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Guidance of State Council on the Promotion of Household Registration Reform Relevant to Agricultural Labor Force

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INTRODUCTION

Household Registration System, forming in the planned economy era, has become a major obstacle to society's development. In the era of mass migration movements, this lagged system led to large numbers of people in the separation with their registered household, which caused severe social and political issues. On one hand, these migrants cannot get the social welfare they deserve. On the other hand, they are out of the control of local government.

To thoroughly meet the demands of further advancement of household registration reform by the 18th National Congress, the 3rd Plenary Session of 18th Central Committee and Central Conference on Urbanization, to prompt citizenship of permanent resident population who have the ability to obtain employment and stably live in cities and towns, to achieve steady progress in the full coverage of fundamental public service to permanent resident population, now put forward the following guidance:

1. General requirement

(1) Guiding ideology

Follow the guidance of Deng Xiaoping Theory, important thought of Three Represents and the Scientific Concept of Development, meet the demands of new-type urbanization, and implement the broadening policy on residence migration. Carry forward the coordinate and synchronous development of industrialization, information, urbanization and agricultural modernization, improve harmonious development of small towns and cities, medium-sized and large cities, as well as the integrative development of industries and towns. Reasonably guide the agricultural population migration and orderly promote citizenship from rural to urban.

(2) Basic principle

Insist the people-oriented principle and respect the will of the masses. Esteem the settlement desire of urban and rural residents. Meanwhile, protect the legal rights of agricultural migration in accordance with laws. Take prudent steps and adjust measures to local conditions. Take fully into account the level of economic and social development, the urban comprehensive carry capacity and the ability to provide the basic public service, thereby implement the distinctive settlement policy.

2. Further adjustments on the household relocation policy

(1) Fully release the Settle Restriction on Designated Towns and Cities

As for those who have stable residence including lease in county-level cities, towns where the people's governments of counties locate and other designated towns, the owner and the living-together spouse, minor children and parents, etc can register the permanent residence locally.

(2) Orderly release the settle restriction of medium-sized cities

For those who have legal and stable employment and residence including lease in cities with a population size ranging from 500,000 to 1,000,000, at the same time, participate in urban social insurance for certain years, the owner and the living-together spouse, minor children and parents, etc can register the permanent residence locally. Give enough thought to the variety of the comprehensive carry capacity of different cities and make specific regulations on the scope of the stable employment and residence and the year limit of urban social insurance.

(3) Reasonably determine the settle requirements in big cities

As for the cities with a population size between 1,000,000 and 3,000,000, the provision is basically same as the medium-sized cities. However, take into account the fact that the population size is much larger, the regulations on the scope, year limit and prerequisite of the stable employment and residence must be much more rigorous. Particularly, big cities can incorporate the local conditions and establish the registration settlement points system.

(4) Strictly control the population size of metropolis

For metropolis which has a population size of more than 5,000,000, local government should refine the settlement policies currently in effect and establish and complete the registration residence points system. Based on the principles of open, transparency, justice and equity, set the criteria and the value of the points and strictly execute the policy.

3. Innovation on population management

(1) Establish Unified Household Registration System in Urban and Rural Areas

Abrogate both the character distinction between the agricultural accounts and the non-agricultural accounts and other residence types such as the blue stamped residence, then establish uniform resident accounts registration to embody the residence registration management function of the household registration system. Establish and unify the

education, health, family planning, employment, social security, house, land and demographic statistics system in accordance with the urban and rural residence registration policy.

(2) Establish residence permit system

Citizens who have left the permanent registered residence's location and live in other municipal level and above for more than six months can apply and get the residence permit at their present residence place. Establish and perfect the fundamental public service supply mechanism take residence permit as its carrier. Residence permit holders possess the equal right in fields of labor employment, public education, medical and health service as the local permanent residents.

4. Effective protection of the legitimate rights and interests of agricultural labor force migration and other permanent resident population

(1) Improve the Property Right System in Rural Areas

The contractual right of land and the right to the use of cartilage are the real rights for usufruct of peasant households that law gifts. Collective revenue distribution right is the legal property right for farmers as a member of the collective economic organization. Accelerate the verification, registration and award of rural land, and protect the legal contractual right of land and the legal right to the use of cartilage of peasants. Establish the circulation and trading market for the rural property right and guide orderly the agricultural migrating population to circulate their contractual right of land.

CONCLUSION

The possible influence of the household registration system reform could be: the faster speed of urbanization and the growth of urban population; increasing demand of real estate; and the development of urban industry. Besides these benefits, the reform can lead to some problems like the reuse of the rural existing lands, and some supporting policies will come out in the future.

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