

**SEMI ANNUAL REPORT
TO
USAID/BANGLADESH, DHAKA**

Project Title: Counter-Trafficking Interventions in Prevention, Protection and Prosecution for Victims of Trafficking in Persons in Bangladesh

Executing Agency : International Organization for Migration (IOM) Dhaka

Project Partner Agencies : • Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) as lead Ministry
• Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)
• Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA)
• Ministry of Information (MoI)
• Local Govt. Division, Ministry of Local Government and Cooperatives
• District civil administration
• District police administration
• NGOs: Seven (7) in 18 Districts

Geographical Coverage : Bangladesh (18 districts)

Project Management Site : IOM Dhaka

Target Group(s) : • Victims/survivors/rescued from harmful situation
• School children, parents and teachers
• Local elites
• Bar association members, public prosecutors and lawyers
• Community people
• Officers-in-charge of police stations

Project Period : 22 September 2005 to 21 September 2008

Reporting Period : 1 October 2007 to 31 March 2008

Total Budget : US\$ 1,778,315.00

Expenditure (Reporting Period) : US\$ 242,206.28

SUMMARY:

The semi-annual report covers the project period from 1 October 2007 to 31 March 2008. During the reporting period, the following results have been achieved:

- Organized 15 advocacy meetings at 15 districts;
- Organized one stakeholders' meeting for district administration, civil society, NGOs and media people;
- Organized one orientation session for the Trainee Officers of the Foreign Service Academy;
- Organized 16 batches of training session for the bar association members, lawyers' and public prosecutors;

- Organized a study visit for Govt. officials and NGO representatives;
- Organized 2 batches of training session for the land port immigration officials;
- Outsourced a study on “internal trafficking”;
- Ministry of Expatriates’ Welfare and Overseas Employment (MoEWOE) has endorsed the additional component of the CTI project “Addressing labour migration abuse” and assigned a Focal Person.
- Recruited one National Programme Officer for the ‘Addressing labour migration abuse’ component.
- An Inter-Ministerial Committee headed by the MOEWOE has been formed to implement the additional component.
- A meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Committee has been held on 28 February 2008.
- Arranged a meeting with MOEWOE on the proposed legal review and other activities under the additional component.
- A Consultant has been commissioned for the legal review.
- Provided support to 286 victims of trafficking;
- Broadcast radio drama programme;
- Carried out 30 drama campaigns in 12 districts;
- IOM partner NGOs carried out:
 - 294 meetings with Locally Elected Bodies (LEBs);
 - 145 meetings with Bazar Committee members;
 - 160 meetings with Local Leaders;
 - 147 meetings with Community Based Organizations (CBOs);
 - 145 meetings with school students;
 - 126 meetings with the parents of the students;
 - 136 meetings with the teachers of the school; and
 - 44 awareness raising programme for sustainable social integration of survivors.

Through the above mentioned field level activities **25,553 persons from various communities** (LEBs, bazar committee members, religious leaders, students, parents, teachers, community people, etc.) were sensitized and made aware of the issue of human trafficking.

The next steps of the project will be:

- To conduct a series of training courses for the Bar Association members, Public Prosecutors and Lawyers;
- To provide support to the victims of trafficking;
- To organize roundtable discussion with Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- To organize orientation session for trainee officers of the Foreign Service Academy Officials (FSA);
- To develop a documentary film for TV;
- To conduct series of advocacy meetings;
- To conduct different campaigns (community, school, drama and media);
- To organize training on “shelter home operational management”;
- To hire Consultants for the following studies under ‘Addressing labour migration abuse’ component: Complaint mechanism for abuse and exploitations in the labour migration processes, Sociological/ anthropological aspects of labour migration, and Review of the capacity of MOEWOE and BMET.
- To hold meetings of the Inter-Ministerial Committee.
- To develop and adopt an action plan (through strategy development meetings) to prevent labour migration abuse.

- To develop an information collection and monitoring plan concerning migrant labour abuses in recruitment processes.
- Completion of the translation of the 2003 Act
- To work in four Sidr-affected districts (this initiative has just started from March'08 and will continue till September 15, 2008; a separate report will be prepared for this initiative).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Project objective:

The overall objective of this project is to strengthen counter-trafficking interventions in prevention, protection, rescue, voluntary repatriation, reintegration and prosecution for Bangladeshi victims of trafficking in persons.

