

GFMD 2020 ROUNDTABLES

Bios of Co-Chairs / Thematic Lead / Moderators / Rapporteur / Panellists / Discussion Starters

Roundtable Theme 2 – Skilling Migrants for Employment

Co-Chair

Ms. Victoria Hermon
Policy and Programme Manager
Department for International Development
United Kingdom



Victoria Hermon has been the Productive Migration Policy Lead at the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office since 2019. Before this, she led the UK Department for International Development's efforts to expand funding to small grassroots civil society organisations through leadership of the UK Aid Direct Fund. Victoria previously served in a variety of roles across government and in the private sector.

Victoria has a Bachelor's Degree in Law from the University of Cambridge and is currently working on her Masters in Global Development.

Co-Chair

Mr. Robert Eric Borje
Presidential Adviser on Foreign Affairs and Chief of Protocol
Philippines



A career diplomat, Mr. Borje has served as President Rodrigo Roa Duterte's Special Envoy to Tunisia, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Kingdom of Bahrain tasked to seek greater cooperation in upholding, protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of Overseas Filipino Workers. Mr. Borje headed repatriation from Assistance to Nationals missions to Beirut, Dammam, Jeddah, Manama, Riyadh, and Tunis. Before his detail at the Office of the President, he was Director for Maritime and Ocean Affairs and then Director for South and Central Asia concurrently working on cross-cutting regional issues, including regular and irregular migration and South-South cooperation in the Asia-Pacific. As Special Assistant to Secretary of Foreign Affairs Alberto G. Romulo, his portfolio included migrant workers issues with special focus on distressed nationals. He was assigned to the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C. and the Philippine Mission to the United Nations in New York. Mr. Borje has a degree in Communications from the University of the Immaculate Conception and attended the

Netherlands Institute of Foreign Relations Clingendael at The Hague, the International Institute of Humanitarian Law in Sanremo, Italy, the Rhodes Academy for Oceans Law and Policy in Greece, and the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Hawaii, U.S.A. As part of his advocacy, he translated English language primers on labor rights, anti-human trafficking law and law against violence against women into Cebuano. For distinguished service, Mr. Borje was conferred the Orden ng Lakandula and the Gawad Mabini by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo in 2007. He was a broadcast journalist before government service.

Thematic Lead

Mr. Vassiliy Yuzhanin

Senior Labour & Human Mobility Facilitation Specialist
IOM



Vassiliy Yuzhanin is a Head of Labour and Human Mobility Facilitation Unit at IOM Geneva. He has over 20 years of experience in migration issues, specializing on labour migration and the International Migration Law, related policy and legislation, business and migrant workers' rights, bilateral labour migration agreements, skills-based migration management, data and border control. Vassiliy has been working nationally and regionally providing expert support and implementing projects on the above-mentioned thematic areas on a number of positions in IOM in Central Asia, in Azerbaijan, in the Regional Office for South-East, Eastern Europe and Central Asia and in IOM Headquarters. He took part in, led or contributed to many initiatives supporting governments in migration policy and legislation development.

Vassiliy holds a degree in pedagogics and two law degrees, one on commercial law from the Higher Law School "Adilet" in Kazakhstan and LLM on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law from Aberystwyth University, Wales, UK.

Rapporteur

Mr. Michael Sean Koorapetse

Counsellor, Labour and Migration Issues
Permanent Mission of **Botswana** to the UN in Geneva



Michael is currently a Counsellor in the Permanent Mission of Botswana to United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva. He is responsible for Labour, Migration and Consular affairs in the Mission. Under this portfolio, Michael covers activities of organizations such as IOM, GFMD and ILO. He has already attended the 11th and 12th GFMD Summits held in Marrakech, Morocco and Quito, Ecuador.

Prior to his appointment in Geneva, Michael worked as an officer responsible for international affairs in the Department of Labour and Social Security

under the Ministry of Employment, Labour Productivity and Skills Development in the Botswana.

He is a holder of a Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences, from the University of Botswana in 2005. In 2011 and 2012 he completed BA (Honours) and MA in Labour Relations & HR at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. He is currently enrolled for a PhD in Employment Relations with the University of Johannesburg in South Africa.

