**Migrant Workers Right to Redress Coalition**

**Submission to Jawatankuasa Bebas Pengurusan Pekerja Asing**November 19th 2018

**Dear Committee**

Thank you for your hard work and your efforts in compiling the many recommendations over the many areas related to your scope of reference.

We collectively have submitted our Report ***Towards a Comprehensive National Policy on Labour Migration for Malaysia***, to your representatives at the meeting on Wednesday 14th November 2018. We have also submitted it previously as softcopy, but attach herewith again for your reference.

This Report brings together a range of recommendations over a range of issues related to labour and migration, and we strongly encourage you to consider each and everyone of them. Please do not forget that these recommendations came from an inclusive process of stakeholder dialogues, which included representatives from government, employers, migrant representatives, worker organisations, agents, civil society, and others. The recommendations should be given extra consideration given this fact.

We also stress that the approach to labour migration has to be framed holistically. The list you presented to us at the meeting on November 14th, of some 40 points, demonstrates the huge range of specific issues which need to be addressed. But this needs to be done in a framework which is rational, constructive and respects, protects and enhances the basic rights and dignity of all involved. This is important, and must be underpinned by a clear right to redress for all workers.

We would also encourage you to consider the many submissions made by migrant and refugee voices. These indicate the reasons why immediate steps need to be taken on issues relating to **arrest and detention** (Ops Mega 3 and the many abuses related to enforcement must be stopped whilst a comprehensive policy is developed); providing **refugees the right to work**; better protecting domestic workers (please **support the proposed Domestic Worker Bill** for substantial content and which is ready to be presented by the Domestic Workers Coalition); and dealing with the many issues of recruitment and the enforcement of contracts and compliance to labour laws once migrant workers are here in Malaysia. Please know that we are here to help with any further clarifications or information.

Yours

**The Migrant Workers Right to Redress Coalition**

*comprising migrant and refugee voices together with a number of Malaysian civil society organisations*