Through an additional component, the project also aims to contribute to preventing the abuses of migrants in the recruitment process by enhancing transparency in the overseas recruitment and placement practices.

Project Purpose:

Prevention:

- Raise awareness of trafficking in persons in Bangladesh among the general public as well as specific targeted groups in 18 districts.
- Assist in creating income generation opportunities for 400 trafficking victims/survivors/rescued persons from harmful situation.

Protection:

- Provide direct return and reintegration assistance to victims of trafficking.
- Strengthen the capacity of locally elected bodies, law enforcement agencies and NGOs to better identify and assist victims of trafficking.

Prosecution:

- Strengthen the capacity of police officers including Thana Police in Charge (OIC), prosecutors and lawyers to manage trafficking cases.

To achieve the above objective, the project aims to organize an information campaign to educate more than three million people on the harm caused by trafficking in persons.

To achieve the above objective, the project aims to organize an orientation of Officers-in-Charge of all police stations of Bangladesh to facilitate protection, victim care and support; create an information campaign to educate more than 3 million people on the harm caused by trafficking in persons; and assist 975 victims/survivors/rescued persons. The project will also provide services for victims to get out of harmful situations, facilitate their efforts to generate income and start-up businesses of their own. These persons will also be provided with physical and mental health care, legal counselling, aid and shelter when necessary, through referral services. It will also help the survivors to reintegrate into their families and societies as independent economic entities through comprehensive skills and livelihood development. The project will continue school, drama and community campaigns simultaneously to inform people about the issue in 18 districts of Bangladesh. Similarly, at the thana/union level, meetings with Locally Elected Bodies (LEBs) will be organized to make them aware about the importance of the issue and their role in preventing this crime. The local level

NGOs will be involved in organizing bazaar meeting and meeting with CBOs to support the awareness initiatives of the project.

To ensure efficient implementation and ownership of the program and its activities at the district level, several activities will be carried out under this project. These activities include advocacy meetings with district level administration and police officials, as well as with District Commissioners and Superintendent of Police. The aim of these meetings is to discuss the project activities, ensure their involvement and solicit their support in implementing the project activities. The MoHA and IOM will jointly organize such advocacy meetings in the district level. In each selected district, two meetings per year (a total of 108 meetings) will be organized during the project period.

IOM will also organize some special meetings during the project period. These are inception meeting, stakeholders meeting and monitoring meeting. Inception meeting was jointly arranged by the MoHA and IOM at the beginning of the project in Dhaka. Project partners, District Commissioner (DC), Superintendent of Police (SP) from 18 districts participated in the meeting. The inception meeting focused on the project objectives, activities and their respective roles. Stakeholders meeting will be called by IOM in 6 selected districts in every six months to appraise the members of the civil society, representatives from district administration and police about the progress of the project. Monitoring meeting will be called by MoHA once in every six months and attended by the members of the Project Implementation Committee (PIC).

To prevent labour migration abuses, IOM will initiate a study to review the existing laws, regulations, circulars and practices concerning overseas employment service providers and overseas employment administration as a whole. The proposed study will come up with a mechanism to monitor recruitment activities for overseas employment, and short-term and long-term recommendations to prevent the abuses.

Finally, the project will provide a set of recommendations for future interventions in the field of counter-trafficking by carrying out an evaluation and sharing workshop.

1. RESULTS:

The following results have been achieved during the reporting period:

a) Training:

- Legal Education and Training Institute (LETI) organized training courses for the Bar Association members, Public Prosecutors and Lawyers as per the agreement signed between IOM and Bangladesh Bar Council. During this period a total of sixteen (16) courses have been organized by LETI. A total of 400 lawyers and public prosecutors have attended these training courses.
- An orientation session for 4 trainee officers of Foreign Service Academy has been organized on the issue of trafficking and migration.
- Two training sessions for 28 Land Port Immigration officials have been organized by IOM at the Special Branch auditorium on “Basics of Human Trafficking and Victim Care & Support”.

b) Meetings:

- Conducted 15 Advocacy Meetings in 15 districts, where 392 district level Government Officials, media people, representatives from civil society and NGOs were present. The participants appreciated the initiative very much and

expressed their commitment to extend cooperation in implementing the project activities to prevent human trafficking and to provide best support to the victims of trafficking. The district level government has also taken some initiatives which they shared during the meeting. These meetings were facilitated by the IOM project staff.

