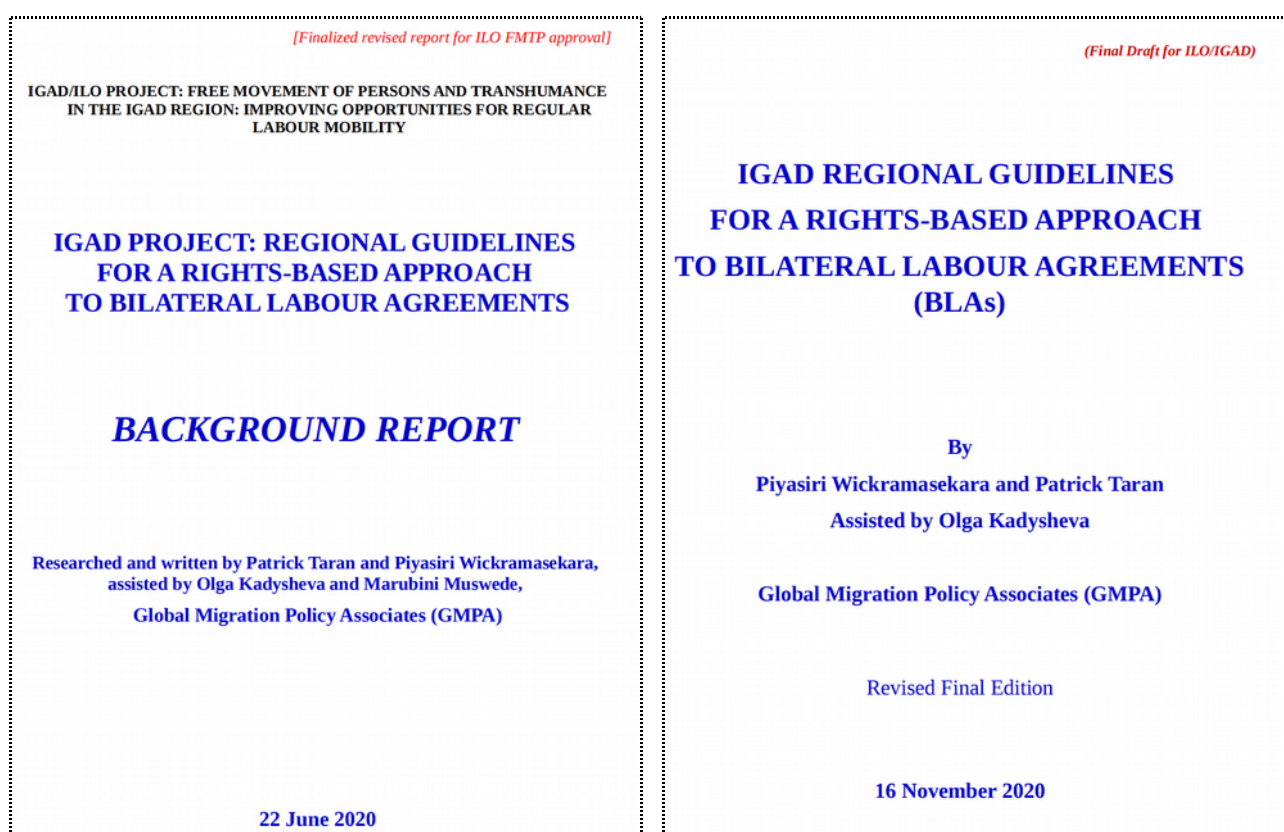
Right photo: **Djibouti**, meeting with Guelleh Idriss Omar, Director for Bilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In total, the team had consultations with 160 senior government, employer and trade union officials, migrant workers, international organization officials, and technical experts in 7 countries.

Project activities included conceptualisation and development of background research, literature review; formulation of constituent-based review of experience, concerns and proposals for common basic approach, tripartite meetings (draw from reports); Inception report, Drafts; two peer reviews-revisions by IGAD, ILO, and IOM peers, in person and online consultations with IGAD officials, and a virtual tripartite vetting meeting with constituents in the IGAD countries.