Panel I - Skilling Migrants for Employment to 'build back better' at the time of and post Covid-19

Moderator

Mr. Jason Gagnon

Development Economist – Migration and skills
OECD Development Center



Jason is a development economist with the OECD Development Centre and leads its work on migration and development, producing empirically-based policy reports, coordinating its Policy Dialogue on Migration and Development and co-chairing a KNOMAD thematic working group (on youth migration). He has worked at the OECD since 2007 in a variety of subjects related to both migration and development, and is an expert on the links between these two policy fields. In addition to international migration, he has led, drafted and published reports on informality, internal migration, urbanisation, social cohesion, well-being, and development strategies. He has been a core author of the OECD's Perspectives on Global Development flagship report since its inception in 2009, and led the team from 2017 to 2019. Sitting on several advisory boards related to migration, he brings the OECD Development Centre's unique expertise and policy circles into international and regional governance fora, such as the GFMD. He holds a PhD in economics from the Paris School of Economics (PSE).

Panellist 1

Mr. Menno Bart

Public Affairs Manager
The Adecco Group
On behalf of the Business Mechanism



Menno Bart is Public Affairs Manager at the Adecco Group. As such, he is responsible for managing the Group's relationship with global and European policy makers, and for representing the Group in institutional settings covering topics like the future of work, (youth) employability and skills.

Menno is a Board Member of the World Employment Confederation, the industry federation representing the HR services industry. In addition, he is closely involved with employment and social policy topics working via Business Europe, the International Organization of Employers, and Business at OECD.

Menno also acts as Co-Chair of the GFMD's Ad Hoc Working Group on the impact of Covid-19 on Migrants, Migration and Development.

Previously, Menno worked as a lobbyist in Brussels for the World Employment Confederation, and as a consultant for Russchen Consultants. Menno is a former diplomat for the Dutch government in Prague and on Aruba. Menno is currently based at the Adecco Group's headquarters in Zurich.

Panellist 2

Ms. Moradeke Abiodun-Badru

Project Coordinator

Public Services International (PSI)



Ms Moradeke Abiodun-Badru is a health professional and a gender and industrial relations expert. She has almost two decades of experience as a staff and one of the principal officers of the National Association of Nigeria Nurses and Midwives. At present, Ms Abiodun-Badru works with Public Services International as Project coordinator for English-speaking West Africa. She has contributed to research and policy papers on precarious work, Migration, Health policy development and gender at a national and international level.

Panellist 3

Ms. Stella Opoku-Owusu

Deputy Director

African Foundation for Development (AFFORD)

On behalf of the Civil Society Mechanism



Stella has 18 years' experience in the development sector at community, national and international levels, working with diaspora and migrant communities. She has solid experience and knowledge of diaspora, migration and development, in policy and practice and is responsible for overseeing AFFORD's work on Diaspora & Migrants Investment and their contributions to Enterprise and Employment. She has played an active role as part of the civil society programmatic committee for GFMD 2020 as well as representing civil society on the GFMD practitioners' committee on Skilling Migrants for Employment.

Stella was nominated Co-Chair for the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD - Quito) Civil Society Day 2019, having previously led on AFFORD's official engagement with Migration and Development (MADE) Civil Society Network and coordinated the global thematic working group on diaspora and migrants in development. She has provided expertise to governments on diaspora engagement policy through consultancy, training programmes and speaking engagements. Her role engages

diaspora and migrants, INGOs, inter-governmental and international bodies, governments and other stakeholders involved in diaspora and development with a view to developing policy to create a better enabling environment for diaspora action and job creation in Africa. She was recently elected to the board of BOND – the UK network for international development organisations.

Discussion Starter 1

Amb. Lieven De la Marche

Special Envoy Migration and Asylum
Belgium



Ambassador Lieven De la Marche is the Belgian Special Envoy for Migration and Development, a function created within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation in order to represent Belgium in a number of European and international processes and fora on migration and to maximize the nexus between Migration and Development.

Before his assignment as Special Envoy in September 2020, Lieven De la Marche was the Belgian Ambassador in Burkina Faso from 2016 to 2020, the first two years also serving as Ambassador for Mali and Niger. Previous postings as a diplomat included the Belgian Representation to the OECD (as DAC-delegate) and the Bureaus of Development Cooperation in Ecuador and Mali (as Head of the Bureau). He also served in Brussels within the Directorate of Multilateral Cooperation and the Cabinet of the Minister of Development Cooperation. He has extensive field experience working as a development expert for the Belgian Development Agency, as well as NGO's in the Philippines, Suriname and Burkina Faso.

Panel II: A Holistic Approach Skills Based Mobility and Migration

Moderator

Ms. Michele Klein-Solomon

Regional Director for Central and North America and the Caribbean
IOM



Michele Klein Solomon is Regional Director for Central and North America and the Caribbean for the International Organization for Migration (IOM), based in San Jose, Costa Rica. She assumed this position on 31 August 2020.

