

**NINTH COORDINATION MEETING ON
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

Population Division

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

United Nations Secretariat

New York, 17-18 February 2011

**ESCAP INPUT TO THE NINTH COORDINATION MEETING
ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION¹**

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

¹ The views expressed in the paper do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the United Nations Secretariat.

MAJOR INITIATIVES RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Asia-Pacific Regional Thematic Working Group (TWG) on International Migration including Human Trafficking, which is co-chaired by ESCAP and IOM, jointly organized the Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) 2010, held from 22-24 September 2010 in Bangkok. During the Meeting four roundtables were held. Each of the roundtables was jointly organized by several agencies represented in the Thematic Working Group. The roundtables featured the following themes:

- Migration and Health (organized and conducted by IOM, UNFPA and UNAIDS)
- Migration, Gender and Families (organized and conducted by UNIFEM and ESCAP)
- Partnerships for more regular and protected migration and strategies to address irregular migration (organized and conducted by ILO, OHCHR, UNODC and UNHCR)
- Linking Migration and Development (organized and conducted by ESCAP and IOM)

Recommendations from the roundtable discussions and plenary discussions led to the “Bangkok Statement on Migration and Development”, which was adopted by consensus by all the 31 participating Asia-Pacific Governments at the Meeting. The “Bangkok Statement on Migration and Development” recognizes the contribution of migrant workers as development actors and gives recommendations to enhance the protection of migrant workers, and to facilitate migration through regular channels. It also recommends that “efforts be strengthened to collect and share migration data, including health, sex and age disaggregated data; undertake qualitative and quantitative studies; and to analyse the impact of migration on families in order to promote better policy formulation and provision of services.”

The Asia-Pacific Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration including Human Trafficking is currently drafting a “Situation Report on International Migration in South- and South-West Asia”, which will serve as comprehensive reference material with detailed data and information on international migration in each country of the sub-region as well as issues in thematic areas. The Situation Report will feature country chapters and thematic chapters and will be published in September 2011. The report will feature chapters on health, environment, protection of the rights of migrants, remittances, labour migration, refugees, women and gender, children, and regional cooperation. Agencies represented in the TWG have taken the responsibility for the chapters covering their specific mandates.