- One stakeholder meeting was organized on 28 November 2007 at Sylhet. A total of 27 persons attended the stakeholders meeting where government officials, representatives from NGOs, civil society members, representatives from print and electronic media were present. In the meeting, progress of the project, victim care & support services under the CTI project and future activities were shared with the participants. The participants appreciated the activities of the project very much and requested to cover more areas of the country.

c) Study Visit:

- A five (5) member delegation from Bangladesh participated in the Vienna Forum, held from 13 – 15 February, 2008 at Vienna, Austria. The objective of the forum is to raise awareness of the need for adopting a comprehensive criminal justice response strategies to prevent and combat human trafficking in order to yield sustainable results in terms of reducing the numbers of victims of trafficking and increasing the number of convicted perpetrators. The Vienna Forum helped the participants to know more about human trafficking situation from global perspective. ***[A brief report is attached herewith as annex – A].***

d) Victim Support and Care

- A total of 286 (58 male & 228 female) victims of trafficking have received different services (medical, legal, psychosocial counseling, skill training) from four shelter homes run by Association for Community Development (ACD) at Rajshahi, Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association (BNWLA) at Dhaka, Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) at Jessore and Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha (TMSS) at Bogra.

e) Media Campaign:

- Expressions Limited, a communication agency, was commissioned earlier for telecasting and broadcasting of TV spots, documentary films and radio spots. They arranged the broadcasting of 33 radio programs including a promotional radio drama series during this period. It is assumed that a huge number of the population have been covered under this media campaign. A quiz programme has been introduced after each episode to attract people to the radio programme. This has been a very successful initiative. A lot of people have become very interested in the drama series and have been sending lots of letters to IOM. So far we have received 832 letters from the listeners.

f) Study:

- Commissioned one consultant to carry out the situational analysis on internal trafficking. The report will be finalized by the first week of August 2008. The main objective of the study is to understand and analyze the internal trafficking situation in Bangladesh with special focus on women and children. The specific objectives of the study will be – a) To assess the extent of internal trafficking for begging, fishing and prostitution – in general for slavery-like and exploitative

outcomes; b) To identify the mode of recruitment for internal trafficking; c) To identify and analyze the causes and consequences, actors and factors of internal trafficking both from supply and demand perspective; d) To review the policies, rules, regulations and legal instruments to identify the inadequacies in addressing the issue of internal trafficking; and e) To draw recommendations for future interventions.

g) Addressing labour migration abuse:

- IOM held a meeting with the Secretary and senior officials of the MOEWOE to brief them about the activities of the additional component, 'Addressing labour migration abuse' under the CTI project. The MOEWOE also endorsed the additional component.
- Inter-Ministerial Committee also endorsed the additional component and was given the responsibility to monitor the activities under the additional component.
- Commissioned one consultant to carry out the study.
- Twelve (12) Bangladeshi Labour Attaches posted in 10 countries and 5 officials of MOEWOE and BMET attended the training workshop on "labour migration and trafficking".

h) Drama Campaign:

- A total of 247,600 (149,000 male & 98,600 female) persons from various communities attended the drama campaign where counter-trafficking messages were disseminated by Rupantar through pot song, drama and folk song.

i) Community Campaign:

- A total of 3,794 (2,979 male & 815 female) Union Parishad Chairmen & Members were sensitized about the issue of human trafficking and how they can help to prevent human trafficking.
- A total of 2,034 (1,997 male & 37 female) Bazar Committee members were made aware of the issue of human trafficking.
- A total of 2,808 (2,649 male & 159 female) local leaders were made aware about the issue of human trafficking and their role in preventing human trafficking.
- A total of 2,219 (1,791 male & 428 female) members of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) were informed about the issue and their role to prevent human trafficking.
- A total of 8,920 students (3,247 male & 5,673 female) students were made aware about the issue of human trafficking.
- A total of 2,597 (1,374 male & 1,223 female) parents were made aware about the issue of trafficking in persons and their vital role to protect their children from being trafficked.
- A total of 2,218 (1,671 male & 547 female) teachers, which also includes members of the management committee, were made aware about the different aspects of human trafficking and their role in preventing human trafficking.
- A total of 1,730 (1,150 Male & 580 female) community people attended awareness raising programme organized by BNWLA for sustainable reintegration of survivors.

