

JOINT DECLARATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE PROTECTION OF MIGRANTS AND MIGRANT WORKERS

The Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, as parties to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families adopted by General Assembly resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990 and the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers, signed in Cebu on 13 January 2007, have agreed on the following principles to further strengthen their cooperation in the promotion and protection of the rights of migrants and migrant workers:

- Migrants and migrant workers play an important role in the economic growth and development of both the countries of origin and countries of destination. This role could be further enhanced by ensuring that their rights are recognized and protected by legally-binding international instruments. Towards this end, both sides shall endeavor to consult with each other and adopt common positions in the negotiation of international or regional instruments concerning migrants and migrant workers, particularly the negotiation of an ASEAN legal instrument on the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers and their families.
- 2. Diplomatic and consular missions are important instrumentalities of government to extend support and protection to their citizens temporarily or permanently residing within their respective diplomatic and consular jurisdictions.
- 3. As countries of origin, the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of Indonesia shall promote mutual support and cooperation between their respective diplomatic and consular missions abroad to provide protection to their migrants and migrant workers temporarily or permanently residing abroad, including through capacity building cooperation, regular consultation, exchange of views and best practices.
- 4. The two Governments shall promote mutual support and cooperation between their respective diplomatic and consular missions in a third Country, particularly by assisting the other Government in providing protection to its migrants and migrant workers in that Country. For this purpose, their diplomatic and consular missions in a third Country, where there is a substantial number of their migrants or migrant workers, will meet regularly for exchange of information and coordination.

- 5. The two Governments reaffirm that the provision of mutual consular assistance shall be rendered to both documented and undocumented migrants or migrant workers in an equal manner. They further emphasize that protection and consideration shall be granted to women and children, especially those who are victims of human trafficking or people smuggling.
- They agree to intensify their existing cooperation under the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Manpower and Transmigration of the Republic of Indonesia and the Department of Labor and Employment of the Republic of the Philippines concerning Migrant Workers, signed on 18 January 2003.
- Nothing in this Joint Declaration shall prevent one side to seek the assistance and support of a third state for the protection and promotion of the rights of their migrants and migrant workers.

Adopted this 9th day of February 2015 in Manila, Philippines.

For the Government of the Republic of Indonesia

Signed

RETNO L. P. MARSUDI Minister for Foreign Affairs For the Government of the Republic of the Philippines

Signed

ALBERT F. DEL ROSARIO Secretary of Foreign Affairs