



United Nations
ESCWA



Arab Labour Organization
ALO

**Regional Workshop on
"Movement of natural persons and its
respective implications on development in the Arab states"**

Cairo, Egypt

5-6 September, 2007

Provisional Agenda

I. Trade in Services and the supply of services through the movement of natural persons (Mode 4)

1. The emerging importance of trade in services globally
2. Liberalization of trade in services and its implications on the temporary international movement of labour
3. The General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and temporary international movement of labour
4. Migration of professionals and the highly skilled and associated brain drain and their relation to Mode 4.

II. Mode 4 of service supply in the context of the GATS - Scope of coverage and implications

1. Definition of Mode 4 in supplying services- Movement of natural persons in the context of the GATS
2. Scope of coverage of Mode 4- categories covered by the agreement
3. Implications of the application of Mode 4 on development

III. Regulatory policies for the movement of natural persons according to Mode 4 of the GATS - Constraints and concerns

1. Migration and working abroad policies and their relation to Mode 4
2. Regional and bilateral arrangements for the regulation of temporary movement of labour
3. Constraints and concerns associated with labour mobility and their respective implications on development.
4. Best practices and lessons learnt – Country experiences

IV. The GATS negotiations as regards Mode 4, members' commitments and respective possible implications on growth and development

1. Trends in GATS Negotiations concerning Mode 4 - Uruguay and Doha Rounds
2. Commitments made by developed and developing member states
3. Prospects of Doha Negotiations and possible implications on growth and development

V. Liberalization of the movement of natural persons in the Arab countries and its implications on growth and development

1. Patterns of current temporary movement of labour in the Arab countries
2. Position and commitments made by Arab member states concerning Mode 4
3. Opportunities and implications of the prospective conclusion of the negotiations on development in the Arab countries.
4. Lessons learnt and best practices - Country experiences

VI. Considerations for Arab national and regional modus operandi concerning Mode 4

1. Round-table discussion
2. Closing remarks