2. ACTIVITIES:

As per approved project proposal and work plan, the following activities were completed during the reporting period:

a) Training:

- IOM signed a MOU with Bangladesh Bar Council on 25 May 2006 in order to coordinate the training programme of the Bar Association members, Public Prosecutors and Lawyers through their Legal Education & Training Institute (LETI). During this period a total of 16 batches have been arranged. A total of 25 participants attended in each batch and the duration of each training course was two-days.
- One orientation session for the Trainee Officers of the Foreign Service Academy was organized at the IOM conference room on 22 November 2007.
- Two training sessions were organized (21–22 & 30–31 January 2008) at the Special Branch auditorium for the Land Port Immigration officials.

b) Meetings:

- Fifteen Advocacy Meetings have been organized in 15 districts (*Magura, Gopalganj, Shariatpur, Rajbari, Habiganj, Moulavibazar, Sylhet, Sunamganj, Tangail, Netrokona, Kishoreganj, Feni, Noakhali, Lakshmipur and Chandpur*). IOM requested the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) to organize these Advocacy Meetings at district level. Subsequently the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) issued a request letter to the district administration to organize these meetings at the Deputy Commissioners' office. IOM project staff facilitated these meetings.
- One stakeholders' meeting was organized at the Deputy Commissioner's conference room at Sylhet on 28 November 2007.

c) Study Visit:

- A six (5) member delegation from Bangladesh participated in the Vienna Forum, held from 13 – 15 February, 2008 at Vienna, Austria. The event was held under the auspices of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT), of which the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is a member.

d) Victim Support and Care:

- Four shelter homes run by ACD, BNWLA, DAM and TMSS have been providing services to the victims of trafficking under the signed agreement with IOM.

e) Media Campaign:

- Developed 13 episodes of a drama series on the issue of human trafficking for radio. IOM commissioned the communication agency Expressions Limited to arrange a broadcasting of a promotional radio spot¹ to be aired during the series during this reporting period.

¹ Recently developed under the CTI project

f) Study:

- Commissioned one consultant to conduct the situational analysis on internal trafficking. The situation of internal trafficking in persons is not a widely studied phenomenon – most of the studies have had focused on external (i.e. cross border) trafficking. Moreover, in the last five years almost no significant study on situation of internal trafficking has been undertaken.

g) Addressing labour migration abuse:

- IOM held a meeting on 31 January 2008 with the Secretary and Senior Officials of the MOEWOE.
- MOEWOE formed an Inter-Ministerial Committee.
- IOM initiated a study for review of laws and regulation relating to labour migration.
- IOM in collaboration with MOEWOE organized a three-day training workshop for Bangladeshi Labour Attaches posted at overseas missions from 23 to 25 March 2008 in Dhaka. ***[A brief report is attached herewith as annex – B].***

h) Drama Campaign:

- Organized 30 drama campaigns in 12 districts. Two groups from RUPANTAR² went to these districts and performed drama campaign with the help of local IOM partner NGOs. District administration and local government helped a lot in organizing these drama campaigns in the community where a large number of people observed the shows. The community people appreciated the programme as well as the performance and also requested the organization of more drama campaigns to increase community awareness.

i) Community Campaign:**Field Level Activities by Partner NGOs:**

- Carried out 294 meetings with Locally Elected Bodies (LEBs) at the different Union Parishads of 18 districts with the Chairmen and Members to inform them about the issue and to get their cooperation to implement different field activities.
- Carried out 145 meetings with Bazar Committee members to inform them about the issue and the vital role they can play to prevent human trafficking as the Bazar is the place where recruiters target victims.
- Carried out 160 meetings with Local Leaders to alert them to the issue and to involve them in preventing human trafficking.
- Carried out 147 meetings with the members of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to discuss the issue of human trafficking and to request them to take this issue forward.
- Carried out 145 meetings with students to make them aware about the different aspects of human trafficking.
- Carried out 126 meetings with the parents of the students to alert them to the issue of human trafficking and discuss their role and responsibility to protect their children.

