

## CONCEPT NOTE

### Migration Week Side Event

Marrakesh, Morocco

Side Event Title: **International Health Worker Migration & Global Skills Partnerships: A Stakeholder's Dialogue**

Organisers: **Public Services International, European Federation of Public Service Unions, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the World Health Organization**

**Date & Time: 9<sup>th</sup> December 2018, 8.00-10.00, Salle Diamant**

#### **Background:**

The health and social sector is a leading and growing source of employment globally, particularly for women. The sector represents approximately 11% of all employment in OECD countries.<sup>1</sup> Globally, 40 million additional jobs are expected to be created in the sector by 2030.<sup>2</sup> Alongside increasing job creation, the international migration of health workers is accelerating, with patterns of movement growing in complexity. Health professional education has itself globalized considerably.

Strengthened global governance of health worker migration has been an expressed priority in the health sector, with important implications for the achievement of SDG 3 (health and well-being) alongside the broader SDG Agenda. In particular, the adoption of the *WHO Global Code of Practice in the International Recruitment of Health Personnel* in 2010, helped fill a vacuum of global governance at the sectoral level. Similar to the Global Compact on Migration (GCM), the WHO Global Code puts forward a comprehensive and non-binding approach to managing health worker migration, complemented with a robust monitoring framework. Data, dialogue and international cooperation on health worker migration has strengthened over the last eight years. The establishment of the *International Platform on Health Worker Mobility* in 2017 seeks to maximize benefits and mitigate adverse effects from health worker mobility through elevated dialogue, knowledge and cooperation.

The anticipated adoption of the GCM presents a significant opportunity to further strengthen international cooperation on health worker migration and mobility. Indeed, the final text of the GCM contains important linkages to international health worker migration and mobility, particularly provisions related to data, ethical recruitment, recognition of qualification, and international cooperation. The Global Skills Partnerships, articulated in the GCM, proposes an approach for skills development and facilitated international labour mobility that has particular relevance for the health sector.

Public Services International (PSI), the global federation of public service trade unions, the European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU), the German Foundation Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, and the World Health Organization (WHO) recognize the opportunity to advance implementation of the GCM, including examining the proposal for Global Skills Partnerships. We invite interested member states, international organisations, trade unions, civil society and other relevant stakeholders, to attend this official side event of the Intergovernmental Conference on the Global Compact for Migration.

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<sup>1</sup> Working for Health and Growth, Report of the High-Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth, WHO, 2016. Available at <http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/250047/1/9789241511308-eng.pdf?ua=1>.

<sup>2</sup> Id.

**Objectives:**

- To share key instruments, partnerships, and processes towards strengthening the governance of health worker migration, as consistent with the Global Compact, the WHO Global Code of Practice, the Sustainable Development Goals, and other international instruments; and
- To discuss the proposal for Global Skills Partnerships through examination of innovative approaches and evidence-based analyses, with the view to strengthening social dialogue and international cooperation on health labour mobility and migration.

**Session format:**

The session consists of presentations and panel discussions (Davos style). Presentations will be given, providing background and context, followed by an open discussion with panellists.

**Moderator and indicative list of speakers:**

- **Moderator: Mr. Ogmundur Jónasson**, Former Minister of Health and Social Security, Iceland; Chairman of the Icelandic Parliament's Constitutional and Supervisory Committee and representative to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.
- **Opening Remarks, Ms. Rosa Pavanelli**, General Secretary, Public Services International
- **Scene Setting Presentations (30 mins)**
  - International Platform on Health Worker Mobility, WHO
  - Global Skills Partnerships, Mr. Michael Clemens (TBC)
  - PSI Paper on the GSP, Remco van Pas, Researcher, University of Maastricht
- **Panel discussions (1 30 minutes)**
  - Minister of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia (TBC)
  - Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jamaica (TBC)
  - Secretary General, Sudan Medical Specialization Board, Sudan (TBC)
  - Minister of Health/Foreign Affairs, Germany (TBC)
  - Representative, WHO
  - Ms. Manjula Luthria, World Bank
  - Ms. Moradeke Abiodun-Badru, National Association of Nigerian Nurses and Midwives
  - Mr. Herbert Beck, Germany Triple Win Program, Ver.di