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NEA

Weekly e-SHOT

7th -11th March 2022

All is set for the 3rd Regional Ministerial Forum on Migration (RMFM) to be held in Nairobi, Kenya





The National Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Regional Ministerial Forum on Migration (RMFM), held a preparatory meeting on 4th March 2022 at the Ministry of Labour Head Quarters chaired by the Principal Secretary, Ministry of Labour Eng. Peter K. Tum. The meeting was also attended by the Ag. Director General, NEA Ms. Edith Okoki as well as the representatives from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the International Labour Organization (ILO).

This meeting offered the much needed opportunity for the committee to discuss issues in relation to: Highlights of the Regional Ministerial Forum on Migration (RMFM) and brief on the upcoming 3rd RMFM to be held between 28th March and 1st April 2022 in Nairobi; Update on the establishment of oversight and community feedback mechanism that would promote safe and orderly labour mobility and address irregular migration flows and the overview of the Right Based Model Bilateral Labour Agreement (BLA) adopted by IGAD member states.

The Regional Ministerial Forum on Migration for East and Horn of Africa is an ISCM bringing together 11 States from East and Horn of Africa Region to jointly address labour migration policies, foster labour mobility and protect the fundamental human, labour, and social rights of migrant workers migrating within the continent and from Africa to EU, GCC Member States and other countries.

The RMFM was launched at the Regional Ministerial Forum on "Harmonizing Labour Migration Policies in East and Horn of Africa – A United Approach on Safe, Regular and Humane Labour Migration" that was held in Nairobi, Kenya in January 2020. Participating States agreed to collaborate to strengthen labour migration governance in the East and Horn of Africa region by establishing a platform for experience sharing, consultation on issues, dialogue, and the review and implementation of recommendations.

It will promote regional common approaches and social dialogue in the formulation and implementation of evidence-based, human rights and gen-

der-sensitive harmonized labour migration policies. The RMFM's work is guided by the relevant regional and global initiatives addressing migration, such as the Africa 2063 Agenda, AU Free Movement Protocol, the Revised Migration Policy Framework for Africa, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs 8.8 and 10.7), the Global Compact for Migration (Objectives 6 and 23) as well as the IOM's Migration Governance Framework.



The six objectives of the RMFM for 2020-2023 include:

1. Support Member States and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to develop, adopt and implement bilateral and multilateral labour migration agreements (BLMAs).

2. Promote common African policy responses to implement existing legal and policy frameworks; formulate new policy responses where protection gaps have been identified and involve multilateral stakeholders and development partners to protect the human, social, economic and labour rights of African migrant workers in countries of origin, transit and countries of destination.

3. Establish or reinforce existing labour market information systems within Africa to identify labour market needs for migrant workers and strengthen the capacity of labour market institutions on labour migration.

4. Introduce harmonised standards and tools for data collection, analysis and monitoring on international labour migration in Africa to encourage quantitative and qualitative research on labour migration and its inter-correlated issues and facilitate evidence-based labour migration policy-making.

5. Governments to enhance inter-State; intra and inter-regional cooperation for implementation of the AUC/IOM/ILO Joint Labour Migration Program.

6. Governments to support the overall strengthening of social security and welfare institutions in Member States in order to extend social security to migrant workers, promoting in particular the mainstreaming of gender and disability issues, induced mental health and psychosocial issues through access and portability regimes compatible with international standards and good practice.

Kenya is committed to collaborate with development partners and support initiatives that would promote safe and orderly labour mobility and thereby safeguarding the safety of migrant workers.

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"To formulate and implement employment policies and programmes for creation of sustainable employment for all Kenyans"

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