

*A Report on the*

**7th and 8th  
Regional  
Conference on  
Migration**

*Milestones in a journey advocating  
for the protection of the human rights  
of all migrant workers and members  
of their families*

**Migrant Forum in Asia**

## **PREFACE**

*In recent years the phenomenon of labour migration has grown in significance evoking responses of a varied nature from international organizations, multi-lateral institutions, governments, civil society and local communities.*

*As a network the Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA) first came together in Hsinchu, Taiwan in 1994 to look at the problems and issues that beset the migration process. From the very beginning MFA's focus has been to advocate for the protection of the rights of migrant workers and members of their families.*

*This publication puts out the report of two milestones in that journey - The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8th Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) held in Jakarta, Indonesia and Dhaka, Bangladesh, in 2001 and 2003- prior to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and members of their families coming into force as International Law on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2003.*

*The report documents strategies and responses of the network to the key issues of the labour migration phenomenon in Asia as they emerged at that time. It also serves as a guide for the network and other partners dealing with the issue of labour migration on how to build capabilities on migrants rights awareness and advocacy for policy change.*

*We are grateful to our partners in Indonesia and Bangladesh for the support that they were able to extend in organizing this conference and to the Ford Foundation for granting us the resources to convene the 8<sup>th</sup> RCM and this report. We hope that it will attest to the value of our on-going struggle and commitment to the cause of the migrant worker and be instrumental in making real another world that we believe is so much more possible.*

*Migrant Forum in Asia  
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