The COVID-19 Pandemic in Hong Kong and its Impacts on Foreign Domestic Workers

Date: Saturday, 9 October 2021
Time: 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Workshop link: https://qrgo.page.link/tJRRa

Event Rundown

9:30 am - 9:40 am Welcome address by Professor Mark R. Thompson
SEARC Director and Head of Department of Asian and International Studies, City University of Hong Kong

9:40 am - 9:45 am Photo time

9:45 am - 11:00 am Panel 1: Taking care of HK families in times of crisis
This panel will discuss:
• How has the pandemic resulted in increased pressure and difficulties in the work of migrant domestic helpers in HK
• How has the pandemic changed the nature of domestic workers’ work and duties
• What measures should be taken to provide better protection of domestic workers so that they can serve well HK families at this difficult time
• What roles have FDW organizations played in helping the workers to cope with the difficulties

Facilitator: Dr Ju-chen Chen, Department of Anthropology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Panelists
• Eni Lestari Andayani, International Migrants Alliance
• Dolores Balladares, United Filipinos in Hong Kong
• Danilo Reyes, HELP for Domestic Workers
• Sringatin, Indonesian Migrant Workers Union
• Bungon Tamasorn, Thai Regional Alliance
• Sim Marestia Tania, Christian Action for Migrant Domestic Workers
• Johannie Tong, Mission for Migrant Workers
• Eman C. Villanueva, Asian Migrants Coordinating Body

11:00 am - 11:15 am Break

11:15 am - 12:15 pm Panel 2: Pandemic, crossborder care work, and sustainability
This panel will discuss:
• What impacts have the extra requirements regarding entry measures of FDW had on incoming workers and their employers
• What roles will NGOs, unions and governments play in helping FDW to handle extra difficulties in the fight of the pandemic
• How will HK contribute towards the betterment of FDW’s work experiences in spite of the difficulties brought by the pandemic
• How will HK’s labour immigration policies and practices regarding the domestic care sector work towards sustainable development goals in the global risk society

Facilitator: Professor Eric Fong, Department of Sociology, The University of Hong Kong

Panelists
• Marsianti, Consul of Protocol and Consular Affairs, Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia in Hong Kong
• Wendi Budi Raharjo, Consul of Protocol and Consular Affairs, Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia in Hong Kong
• Robert Quintin, Consul, Philippine Consulate General in Hong Kong
• Ratchaneechorn Pinkaew, Director of the Office of Labour Affairs and Consul (Labour), Royal Thai Consulate-General, Hong Kong
• Sorayod Kumbunlue, Deputy Consul-General, Royal Thai Consulate-General, Hong Kong
• Aaron Ceradoy, Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants
• Myriam Mwizerwa, Head of Office, International Organization for Migration, HK

12:15 pm - 12:20 pm Concluding remarks
Dr Yuk Wah Chan, Department of Asian and International Studies, City University of Hong Kong

12:20 pm - 12:30 pm Presentation of souvenirs

Enquiries: please email to searc@cityu.edu.hk