Prior to her current assignment, Ms. Klein Solomon served as the first Director of the newly established Policy Hub in the Office of the Director General at (IOM). The Policy Hub is designed to draw together, and deliver, policy knowledge across the Organization. The Hub is a catalyst to promote effective collection, analysis, and exchange of policy-relevant data and knowledge, and to facilitate strategic migration policy advice based on expertise from across IOM.

From 2016-108, she was Director, Global Compact for Migration at IOM, leading IOM's support to States and partners in the development and implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

From 2014 to 2016, she directed the Secretariat of the state-led Migrants in Countries in Crisis Initiative. Ms. Klein Solomon was IOM's representative to the United Nations in New York from 2010-2014, and previously was Director of IOM's Migration Policy and Research Department.

Prior to joining IOM in 2000, she served for 10 years as an Attorney Adviser in the Office of the Legal Adviser at the U.S. Department of State. For a majority of that time, she served as the principal refugee and migration lawyer for the Department of State.

She provides advice to governments in all regions of the world and to regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental entities on a wide range of migration policy matters.

Panellist 1

Ms. Manja Kargbo

Team Lead for the Mayor's Delivery Unit

City of Freetown

On behalf of the Mayors Mechanism

Panellist 2

Mr. Stephen Yee

Assistant Executive Director- Corporate Training and Workforce Transformation

Singapore National Employers Federation

On behalf of the Business Mechanism



Mr Stephen Yee is the Assistant Executive Director, Corporate Learning Centre and Workforce Transformation. Stephen has developed the SNEF Corporate Learning Centre to meet the current and the future needs of its members and employers at large.

He works closely with the government on the evaluation of training programmes that is applicable for employers. He is in various tripartite working committee likes the tripartite committee for older workers in training, employers committee for human capital development. He involves in various committees for training, consultancy working with government agencies, trade unions and employers.

He had been the employers representative and also the trustee of Singapore Migrant Workers Centre for 3 years since inception. He has 30 years of working experience in technology, training and development and management practice advocating good human resource practices, learning and development and business development.

His first degree was in Bsc in Management Studies (Hons) with University of London. He was also awarded a Double Distinction in Master of Project Management with University of Adelaide in 2006. He had just completed the Executive Programme in Leadership and Management in Policy in Sep 2020 from National University of Singapore (Lee Kuan Yew School of Policy). He is a strong believer in lifelong learning and skills development.

Panellist 3

Ms. Caroline Caporossi

Founder

Association for the Integration of Women in Modena

On behalf of the Youth



Caroline is the founder of the Association for the Integration of Women in Modena, which provides resources to migrant women living in Modena so that they can spread roots and flourish, achieving their economic and personal goals and making our society stronger for themselves and future generations. She is also a finalist for the “Leadership and Innovation Award for Migration”.

At the start of her career in the United States, Caroline has worked with Latino immigrants with a focus on women, concentrating on providing legal support (U-Visa, DACA) as well as research related to emergency readiness and preparedness for limited English proficient residents. She then moved to Italy where she led program development for Food for Soul, a non-profit community development organization. After almost three years, Caroline founded the Association for the Integration of Women in Modena, the first Modenese association focused on supporting migrant women with economic and social integration. During the pandemic they launched their first campaign, employing migrant women who were seamstresses in their home countries to sew face masks for the community, and now they continue to work towards the opening of their larger project, Roots, a training program and ethnic restaurant as a model for integration. Roots is a culinary training program and ethnic restaurant that will open in Modena in January 2020 which will facilitate economic and social integration of migrant women through preparing them and placing them in the labour force as well as fostering an appreciation and understanding of the culture of those women through food. The project lends itself to business incubation, a diversified workforce, and a healthier society.

Discussion Starter 1

Mr. S. Arumainayaham

Secretary

State Ministry of FEP & MD

Sri Lanka

Discussion Starter 2

Ms. Stefanie Scharf

Head of Unit for Policy Issues of Flight and Migration,
German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
Germany



Stefanie Scharf is head of the division for policy issues of displacement and migration at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Since 2007 she worked at various positions within the Ministry, recently as deputy head of the Middle East division.

Her positions abroad include Lebanon and Yemen. As head of development cooperation at the German embassies in Beirut and Sanaa she gained extensive experience with fragility, conflict and protracted refugee situations. In addition she worked at the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations in New York.

Stefanie Scharf studied political science (Diplom) at Freie Universität in Berlin and at Wroclaw University in Poland.