

**RCRC DOHA DIALOGUE ON MIGRATION**

**15 – 17 JUNE 2014**

**DESIRED OUTCOMES, NEXT STEPS AND COMMITMENTS**

The 2014 RCRC Doha Dialogue on Migration aims to lay the foundations for the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement to become more active in providing assistance to migrant workers and to become more visible in labour migration advocacy and communication. In line with the Migration Resolution adopted at the 31st International Conference, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement has officially committed to playing a greater role in the area of migration and the 2014 Doha Dialogue reflects an important step towards fulfilling this historical pledge.

In this era of rapid globalisation, factors such as conflict, poverty and growing inequalities have led to an increase in labour migration, notably to countries in the Middle East where the demand for workers in construction and domestic service remains high. It is the reality that millions of people from so-called ‘sending countries’ such as Indonesia, the Philippines and Nepal, will continue to leave their homes in search of better pay and work opportunities in countries where their service are greatly received**. This trend is unlikely to change** and it is therefore the responsibility of governments and the humanitarian sector to ensure labour migrants are protected and treated fairly and with dignity as they undertake their work.

The 3-day RCRC Doha Dialogue will bring together 15 National Societies who are all directly affected by the impact of labour migration. As both ‘sending’ and ‘receiving’ countries, these National Societies will have the opportunity to share their experiences about their current work with migrant workers and to echo both their concerns and success stories. The participation of governments and external agencies will also enable the

RCRC Movement to be both more visible in the labour migration sector and to also explore opportunities for partnerships and advocacy at the national and international level.

However, the most critical aspect of the 2014 Doha Dialogue will be the outcomes and the decisions regarding how we move forward and maintain the momentum.

**We need to make sure this platform continues and that every year, we have two meetings, one in the Middle East and one in Asia.**

**Therefore at the close of the Dialogue, it is imperative that the participants affirm their commitment to the following:**

**SIX POST-DOHA COMMITMENTS**

1. **COMMITMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SECOND RCRC MIGRATION PLATFORM IN MANILA.**

The follow-up to the Doha Dialogue on Migration will be held in Manila, the Philippines in December 2014. We would like a commitment from National Societies that they will send at least one representative and that their attendance will be confirmed by September 2014. We would also like to encourage all NSs to provide feedback and suggestions for the Manila Platform as part of their debrief following the Doha Dialogue to ensure the topics are in line and relevant to their needs.

1. **AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT AND /OR ATTEND THE 2014 REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOCUSING ON INTER-CULTURAL DIALOGUE IN JAKARTA IN SEPTEMBER 2014.**

With the support of the IFRC and the ICRC, the Indonesia Red Cross will host a Regional Workshop focusing on the wider theme of inter-cultural and religious dialogue. Labour migration will feature as an issue on the

agenda and we would like to secure the commitment of the National Societies to play a part in the discussions and decision –making.

1. **ENHANCED COMMUNICATION AND EXCHANGE OF IDEAS BETWEEN ‘SENDING AND RECEIVING’ COUNTRIES’ - SENDING AND RECEIVING COUNTRIES TO COMMIT TO HOSTING NATIONAL MIGRATION WORKSHOPS OVER A 3-YEAR PERIOD.**

In order to fully understand the specific context and conditions in both ‘sending’ and ‘receiving’ countries, it is critical that there is a greater exchange of ideas and knowledge between all concerned stakeholders.

This can be done through Red Cross Red Crescent ‘study visits’ to various countries and through workplace exchanges for staff and volunteers in sending and receiving countries. National Societies should try to seek out opportunities with other **National Societies to set up such opportunities for the exchange of ideas, experience and knowledge.** It is essential that we all have a greater understanding of the bigger picture of migration, not just the aspect within our own home countries.

1. **RCRC MOVEMENT PLEDGE TO BE MORE ACTIVE IN ESTABLISHING RELATIONSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH EXTERNAL MIGRATION AGENCIES.**

The plight and vulnerability of migrant workers is one, which affects all countries and all sectors of society. Therefore efforts to improve legislation, protection and welfare policies must be collective and centre on partnerships governments, the humanitarian sector, academic institutions and local civil society organisations. National Societies should strive to be more engaged in regional dialogues.

**5) STRENGTHEN ADVOCACY AND HUMANITARIAN DIPLOMACY AROUND MIGRATION. BUILD UP RELATIONSHIPS AND RCRC ROLE IN EXISTING NETWORKS.**

The RCRC Movement has a unique ‘added value’ in terms of its powerful brand and access to remote and often inaccessible sectors of society through our volunteer network. But we can also learn and benefit from the existing expertise of others. We need to be at the decision-making table and become more vocal, visible and operational in migrant worker protection. Therefore National Societies and the Movement should commit to placing greater emphasis on networking, communication, advocacy and partnerships in this area.

We recognise that the current capacity and level of engagement, in terms of advocacy and HD, varies for each National Societies. Some are stronger than others. A numbers of tools, guidelines and policies have been built and made available by the Federation and we would like to encourage National Societies adapt these to fit their national contexts and strategies**. Advocacy around migration needs to become a key part of migration activities** and the Federation is ready to support all National Societies who wish to step up efforts in this area. A number of National Societies have made some good progress and we need to initiate a mapping process to assess where we are at and which NSs are setting good example and have good HD and advocacy practices to share.

1. **AGREEMENT FROM EACH NS TO NOMINATE ONE STAFF MEMBER/VOLUNTEER TO SERVE AS A LABOUR MIGRATION FOCAL POINT FOR MOVEMENT-WIDE DISCUSSIONS ON PUBLIC OUTREACH AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE.**

National Societies, through their distribution of branch offices and volunteers, often get access to authorities, places and communities that other agencies cannot. In order to capitalise on our unique position and community access, public awareness and behavioural change campaigns, combined with tools such as surveys, are extremely useful for gathering information and understanding the existing challenges and vulnerabilities

of migrant workers in society. We would like each National Society to nominate one representative to act as an informal focal point for future communication with the IFRC in this area. We would like the commitment of all NS to participate in exploratory discussions about how to enhance NS outreach and public awareness about migrant workers in both sending and receiving countries.