² A partner NGO of IOM under the CTI project

- Carried out 136 meetings with school teachers to discuss the issue of human trafficking and their vital role to protect the children from being trafficked.
- BNWLA organized 44 awareness raising programmes at the community level in 28 districts (*Rajshahi, Chapai Nawabganj, Bagerhat, Khulna, Dhaka, Narayanganj, Chittagong, Sylhet, Netrokona, Gaibandha, Norshingdi, Munshiganj, Pirojpur, Madaripur, Shariatpur, Barguna, Sunamganj, Bhola, Natore, Cox's Bazar, Meherpur, Comilla, Brahman Baria, Jessore, Satkhira, Mymensingh, Pabna and Jhenaidah*) for sustainable reintegration of survivors.

3. CONSTRAINTS AND ACTION TAKEN:

Due to the lack of a security clearance and radio phone, the Chittagong Hill Tracts advocacy meeting could not be implemented. IOM is working on the procurement of radio phones. Because of hurricane SIDR, the advocacy meetings in three coastal districts had to be rescheduled.

4. CONCLUSIONS:

During this reporting period, most of the activities have been undertaken as per the work plan. The next steps of the project will be:

- To conduct a series of training courses for the Bar Association members, Public Prosecutors and Lawyers;
- To provide support to victims of trafficking;
- To organize roundtable discussion with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- To organize orientation session for trainee officers of the Foreign Service Academy (FSA);
- To develop a documentary film for TV;
- To conduct a series of advocacy meetings;
- To conduct different campaigns (community, school, drama and media);
- To organize training on “shelter home operational management”;
- To hire Consultants for the following studies under ‘Addressing labour migration abuse’ component: Complaint mechanism for abuse and exploitation in the labour migration processes; Sociological/ anthropological aspects of labour migration; and, Review of the capacity of MOEWOE and BMET.
- To hold meetings of the Inter-Ministerial Committee.
- To develop and adopt an action plan (through strategy development meetings) to prevent labour migration abuse.
- To develop an information collection and monitoring plan concerning migrant labour abuses in recruitment processes.
- Completion of the translation of the 2003 Act
- To work in four Sidr-affected districts.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) appreciates the support of USAID/Bangladesh in working for the people of Bangladesh who are at risk of trafficking and also appreciates all the organizations who agreed to extend their cooperation to achieve IOM’s goal.

5. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(Will be submitted by the finance section separately).

Annex – A**Brief Report
on
The Visit to Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking**

The delegation from Bangladesh (as sponsored by IOM and USAID/Bangladesh) comprised of the following members:

1. Mr. Md. Abdul Karim, Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs
2. Mr. Shudhakar Dutta, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment
3. Ms. Habiba Akter, USAID/Bangladesh
4. Advocate Salma Ali, Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association (BNWLA)
5. Ms. Hosne Ara Begum, Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha (TMSS)
6. Ms. Syeda Munira Sultana, IOM Dhaka

Date: 13 – 15 February, 2008

Venue: Austria Center, Vienna

Objective of the Vienna Forum is to raise awareness of the need for adopting a comprehensive criminal justice response strategies to prevent and combat human trafficking in order to yield sustainable results in terms of reducing the numbers of victims of trafficking and increasing the number of convicted perpetrators. The UNGIFT programme, brought a wide range of stakeholders at the Vienna Forum to enhance the global efforts to fight against human trafficking. With over 1500 people participating from governments, UN, international organizations, INGOs, NGOs, academic sector, private sector, media, cultural arena, this event is considered to be the largest gathering to protest the crime of trafficking. About 30 IOM colleagues across the world took part in the event.

The opening session was chaired by the ED, UNODC, while the opening speech and keynote speech were given by the Minister for International Affairs, Austria and Ms. Suzan Mubarak, First lady, Egypt respectively. This session was also adorned by the remarks of the celebrities like Emma Thompson and Ricky Martin.

The topics of the conference were divided under three broad heading;

1. Vulnerability, 2. Impact and 3. Action.

In the concluding session the summery of the chair was presented by the minister of women and child development, India. The ED of UNODC introduced the UNGIFT Campaign theme “Not for Sale” which was followed by performance of Ruslana, a European award winning singer.

On our participation and visibility

- On 12 February I attended an internal meeting of IOM, where Mr. Richard Danziger briefed about IOM's role in the event.
- I had the opportunity to share our experiences with many IOM colleagues and with many other from different organizations, from different parts of the world. Not only they appreciated our work but some of them expressed their desire to replicate our work in their country.

