

**TENTH COORDINATION MEETING ON
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION**

Population Division

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

United Nations Secretariat

New York, 9-10 February 2012

**INPUT OF THE GLOBAL WORKERS JUSTICE ALLIANCE TO THE
TENTH COORDINATION MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION¹**

Global Workers Justice Alliance

¹ The views expressed in the paper do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the United Nations Secretariat.

Global Workers Justice Alliance engages with States, UN agencies, and NGO networks in preparing for, and participating in, the Global Forums on Migration and Development as well as the United Nations General Assembly High Level Dialogues on Migration and Development, to advance our mission of combating worker exploitation by promoting _____ for transnational migrants and their families worldwide,

A. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE 2013 HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE

Global Workers Justice Alliance is dedicated to the notion of "portable justice" for the transnational migrant workforce. Portable justice is defined as the right and ability of a transnational worker to access justice where a worker was employed, even after he or she has departed for his or her home country.

In line with the second roundtable at the May 19, 2011 Informal Thematic Debate on International Migration and Development focusing on improving international cooperation on

Global Workers Justice Alliance looks forward to continued engagement with the IOM, the NGO Committee on Migration, and other C

One of the Roundtable Themes proposed in the most recent Draft Concept Paper for the Global Forum on Migration and Development Mauritius 2012, Circulating Labour for Inclusive Development, if approved, will “debate policies to improve the conditions of migrant workers”. Global Workers Justice Alliance will seize the opportunity this provides to work with Civil Society on strategies that will ensure enough attention is paid to this component of the Roundtable. In that fashion, the organization will continue to take every opportunity to inject “portable justice” into discussions surrounding the rights of “mobile” workers.

Global Workers Justice Alliance will apply for participation again in 2012.

C. NEW INITIATIVES IN THE AREA OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

With temporary programs on the rise worldwide, Global Workers Justice Alliance has been increasingly concerned with conditions under which migrants work on temporary visas. In the U.S. context, some visas have been increasingly misused to import migrants to work in inexcusable conditions in low wage industries. In response, Global Workers Justice Alliance launched an unprecedented one-year Foreign Temporary Worker Scoping Study to determine just how many workers are affected, which visas are utilized, understand how they work from the perspective of government agencies, employers and workers, and identify patterns of abuse.

The project’s findings will then be summarized in a report for public dissemination this year. The goal is to create a campaign to educate advocates, policy makers, and the public on the reality of the foreign temporary worker program in the U.S. Global Workers Justice Alliance will work to engage Civil Society actors and organizations for support, with the aim of shifting the terms of public debate with respect to this issue and promoting substantial shifts in public opinion. These shifts will make profound transformations in the framework more politically viable.

Global Workers Justice Alliance will participate in the Peoples Global Action forum as in years past, and propose workshops parallel to the Global Forum on Migration and Development Mauritius 2012 proposed Roundtable Theme, Circulating Labour for Inclusive Development. The organization will continue to promote access to “portable justice” for migrant workers and their families, to ensure that migrant workers have access to circular legal recourse.