

**Consultation on 'Women Migrant's Rights in the Light of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)'
15th March 2016, at Dhaka Reporters Unity, Shegunbagicha, Dhaka, Bangladesh**

PRESS RELEASE

WARBE Development Foundation and AWO have jointly organized a "Consultation on 'Women Migrant's Rights in the Light of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)" at Reporter's Unity, Sagar & Runi auditorium, Dhaka on 15th March 2016 from 10:00am to 1:00 pm.

Since the 1960s, international migration theory has become more gender sensitive. There are four distinct stages where gender relations, roles, and hierarchies influence the migration process and produce differential outcomes for women: the pre-migration stage, the transition across state boundaries, the experiences of migrants in the receiving countries, and the return and re-integration stage. The focal point of today's consultation is "the roles and responsibilities in protecting the women migrant's rights and dignity".

As the MDGs era comes to a conclusion with the end of the year, 2016 ushers in the official launch of the bold and transformative 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals adopted by world leaders last September at the United Nations. In 2030 Agenda there are 17 goals and 169 targets in Sustainable Development Goals where Goal-5 and Goal- 8 mentions about gender equality, empowerment of women and girls, productive empowerment and decent work. Therefore, in these two goals, there is scope to make women migrants and their rights more focused and incorporate in the indicators.

The women are leading the world surpassing all the social constraints and taboos. They are performing excellent in building the nation. The growing international women's movement, which has been strengthened by four global United Nations women's conferences, has helped make the commemoration a rallying point to build support for women's rights and participation in the political and economic arenas. The women are struggling to ensure their livelihoods and even migrating overseas and working there. In the year of 2015 1,03,718 female migrant workers moved to different countries from Bangladesh, and till the February, 2016 the number of female migrant workers migrated is 22,521.

Government of Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia made a deal on recruiting migrant workers. Earlier the deal says to employ 10000 women workers. After taking off the ban on recruiting Bangladeshi labour the process of recruiting domestic women workers has started. WARBE Development Foundation expresses its deep concern on the security of the women workers in Saudi Arabia and requests government to be vigilant and mindful regarding the security issue of women workers there.

Women migrant workers need shelter home so that the women migrants who fall victim to physical and other form of abuse by the employers or the other members of their family, can resort to those shelter homes. If they can not take shelter they highly likely to be trafficked. According to WARBE DF, government should form legal cell and employ lawyers who will be serving the victimised labours in Saudi Arabia or in other receiving countries.