

## 2nd Module: 2nd June - 5th June 2017

Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) in partnership with Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA) Bar Council Migrants, Refugees and Immigration Affairs Committee (MRIAC), North South Initiative (NSI) and Migration Working Group (MWG) organised module-2 of the “*Advocating for the Rights of Migrant Workers in Malaysia*” from 2-5 June 2017.

The yearlong program is designed to build knowledge, skills and networks to enhance and support civil society advocacy for the promotion and protection of migrant workers’ rights in Malaysia. The program brings together Malaysian advocates with advocates from countries of origin, including Nepal, Bangladesh, Philippines, and Indonesia to build links and networks and to develop shared advocacy strategies for greater impact in Malaysia and countries of origin.

The program strategy forms part of DTPs broader theory of change, whereby the direct benefits of the training programs are expected to translate into more effective and strategic engagement with the international human rights system and national governments, and into more systematic participation in policy dialogues and in regional fora such as the Abu Dhabi Dialogue, the Colombo Process and ASEAN. The programs also share good practice from other countries of origin and destination, developed understanding of the situation in countries of destination and built links with NGOs and networks there.

Module – 2 of the program had a focus on case documentation/ management and organising of migrant workers. Module also included sessions on the Malaysian legal and policy framework governing migrant workers, and a practical engagement with a member of Parliament on the role of parliamentarians for the protection of the rights of migrant workers. Participants of the program revisited the issues and expectation of the program identified in module-1 and set priorities for change to develop campaigning strategy.

Resource persons for the program were Pathma Santiago – Regional Coordinator Asia Pacific at a Global Union; Apolinar Z Tolention – Regional Representative at BWI; Dato Ramachelvam Manimuthu – Chairperson at Migrants, Refugees & Immigration Affairs Committee Bar Council of Malaysia; Dr. Michael Jeyakumar Devaraj – Member of parliament; and Sahul Hamid – Vice Chairman at MTUC Penang Division.

This was the second of the five-module capacity building training program in Malaysia. The next module in August will focus on the responsibilities of private sector for the protection of the rights of migrant workers.

