

## GFMD 2020 UAE Chair

### Theme 3: Leveraging New Technologies to Empower Migrants

#### Proposed Agenda of the RT Session

Wednesday, 20 January 2021 12h30 to 15h30 CET

*Co-Chairs: Kenya, Philippines*

*RT Session Rapporteur: Switzerland*

*Thematic Lead (and penholder): Prof. Gibril Faal*

*RT Team Member States Afghanistan, Kenya, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom*

*GFMD Mechanisms: Civil Society, Business, Mayors*

*Observers: IFAD, World Bank/KNOMAD, ICMPD, UNDP, UNCDF, IOM*

#### 12:30 – 12:50 Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Moderator: *Mr. Enrico Fos*, Assistant Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs, Philippines

RT Co-Chairs: *Hon. Sarah Lou Arriola*, Undersecretary for Migrant Workers' Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs, Philippines

*Hon. Peter Tum*, Principal Secretary, State Department for Labour, Kenya

#### 12:50 - 13:00 Presentation of the [RT Background Paper](#)

Thematic Lead: *Prof. Gibril Faal*, Director - GK Partners, IGA Visiting Professor in Practice – London School of Economics

#### 13:00 – 14:05 Panel I: Empowering Migrants Through Technology

Moderator: *Hon. Sarah Lou Arriola* – RT Co-Chair Philippines

Speaker: *Mr. Ausamah Alabsi*, Founder and Principal, Mind Map Consultants, Bahrain

#### Discussion Starters:

- *Mr. Jaber Al Mahmoud*, Deputy assistant for recruitment Ministry of Human Resource and Social Development, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- *Mr. W.M.V. Wansekara*, Additional General Manager, International Affairs, Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment, Sri Lanka
- *Ms. Amanda Flety*, UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights.
- *Mr. Mohamed Zarkani*, Chief of Mission, IOM-Bahrain
- *Mr. Murtaza Khan*, Partner, Fragomen
- *Ms. Alankrita Dayal*, Youth speaker

Interventions from the floor / Open Discussion

*(See Annex for Guiding Questions)*

**14:05 – 15:10 Panel II: Financial Inclusion, Remittances and New Technology**

Moderator: *Hon. Peter Tum, Co-Chair Kenya*

Speaker: *Ms. Sabine Mensah, Manager, UNCDF Regional Digital Hub for West and Central Africa*

Discussion starters:

- *Mr. Fahim Ibrahimji, Member of General Directorate of UN and International Conferences, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Afghanistan*
- *Mr. Hanspeter Wyss, Programme Manager, Global Programme Migration and Development, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland*
- *Ms. Asako Okai, Deputy Administrator and Director of the Crisis Bureau, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*
- *Mr. Onyekachi Wambu, Director, African Foundation for Development (AFFORD)*

Interventions from the floor / Open Discussion

*(See Annex for Guiding Questions)*

**15:10 – 15:20 Summary of the Roundtable**

RT Session Rapporteur: *Ms. Bettina Etter, Senior Adviser, Global Migration Governance, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs*

**15:20 – 15:30 Closing Statements by the RT Co-Chairs**

## **ANNEX: GUIDING QUESTIONS TO MEMBER STATES AND STAKEHOLDERS**

For the GFMD Round Table deliberations, member states and other stakeholders are encouraged to focus their discussions and contributions on the practicalities of how to leverage, expand and enhance ever evolving new technologies, to positively and proactively empower migrants of different gender and age groups, from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds and circumstances.

Discussants and delegates may address one or more of the guiding questions suggested below (they do not have to address all the questions). The guiding questions below encompass different policy aspects relating to technological solutions for migrants. In addressing the questions, member states and stakeholders are free to focus their interventions on one or more of the migration policy areas addressed in the paper, including access to welfare services, financial inclusion, recruitment and digital livelihoods etc.

- I. **Tech Solutions:** What are the specific national priorities to expand and enhance tech platforms and services to empower your diaspora, and the migrants in your country? How is your government engaging through international cooperation and partnerships to enhance the livelihood and empowerment of migrants through technological solutions?*
- II. **Partnerships:** Given the importance of multi-stakeholder collaboration in the field of migration-related technology, what are the priority themes for partnerships for your country, organisation or institution?*
- III. **Fair Access:** To 'leave no one behind' and ensure fair and affordable tech access amongst all migrants and people on the move, what specific priority measures, actions, ventures or programmes are needed in your country or region? To prevent digital divide amongst migrants on a gender basis, what actions and practical frameworks need to be implemented? How would you prevent tech marginalisation of all categories of vulnerable migrants?*
- IV. **Digital Skills:** Considering that the availability of tech solutions by itself does not guarantee beneficial usage by migrants, what partnerships, measures, actions, ventures or programmes are needed to enhance migrant digital literacy, skills and engagement to leverage and harness the full potential of new technologies? How would you empower migrants in relation to tech entrepreneurship, investment, trade and job creation?*
- V. **Regulation:** Considering the actual and potential negative aspects of technology in relation to migrants and people on the move, what specific proposals do you have for enlightened national regulation, and responsive regional and international frameworks? What do you consider the regulatory dos and don'ts for the purpose of leveraging new technologies to proactively empower migrants?*