

Kenya Enhances Labour Migration Management

22ND JULY, 2021

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Kenya has identified a wide range of skills required by Qatar, Poland and the United Kingdom and is in the process of negotiating with the respective governments to enable Kenyans access job opportunities in the countries.

The Cabinet Secretary for Labour and Social Protection, Mr. Simon Chelugui, said, the government is exploring new and emerging labour markets for professional and skilled cadres and negotiating for collaboration and partnership through the signing of Bilateral Labour Agreements with key labour destination countries.

Speaking during a meeting with officials of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) at his NSSF building office boardroom, Mr Chelugui said the Ministry has designed pre-departure training and orientation for migrant worker that will enable them easily interact and work with the cultures in the middle East.

The Cabinet Secretary said an information system that will capture data on migrant workers, authenticate job offers, promote ethical recruitment of migrant workers and access to labour migration information among other initiatives has been developed to enhance labour migration management.

Mr. Chelugui said diaspora remittances reached Ksh. 3.1 Billion in 2020 making it the country's highest foreign exchange earner, overtaking tea, coffee and tourism. In order to enhance labour migration, Mr Chelugui said the government will prioritize key initiatives such as the development of a mobile phone application system for reporting migration complaints and the operationalization of the migrant workers' Welfare Fund among other initiatives.