



حوار أبوظبي بين الدول الآسيوية المرسلية والمستقبلة للعمالة
Abu Dhabi Dialogue among the Asian Labor-Sending and Receiving Countries

"Abu Dhabi Dialogue" Operating Modalities

Adopted by the Third Ministerial Consultations in Kuwait, November 2014

The Abu Dhabi Dialogue is a voluntary and non-binding inter-government consultative process, engaging seven(7) Asian countries of labour destination: Bahrain, Kuwait, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and UAE; and eleven countries of origin: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. Japan, Korea and Singapore participate as observers.

The broad purpose of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue process is to provide a forum for the discussion of new ideas and concrete activities towards the enhancement of bilateral and regional cooperation and partnership aimed at better administering the temporary contract employment cycle and maximizing its benefits to contract workers, employers and the economies of countries of origin and destination.

Duly designated National Senior Officials from participating member and observer governments shall constitute a Steering Group to facilitate collaborative activities and programs, the voluntary implementation of outcomes and recommendations and the further development of the knowledge base and tools to improve the outcomes of temporary labour mobility in Asia. The Steering Group shall hold yearly meetings, in addition to a meeting immediately preceding and to prepare for the biennial Abu Dhabi Dialogue Ministerial Consultation. Meetings of the Steering Group are chaired by the Chair-in-Office.

Ministers of Labour and/or Overseas Employment from participating governments shall meet once every two years (The Abu Dhabi Dialogue Ministerial Consultation) to review outcomes and recommendations and reach a consensus on thematic priorities for the subsequent two years. The Consultation shall be hosted and chaired by the incoming Chair in the respective capital.



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A Support Structure, comprised of administrative staff and at least two subject experts, shall be set up and headquartered in Abu Dhabi (the ADD Permanent Head Office).

Chairing arrangement

In addition to its chairing duties, the Chair-in-Office assumes responsibility for the preparatory process and the implementation of the subsequent Ministerial consultation. The Chair-in-Office chairs all sessions related to the Dialogue preparations and hands over the chairing responsibilities to the incoming chair during the opening session of the Ministerial Consultation.

The Chair-in-Office is assisted by three members, including the former chair, the forthcoming chair and the host of the ADD Permanent Head Office. The four countries shall form a quadruple of a Chair-in-Office and two Co-Chairs. The Co-chairs shall assist the Chair-in-Office in strategic and planning matters. The subsequent Chair of the ADD shall be announced at the conclusion of each Ministerial consultation.

The Chair-in-Office should, in principle, alternate between a country of origin and country of destination. Countries interested in assuming the Chair of the Dialogue shall communicate their intention to the quadruple.

The ADD Permanent Head Office

The Support Structure shall, as directed by the quadruple:

- Provide technical and administrative support to the incumbent Chair, including proposing agendas and organizing preparatory meetings in consultation with members of the Steering Group;
- Work with members of the Steering Group and report on the status of implementation of the outcomes of the Ministerial consultations;



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- Commission studies and reports, as approved by the quadruple, to serve as inputs to ADD. The subject experts shall draft the TORs and oversee and review the studies and reports and communicate findings to the Steering Group;
- Prepare and maintain an internet-based database and resources network;
- Provide advice on drafting bilateral agreements to promote the cooperation fostered by the ADD.

The Government of UAE shall host the permanent ADD Support Structure and cover the expenses of hiring its administrative staff and subject matter experts.

The ADD Permanent Office shall report to the quadruple.

International organizations

The quadruple may invite International organizations and relevant governmental bodies to participate as observers Abu Dhabi Dialogue meetings and functions.