CONFERENCE
WORK PERMITS FOR FOREIGNERS UNDER TEMPORARY PROTECTION IN TURKEY
The Conference on Work Permits for Foreigners under Temporary Protection in Turkey Receives a Great Deal of Attention

For the first time in Ankara a conference was organized on work permits for foreigners under temporary protection.

A new era has begun in Turkey with the issuance of “Regulation on Work Permits of Foreigners under Temporary Protection” which was published in the Official Gazette (No. 2016/8375) on 15 January 2016. The issues of what employers and Syrian nationals should do regarding work permits have been discussed at the conference.

Opening speeches were delivered by Muhammed Murtaza Yetiş, Chief Advisor to the Prime Minister of Turkey for Migration and Humanitarian Aid, Prof. Dr. Veysel Ayhan, President of IMPR Humanitarian, Paolo Artini, the vice Representative of UNHCR Turkey and Nurcan Önder, Ministry of Labor and Social Security, Director General of Labor.

Prof. Dr. Veysel Ayhan, President of IMPR Humanitarian, emphasized in his opening speech that each individuals have responsibilities in this humanitarian crisis which have been faced. “As national organization, we are resuming our behaviors, policies and humanitarian works by feeling the situation in Syria and Iraq.” Ayhan said. Mr. Ayhan, who drew attention to the time we are in historical process, said that: “We are acting in responsibility of protecting our neighborhoods and relatives who have effected from the crisis. In this sense, IMPR Humanitarian acts with humanitarian mission, while acting with the mission which was given by history and community.”

After the opening speeches, Atila Toros, Director of DGMM; Selim Bağlı, President of Social Security Institution; Sadettin Akyıl, Deputy General Director of Labor; Damla Taşkın, Livelihoods Officer of UNHCR; Cafer Uzunkaya, Deputy General Director of Turkish Labor Agency and Miray Müge Yücel, IMPR Humanitarian Project Manager gave presentations about how the regulation on work permits for foreigners under temporary protection will be applied and how its procedures will be implemented, as well as which sectors will provide employment to the refugees.
After the Conference, Muhammed Murtaza Yetiş, Chief Advisor to the Prime Minister of Turkey for Migration and Humanitarian Aid, said “It is time for Syrians to present their ability and experiences for Turkey and for the world. We are done sharing the cake we have. From now on, it is time to the make the cake we have bigger, altogether. And in this conference we have discussed how we could do that. To solve the problems on the relevant issue, the conference is an important practice to raise awareness. International organizations, foreign missions, public institutions and non-governmental organizations working with Syrians in Turkey were together during the conference.

Nurcan Önder, Ministry of Labor and Social Security, Director General of Labor, emphasized that the regulation on work permits for foreigners under temporary protection was misunderstood. She added that, this conference has been very useful for everyone in order to understand the regulation correctly.

“From the questions, we figured out that everyone is interested in the regulation but they don’t know anything about it. Most of the participants were representatives of organizations working in this field. So organizing this conference was a true decision and this is just the beginning.” she said.

Abdullah Çiftçi, Governor of Provincial District Suruç expressed; “The conference was so fruitful because everyone had a question about the regulation on work permits for foreigners under temporary protection. I would like to thank to IMPR Humanitarian and other implementing partners of conference for helping us to get answers." He also emphasized the Syrians’ contribution to the Turkish economy and stated “Together with Syrians, a huge amount of unrecorded capital entered Turkey. Syrians made a significant contribution to the economy of the region by valorizing their capital with Turkish partners.”

Temel Ayca, Governor of Provincial District Harran mentioned about the importance of regulation regarding recording the Syrian workers in Turkey. Ayca also gave information about their activities in Harran and he prognosticated integration of Syrians.

Sadettin Akyıl, Ministry of Labor and Social Security, Deputy Director General of Labor said “If people cannot be a part of the business life or they cannot plan their future, there is no way that they could communicate with the Turkish community. For this reason, this conference is so important.” Cafer Uzunkaya, Deputy General Director of Turkish Labor Agency talked about high level participation of the conference and said “It was
a very fruitful conference taking place between 10:00 am and 16:00 pm, during which serious messages has been delivered by the speakers. This is an issue that both Turkey and the entire humanity has sensitively laid emphasize on."

The representatives of Syrian Social Gathering emphasized that a big problem has been solved with this regulation and during the conference speakers shed light on the subject.

Country Director of Care International, John Iniaick Davis said that the conference is a big step to have a long term solution for the big problem.

Akif Atlı, from UNHCR, emphasized the success of the conference and said “The conference shows us that regulation on work permits for foreigners under temporary protection has been taken seriously by everyone. Most of the participants are from the non-governmental organizations working with Syrians and this makes the conference successful.”
IMPR Humanitarian, is a “Turkish-centric”, non-governmental and humanitarian aid organization which mainly aims at meeting basic needs and improving living conditions of the individuals and communities who are affected by political crisis, conflicts, human rights violations and natural disasters.

IMPR Humanitarian continues its works at national and international level within principles of non-discrimination, transparency, impartiality, and accountability. IMPR Humanitarian has a role in enhancing living conditions of crisis affected individuals and communities through activities and emergency responses carried out at national and international level.

IMPR Humanitarian, by carrying out field studies which regularly analyze the conditions of crisis affected people, and publishing situation reports; directs the attention of relevant organizations to crisis regions.

IMPR Humanitarian, pursuant to the principles of non-discrimination, transparency, impartiality and accountability, adopts direct and quick response to the crisis affected individuals and communities, as the main principle.