The project entailed nearly full-time equivalent senior researcher work over ten months by the core team members. Piyasiri Wickramasekara and Patrick Taran acted as the main resource persons from the GMPA for this activity, assisted by Olga Kadyshева and Marubini Muswede. Two major outputs were produced:

- ILO-IGAD. (2021). *Background Report: IGAD Regional Guidelines for a Rights-based Approach to Bilateral Labour Agreements*, Prepared by Global Migration Policy Associates for the ILO-Free Movement of Persons and Transhumance in the IGAD Region.
- ILO-IGAD. (2021). *IGAD Regional Guidelines for a rights-based approach to bilateral labour agreements (BLAs)*, to be adopted by an IGAD Ministerial Conference in 2021.



Note: The sequel project to finalize reports for publication and prepare briefs for IGAD technical review and ministerial adoption was restricted to a commercial contract legally unacceptable for a non-commercial NGO – thus excluding GMPA. (The Ministerial adoption of the Guidelines was postponed, eventually to April 2022.)

GMPA OPERATIONAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY 2020

Governance

Main activity included:

1. Regular meetings of officers (Piyasiri was in Geneva part of year).
2. Review, monitoring and supervising GMPA activity for 2020
3. Approval/preparation of proposal for AU-BLA Guidelines project with ILO
4. Drafted financial and activity reports for 2019, revised 2018 annual report draft

Secretariat

1. Provided support and arrangements, materials and logistics for GMPA team activities.
2. Provided research assistance to main research activities.
3. Providing ongoing training for intern research associates
4. Maintained administrative activity and intern/research associate staff support.
5. Regular weekly staff team meetings either in-person as permitted or virtually.

Staff

The secretariat team, including intern *research associates* in fourth quarter 2020 (resuming in-office activity after COVID restrictions) was a fully global group reflecting five world regions; all were international migrants. All staff worked on a non-remunerative basis, either under formal Research Associate internship agreements or as 'pro-bono' executive staff (Research Associate interns worked primarily on mutually agreed research activity).

- **Asala Dal'ab**, dual **Jordan-Canadian** national, completing BA IR-International Relations studies at Geneva School of Diplomacy (GSD)
- **'Koudy' Koutedjatou Illo Diallo**, from **Mali**, completing BA-IR studies at GSD.
- **Olga Kadysheva**, GMPA Associate, former Associate Professor of Economics at the Finance University of the **Russian Federation**, resident in **France**, provided professional support on both research and administrative work and served as Acting Secretary.
- **Piyasiri Wickramasekara**, GMPA Vice-President, **Sri Lanka** national, former ILO *Senior Migration Specialist* (participating by virtual online connections)
- **Patrick A. Taran**, GMPA President, originally **USA**, resident in Geneva area: Switzerland and **France** since 1990.

Communications and advocacy

- Almost daily postings on GMPA **Facebook**, regular postings on **Twitter**
- Regular list-serve informational mailings to 400 plus *GMPA Network* constituent contacts
- Mass mailings to 5,000 persons worldwide in the *GMPA contact data-base*

Official/Diplomatic

- Registration for 2020 annual accreditation & badges for UNOG

Proposals prepared for subsequent and future activity (in 2021)

- Assembled a team of eminent experts and wrote proposal bid to rewrite and update the **OSCE Handbooks on Labour Migration & on Gender and Migration**
- Prepared a proposal for development of **AU BLA guidelines** and finalisation of an AU Model BLA (carried out in 2021)
- Submitted a proposed to ILO (Regional Office Africa) to contribute expertise and support to the **Kenya** and **Uganda** national labour migration policy elaboration processes.
- Submitted a proposal to the **UNMN** -UN Migration Network to prepare a compendium of practices and review/evaluation criteria on certain Global Compact on Migration topics. (Proposal accepted but subsequently Mr. Taran had to withdraw for work overload and health reasons.)

Prepared by Patrick Taran (GMPA President), Piyasiri Wickramasekara (Vice-President)
and Olga Kadysheva (Acting Secretary)

with inputs by member Associates in October 2021

Revised, added photography and completed September 2022

Approved by Officers 14 October 2022