

PHILIPPINES-HUMAN RIGHTS OF FILIPINO MIGRANT WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Trafficking in Persons – Issue 1

- Philippines has maintained its Tier 1 ranking since 2016
- New law - RA11862 Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2022
- New law categorises the deployment of a migrant domestic worker as child trafficking by redefining “child” as a person under 24 years old; this is discriminatory and regressive vis-à-vis women empowerment

Recommendations – Issue 1

- Repeal last paragraph of Section 4m of RA11862

Migrant Health Agenda – Issue 2

- Social Security Act of 2018 was enacted
- Universal Health Care Act was enacted into law, RA11223, in 2019
- In both laws, migrant workers, are mandated to enrol and pay the entire premium contributions from their own pockets

Recommendations – Issue 2

- For the Department of Migrant Workers, in close coordination with implementing agencies for social security and universal health care, to revisit the two laws in the context of migrant workers;
- Conduct broad consultations with migrant workers;
- Develop migrant-appropriate benefit package;
- Amend the laws as needed

Bilaterals and partnerships for Migrants Rights – Issue 3

- Philippines leads in forging Bilaterals, adherence to regional and Multilateral instruments of protection for migrants rights including the Asean Consensus on the protection of migrant workers (2017) and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and regular Migration (2018)
- No concrete plan of action to implement; no clear mechanism to implement and monitor
- Other Stakeholders not onboard

Recommendations – Issue 3

- Onboard relevant stakeholders in the process;
- Include clear provisions on access to social protection, including access to health care services and access to justice;
- Agreements must be accompanied with clear time-bound, measurable action plan with clear mechanism for implementation and monitoring

Thank you



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