UNODC Constructive Dialogue on Smuggling of Migrants
Vienna, 9 October 2023

Agenda Item IV - Official statement by Labor Mobility Partnerships (LaMP)

LaMP is a US-based not-for profit organization, with global reach. Its mission is devoted to offering millions of trained migrant workers the opportunity to safely access jobs across borders.

We live in a global demographic context characterized by widening labor scarcity in high-income countries paired with rapidly growing youth populations in low-income countries who do not have access to stable employment. As growing labor demand in high-income countries create increased pressure for migration, irregular journeys will flourish in absence of legal pathways. If the number of visas offered are not sufficient to meet labor demand, millions of jobs vacancies remain unfilled, costing the global economy billions of dollars per day in lost economic output.

Lack of awareness about concrete employment possibilities abroad poorly informs the decision to migrate. Limited predictable and well-functioning mobility corridors exacerbate the situation. LaMP’s approach to reducing barriers to existing legal channels by investing in training in the right skills, providing job match support, or designing innovative financing tools can help national authorities to make their migration systems more effective.

We therefore welcome the focus of the next UNODC Constructive Dialogue for Civil Society on tackling the root causes of migrant smuggling. This debate cannot ignore the importance of labor mobility and expanded and easily accessible channels for legal migration in addressing this global challenge. We believe LaMP’s work to design well-managed migration can offer concrete solutions to countering migrant smuggling impactfully.

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