- We could also display our promotional materials, manuals etc at the IOM booth. I arranged for the display of few of the handicrafts produced by the victims under CTI project. Our TV spots and documentary were shown several times in front of the display center. I also volunteered to attend the display booth of IOM.
- I got the information from the booth that our lawyers training manual was one of the highest talked about publication at the booth. People were also interested to see the products made by the victims of trafficking.
- Since 5/6 workshops were held simultaneously, each of us tried to attend different topics, so to accommodate ourselves with better participation.
- Within the session“Proactive prevention” moderated by IOM, The Home Secretary of Bangladesh was requested to speak briefly on the country situation.
- The Home Secretary also clarified some of the serious allegation against Bangladesh regarding child labour exploitation in EPZ and Garments sector.
- Our delegation also had an informal discussion with Mr. Lom Chris, Head of Media for the Asia and the Pacific.
- Our delegation attended the reception hosted by the Austrian Minister for European and International Affairs.

Following are some of my observations:

- Promos of the event were visible all around the city.
- IOM was very much visible at the event. But unfortunately, IOM could not distribute as many take away materials as that of UNODC, which was huge in number.
- The workshop on “Proactive prevention” moderated by Mr. Richard Danziger of IOM could attract hundreds of participants. As the room was packed, many could not enter and many had to sit on the floor or stand throughout the session.
- Areas to be explored in the fight against trafficking are corporate sector involvement and use of technology.
- A huge global conference ended without a declaration. However, there was a summery of the chair in the closing session.
- The event was dominated by European, North and South Americans. However IOM had more balanced participation.
- Our delegation was not aware of other participants from Bangladesh.

On behalf of the team, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to USAID/Bangladesh for taking the initiative to join the Vienna Forum.

Prepared by:
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National Programme Officer
IOM Dhaka

Annex – B**Brief Report
On
Training Workshop for Labour Attaches**

IOM in collaboration with MOEWOE organized a three-day training workshop for Bangladeshi Labour Attaches posted at overseas missions from 23 to 25 March in Dhaka. A total of 12 Labour Attaches and Counselors posted in 10 countries, and five officials from the MOEWOE and BMET attended the programme. (The programme was co-sponsored by USAID/Bangladesh and DFID).

The featured sessions covered topics in the aspect of terminology and definitions of migration, policy advocacy, trends and situational analysis of labor migration in the context of Bangladesh and Asia, feminization of migration, national and international legal frameworks for the protection of migrant workers, exploitations and abuses in the labour migration processes, human trafficking, promotional strategies to address overseas employment, and comprehensive understanding of remittance dynamics for Bangladesh. The resource persons included senior government officials, academics, practitioners, and officials from IOM and USAID.

The programme was inaugurated by the Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and MOEWOE as well, Dr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury. Mr. Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Secretary to the MOEWOE and Mr. Md. Touhid Hossain, Secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs attended the closing session.

The programme also facilitated a special session for the trainees to have interactions with relevant senior government officials, representatives from academia, international and UN agencies, recruitment agencies, rights groups and civil societies. The issue of prospects and challenges for overseas employment for Bangladesh was the theme of discussion. This session come up with some concrete recommendations like enhance opportunity for safe migration, stop visa trading and exploitation in the labour migration processes, reduce migration costs, pro-active role of Labour Attaches for the protection of migrants' rights, effective implementation of existing laws and monitoring of recruitment agencies, decentralization of BOESL, corporate responsibilities of the recruitment agencies etc. Md. Abdul Malek, Director General of Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training, Mr. Mahbubur Rahman, Managing Director of BOESL, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa, Former Secretary General of BAIRA, Syed Saiful Islam, Chairman of WARBE Development Foundation, Ms. Naheed M. Ahmed, Programme Manager of UNIFEM, Dr. Rita Afsar of BIDS, Ms. Sumiya Alam of BOMSA among others took part in the discussion, It was co-chaired by Mr. Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Secretary of the MOEWOE and Ms. Rabab Fatima, Regional Representative of IOM.

According to the participants the workshop has been both enriching and overwhelming. They acknowledged that through the training they have been exposed to new knowledge and new dimensions of migration, human trafficking and exploitations in the labour migration processes.

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