



# Summary Report on Colombo Process Coordination Meetings in Geneva

Ms. Manisha Gunasekera  
Deputy Permanent Representative  
Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka  
Geneva, Switzerland

May 6 - 7, 2014  
Colombo Process Senior Officials' Meeting  
Colombo, Sri Lanka

# Sri Lanka's Chairmanship of the Colombo Process

- ❑ Chairmanship of the Colombo Process was formally transferred from Bangladesh to Sri Lanka at a meeting held at the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka in Geneva on 21 October 2013.
- ❑ The 11 CP member states participate in the Colombo Process meetings in Geneva
- ❑ 01 Ambassador level and 03 expert level meetings have been held in Geneva under Sri Lanka's chairmanship, from October 2013 to date.
- ❑ IOM provides operational and technical support to the Chair in the conduct of meetings in Geneva as per CP Operating Modalities

# Sri Lanka's Chairmanship of the Colombo Process

- ❑ Theme for Sri Lanka's Chairmanship of the Colombo Process

*International Labour Migration for Prosperity:  
Adding Value by Working Together*

- ❑ Strategic Vision and Concept Paper of the Colombo Process under Sri Lanka's Chairmanship

*'The Chair in Office will lay out a written agenda for distribution to the entire membership covering the priority issues and/or actions it will consider during the course of its Chairmanship as well as proposed timeframes for meetings and consultations.'*

(Section E-4 of CP Operating Modalities)

- ❑ Envisages holding 3 SOMs and 1 Ministerial Meeting in 2014-2015 during Sri Lanka's chairmanship of CP

# Sri Lanka's Chairmanship of the Colombo Process

- ❑ Hon. Dilan Perera, Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion & Welfare of Sri Lanka discussed the Strategic Vision and Concept Paper of the Colombo Process under Sri Lanka's Chairmanship with Director General, IOM Ambassador William Lacy Swing on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2013 in Geneva
- ❑ The discussion was facilitated by Sri Lanka's Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva Ambassador Ravinatha Aryasinha, with the attendance of Permanent Representatives of CP states in Geneva

# First Permanent Representatives' Meeting held in Geneva on 11 December 2013

- ❑ Introduction of Strategic Vision and Concept Paper on the Colombo Process & Discussion
- ❑ Agreed on the Five thematic areas
- ❑ Proposal by Philippines to have a meeting between the CP and ADD Chairs ahead of the ADD Troika meeting scheduled for mid-January 2014

# Meeting between Chairs of Colombo Process and Abu Dhabi Dialogue

- ❑ Hon. Dilan Perera, Minister of Foreign Employment Promotion and Welfare of Sri Lanka (CP Chair) met Hon. Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz, Secretary for Labour and Welfare of Philippines (ADD Chair) on 06 January 2014 in Manila, Philippines
- ❑ ADD-CP cooperation was discussed
- ❑ The following were identified as issues in the ADD which have synergy with the CP
  - Pre-departure orientation
  - Qualification recognition process
  - Comprehensive information orientation programmes
  - Recruitment standards

# Meeting between Chairs of Colombo Process and Abu Dhabi Dialogue

## □ Other issues discussed:

- The importance of synchronizing the calendars of CP and ADD SOMs, and other CP-ADD Meetings
- To propose to ADD Troika creation of a joint ADD-CP technical working group
- To propose to ADD Troika the expansion of its composition

# First Expert Level Meeting in Geneva

15 January 2014

- ❑ Briefing by Chair on the outcome of the Bilateral Meeting between Sri Lanka, CP Chair, and Philippines, ADD Chair, on 6 January 2014 in Manila, Philippines
- ❑ Discussion on the Concept Paper and Road Map of Sri Lanka's Chairmanship of the CP
- ❑ Focus on Post-2015 Development Agenda as an Action Area in the CP Concept Paper / Road Map. Bangladesh to lead this discussion.
- ❑ CP Cooperation with the EU



# Second Expert Level Meeting in Geneva

14 February 2014

- ❑ Briefing on a potential funding formula for consideration by the Colombo Process by IOM & Discussion
- ❑ Briefing on the EC-funded project of IOM Dhaka
- ❑ Briefing on migration in the post-2015 Development Agenda by IOM
- ❑ Discussion on the thematic issues and creation of working groups

# Third Expert Level Meeting in Geneva

14 February 2014

- Draft Agenda of CP SOM scheduled for 06-07 May 2014 in Colombo, Sri Lanka
- Draft Agenda is based on the Concept Paper, and the Thematic Areas contained therein
- The SOM Agenda is the outcome of a consultative process with CP member states in Geneva

# Thematic Areas

<b>Thematic Area</b>	<b>Designate Member State/s</b>
<b>1. Review the Qualification Recognition Processes including transnational accreditation and monitoring</b>	<b>Sri Lanka</b>
<b>2. Promote Cheaper, Faster &amp; Safer Transfer of Remittances</b>	<b>India</b>
<b>3. Ethical Labour Recruitment Practices</b> a) Harmonize existing national regulatory frameworks b) Promote Standard Employment Contracts (address issue of contract substitution and create a registration mechanism for contracts) c) Consider common minimum wage levels, and conditions that promote health and well-being and insurance protection d) Develop a common position on ethical recruitment practices	<b>Bangladesh</b>
<b>4. Effective Pre-departure Orientation &amp; Empowerment (including health promotion, migration crisis skills development)</b>	<b>Philippines</b>
<b>5. Develop a database on the economic trends in the destination countries (Middle East countries).</b>	<b>Pakistan</b>

# Proposed Colombo Process Funding Formula

- ❑ It is important for Regional Consultative Processes on Migration (RCPs) to have some independent resources with which to support the Chair in running the affairs of the RCPs, especially the convening of meetings.
- ❑ Having independent resources ensures sustainability of the RCP and enhances the predictability of its operations.
- ❑ A comprehensive presentation on proposed Colombo Process Funding Formula will be delivered during the Session 6 of the Senior Officials' Meeting

# Cooperation with Abu Dhabi Dialogue (ADD) and other RCPs

- ❑ The CP Chair has sought to build dialogue and synergy between the CP and the ADD in furtherance of the CP's objectives, which includes enhancing dialogue with destination countries.
- ❑ During the first Permanent Representatives' Meeting in Geneva on 11 December 2013, the possibility of creating a joint CP-ADD 'Working Group' to focus collaboration that could lead to tangible benefits was discussed.
- ❑ The Joint ADD-CP Chairs Meeting that took place on 06 January 2014 in Manila, Philippines further discussed enhancement of CP-ADD dialogue
- ❑ This topic will be discussed in more detail in Session 5 of the Senior Officials Meeting



Thank You