

The World Conference of OFWs 2004 is an initiative of the Philippine Migrants Rights Watch (PMRW).

The Philippine Migrants Rights Watch is a registered civil society network that was established in 1995 to encourage the recognition, protection and fulfillment of Filipino migrants' rights - both in the Philippines and abroad during the entire migration process. The objectives of PMRW are the following:

- To carry out education, lobbying, and monitoring activities toward the recognition, protection, and fulfillment of the rights of all Filipino migrants and members of their families before departure, during migration, and upon return.
- To monitor respect for and expose abuses of Filipino migrants' rights toward the pursuit of justice.
- To disseminate information among migrant workers and their associations, and in dialog with them.

Our members are:

APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA-MANILA CHAPLAINCY

CENTER FOR MIGRANT ADVOCACY PHILIPPINES (CMA-PHILS)

DEVELOPMENT ACTION FOR WOMEN NETWORK

EPISCOPAL COMMISSION FOR THE PASTORAL CARE OF MIGRANTS AND ITINERANT PEOPLE

INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC MIGRATION COMMISSION

SCALABRINI CENTER FOR PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

SCALABRINI MIGRATION CENTER

STELLA MARIS INTERNATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

The World Conference of OFWs 2004 is supported by



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World Conference of OFWs 2004

Shaping the Future of Filipino Labor Migration



Bayview Park Hotel
Manila - Philippines

December 16-18, 2004

Objectives

- To provide a venue to discuss and analyze issues and concerns that impact on OFWs and their families,
- To provide a venue for migrant NGOs, international organizations, and government organizations to present their programs and services, in order to assess their impact and responsiveness to the OFWs and their families,
- To provide an avenue to initiate and sustain networking and solidarity between and among OFWs and with other stakeholders,
- To provide a forum for a pro-active exchange of information among various stakeholders and to define and forge transnational cooperation and other exchanges,
- To elaborate a plan of action to be presented to the Philippine Government for implementation towards shaping the future of Filipino labor migration.

Topics

- International conventions and migrants' rights
- Philippine GOs' commitments for the OFWs' welfare
- Gender dimensions of Philippine labor migration
- Unauthorized migration and trafficking
- Emerging trends in the global labor market/the role of the migration industry
- Migration/integration policies of receiving countries
- OFWs and overseas Filipinos as political actors (Absentee Voting Law)
- Dual citizenship
- Reintegration programs
- Transnational linkages (Good practices and solidarity projects)
- Filipino migrants and transnationals as culture bearers
- Social costs of migration

- Registration can be done on-line, by fax or mail. Please register **on or before 1 December 2004**.
- Participants should belong to one of the following categories:
 - Representatives of OFW associations and groups;
 - Representative of organizations catering to Filipinos migrants;
 - Representatives of migrant NGOs in the Philippines;
 - Representatives of international NGOs dealing with migrants;
 - Representatives of GOs and international organizations (as observers).
- PMRW will shoulder all the conference expenses (venue, meals and materials); participants will be responsible for airfares and accommodation.

Thursday, 16 December 2004

Morning

Registration and Welcome
First Session

- *Emerging Trends of Labor Migration in the Global Market*
- *Gender Dimensions of Filipino Labor Migration*

Second Session

- *Migrants Rights between Awareness and Self-Empowerment*
- *International Conventions on Migrants' Rights*

Afternoon

Workshops

Friday, 17 December 2004

Morning

Third Session

- *Social Costs of Migration*
- *Reintegration Programs in the Philippines*

Fourth Session

- *OFWs as Partners in Nation building*

Afternoon

Workshops

Saturday, 18 December 2004

Morning

Presentation of the Conference Statement
Closing Remarks

Participation

Program