**Fourth Joint Statement of a Group of Like-Minded States on Decent Work and Labour Migration**

**6th Round of Intergovernmental Negotiations of the**

**Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**

Thank you, Mr. Co-Facilitators,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of **Brazil, Costa Rica, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Paraguay, Uruguay, Vietnam,………….** and my own country, the **Philippines.**

Let me take this opportunity to convey to you, Mr. Co-Facilitators, and your team, our appreciation for the great work that has been done in ensuring that the multitude of comments and inputs that you received in the last round have been reflected in the current Draft Rev 3 of the text. Our group of like-minded states value that the specific elements on labour migration and decent work that we reiterated in three joint statements and the alignment that it generated from our friends in the Africa Group, India, and others in their national capacity were also taken into consideration in the revised draft of the text.

After reviewing the current draft, we have a few additional points that we consider important to be integrated. While some of these points were made in our last statement as well, we are suggesting this to ensure that the GCM text maintain consistency in the language on all aspects including on decent work and labour migration. With this mind, we offer the following suggestions:

* On Preamble:
  + We appreciate the very important reference to ILO conventions in the preambular paragraph 2. There is a need to clarify that while there are conventions on labour migration, it is ILO standards that promote decent work. Hence we would suggest that it read: “International Labour Organisation conventions and standards related to decent work and labour migration”.
  + We appreciate that references to relevant international standards including the ILO conventions related to migrant's rights and those related to the protection of migrant workers and the Domestic Workers Convention have been incorporated as a footnote. Once again, to be consistent with all aspects of the discussions here, we also suggest to include here a reference to ILO’s ‘Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998)’.
* On Objective 1: In our last statement, we reiterated that when addressing knowledge and data, and the need to harmonize methodologies, it would be important to reocognize also that ILO has a large body of knowledge on labour migration and existing international standards on data collection, and supports the International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS). Co-Facilitators, the International Conference of Labour Statisticians will adopt the first global guidance in October this year of statistical concepts and definitions of international migrant workers, for-work international migrants and return migrants. The ILO will be supporting member States to collect data under these new standards. Thus, we suggest to cross reference this in Paragraph 16(a) alongside the reference to the UN Statistical Commission.
* On Objective 5: We welcome the reference to ‘decent work’ in the chapeau of this objective. We had pointed out in our previous statements that Objective 5 is very important in this respect with its strong focus on labour migration governance and its closely linked to other objectives. In this regard, we ask that “decent work” includes the reference in the previous draft to “facilitates labour mobility at all skills levels”.
* On Objective 6:
  + Paragraph 22(i) is a key paragraph for the protection of **all** migrant workers in the workplace. We therefore ask for the deletion of the word "contractual" which would in practice exclude many workers from the protections under the fundamental principles and rights at work provisions of the paragraph, which should apply to **all** workers.
  + We appreciate that the references to access to labour justice and grievance and dispute mechanisms has been incorporated in paragraph 22(j). It is, however, important to note that this access should remain expeditious and affordable and distinct from immigration control mechanisms. Therefore, we suggest that the last line of this sentence read as follows: “and allow them to participate in respective legal proceedings that are expeditious and affordable whether in the country of origin or destination”.
  + We also would like to reiterate our suggestion for the text which is now in paragraph 22(l) to utilize previous language to “promoting” recommendations of ILO General Principles and Operational Guidelines on Fair Recruitment, as these are based on existing international standards. The text could further “Take into consideration” the additional non-standard based guidance of UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and IOM’s IRIS.

* On Objective 23: We continue to consider the new objective to “strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration” an important objective. However, this cannot be achieved without including reference to existing processes in many parts of the world where migration and employment issues are addressed through social dialogue and through a multi-stakeholder partnership-oriented approach. We therefore reiterate our call for the inclusion of a new paragraph 39(f) that will include social dialogue and the role of civil society, private sector, trade unions, and other relevant stakeholders.

We will also share this with your team in writing. Thank you, Mr. Co-Facilitators.