

Remarks by Mr. Wannapong Kotcharag,

Permanent Secretary,

Ministry of Labour, Thailand

Eighth Ministerial Consultation of the Abu Dhabi Dialogue

Joint Ministerial Declaration

31st January -1st February 2026

(1st February 2026 13.15 – 14.45)

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His Excellency Dr. Abdul Rahman Abdul Mannan Al Awar,

Your Excellencies,

ADD Member States,

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a profound honor to address this distinguished assembly today as the representative of the Minister of Labour of Thailand. On behalf of the Royal Thai Government, I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the United Arab Emirates and the ADD Secretariat for convening this essential platform, fostering meaningful dialogue on labour issues that transcend national borders.

Thailand...

Thailand fully endorses **Skills Mobility Partnerships (SMPs)**, marking our evolution from a labour-sender to a '**Development Partner**' for the GCC. We are shifting from quantity to quality, focusing on specialized new skills through upskilling and reskilling programs — including digital proficiency, wellness, and culinary arts—tailored to a knowledge-based economy. This 'Win-Win-Win' mechanism elevates Thai labour to international standards through joint investment and technology transfer. By proactively upskilling our workforce, we ensure they remain competitive, adaptable, and ready to contribute to the sustainable growth of our host countries.

Thailand remains steadfast in our commitment to **gender mainstreaming** within our labour laws, ensuring equal opportunities and protection for all. Beyond our role as a sending country, Thailand is also a major receiving country. To ensure the well-being of migrant workers in Thailand, we diligently enforce robust labour protection laws. Our commitment is anchored in the promotion of **Decent Work**.

As we navigate...

As we navigate the transformative future of work, Thailand remains dedicated to upholding international standards, including the new ILO instruments concerning platform workers. We fully prepare and commit to ensuring that the transition from informality to inclusivity is seamless, ensuring that every worker is protected by a robust social safety net. We believe in fostering an environment that not only safeguards workers' rights but also encourages global cooperation for long-term sustainability. International cooperations especially the ADD are vital for sharing experiences, exchanging best practices, and collectively striving for a future where the rights and well-being of all workers are honored.

In conclusion, the Royal Thai Government is eager to contribute to this ongoing dialogue and to collaborate toward a future where labour is valued, protected, and remains a cornerstone of sustainable and inclusive prosperity for all.

Thank you.
