Joint Declaration of Intent
between
Ministry of Labour, Employment, and Social
Security (Nepal)
and
Bundesagentur für Arbeit
on the (Skilled) Labour Migration
(Germany)
and
Knowledge Exchange

The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security of Nepal and the Bundesagentur für Arbeit (BA) in Germany, referred to jointly in the following as "the Sides",

The Sides have come to the following understanding:

Section 1 Goals of this Joint Declaration of Intent (JDol)

The Sides intend to actively collaborate and partner with one another, in particular in these areas:

- Mutual exchange of information and knowledge in order to promote the development of a relationship between the both Sides, and improve the performance of labour markets in both countries by learning from one another.
- Promote fair skilled labour migration in the interest of both countries and in consideration of conditions on the labour markets in both Nepal and Germany.
- Foster private initiatives to work in the field of this goals.

The following sections describe this collaboration in more detail.

Section 2 Areas of Information and Knowledge Exchange

- Exchange of information in the area of organizational development, operational services, controlling and implementing active labour market policy.
- Concepts of private sector initiatives working in line with the goals of this JDol.
- Exchange of knowledge in the area of integrating specific groups of people (Such as persons with migrant background into the labour market)
- Analysis of these concepts for the background of helping Nepal to build up a qualified own working middle class.
- Exchange of information on vocational counselling and the German Vocational Education and Training (VET) system.

Section 3 Promoting skilled labour Migration

The Sides will select the professional fields for which collaboration to promote skilled labour migration between the two countries will be useful and in the interest of both Sides. To do so, they will provide information on the needs and areas of potential in both national labour markets and mutually coordinate to identify professional focused groups and initiatives where they can carry out joint activities. The dialogue with these groups will be aggregated in an annual joint meeting and a public conference.

The goal is to create added value for the national labour markets in both countries, to promote knowledge transfer, and to make it possible for migrants to find work to obtain additional qualification and professional experience.

The Sides will regulate the methods, roles and processes used in their collaboration on skilled labour migration projects through separate agreement (such as placement agreements on individual processing according to the German Skilled Immigration Act.) This includes high flexibility on both sides for agreements with initiatives and the sub-governmental level (e.g.city-partnerships, partnerships between NGOs).

Section 4 Cost and financing

Neither of the Sides may request reimbursement of costs or expenses from the other side unless this is expressly regulated in a separate agreement.

Costs incurring on the occasion of work meetings and visits

- for travel and overnight lodging will be paid separately by each side;
- for on-site work meetings and visits, the costs will be paid by the host;
- for translation and interpretation services will be paid by both sides by separate agreements;
- cost for migrants should come from different institutions and programmes. Companies can also be part of the solution. Reimbursement of costs implies the need on the side of the labour migrant.

Section 5 Collaboration

Depending on the issues at hand and as needed, the collaboration governed by this declaration may be carried out in various forms. In the context of exchanging information and experiences, for example, these forms may include informational visits, seminars, workshops, work meetings or consultation visits by each Side's experts. In terms of skilled labour migration, the collaboration may be carried out through relevant agreements and projects.

This JDol is not intended to create any legal claims to engage in any of the above forms of collaboration. The collaboration depends on the financial and personnel resources available to the two Sides and especially the engagement of the civil society of both countries.

Both Sides will inform one another how activities are developing, and on what results they expect to achieve, as permitted under applicable law (such as data protection, confidentiality laws).

The Sides will jointly decide in advance on all public relations and press releases relating to the cooperation.

If necessary, both Sides will establish a joint working group together with representatives from active initiatives on this field, to clarify questions related to carrying out the declaration and to prepare concrete measures.

Section 6 Coming into effect and ending

This declaration will come into effect on the date of signature by both Sides and will have an unlimited term. It may be terminated at any time. Either of the Sides may end the cooperation without providing grounds. It should inform the other side in writing of its intention to end cooperation by 30 June of the calendar year at latest, and the cooperation will end as of 31 December of the calendar year.

For the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security of the Government of

H.E. Ram Kaji Khadka Ambassador of Nepal to the Federal Republic of Germany For the Bundesagentur für Arbeit (BA),

Germany

Michael van der Cammen, Director International Affairs, German Federal Employment Agency