

**Nepal Donors Consultation Meeting, 2008**  
**February 21-22, 2008**

**Vote of Thanks and Summing up by Mr. Rameshore Prasad Khanal, Secretary (Revenue)**  
**Ministry of Finance on 22 February 2008**

**Honorable Finance Minister and the Chair of the NDCM,2008,**  
**Excellencies,**  
**Delegates of Development Partners,**  
**Honorable Vice Chairman and the Members of the National Planning Commission,**  
**Chief Secretary,**  
**Fellow Secretaries,**  
**Friends from Media,**  
**Ladies and Gentlemen.**

I feel honored to be the last speaker before the Chair is to announce the closing of the NDCM, 2008. At the same time, I feel empty as well to speak, least to sum up, what we deliberated in the last one and half days.

First of all, I wish to recall the presence of Right Honorable Prime Minister yesterday. Right Honorable Prime Minister was kind enough to be with us despite his physical unease. His presence and inspiring message, I think encouraged all of us to center our deliberation in the greater interests of the Nepalese society.

I would also like to thank Vice President of the Asian Development Bank Mr. Liqun Jin, who travelled all the way from Manila at our short request and spoke on behalf of development partners on the first day.

That said, I would further like to recall what we collectively deliberated since we had pre consultations in the first week of February 2008.

First, in the lead up to this meeting six pre consultations were held involving civil society, politicians, business leaders, and local representatives of Development partners, experts, government officials and people from different walks of life. I thank them all for the contribution they made to the success of this meeting as well.

Second, during this meeting the outcomes of the pre consultations meetings were presented in the first session by Honorable Vice Chairman of the National Planning Commission Dr. Jagadish Chandra Pokharel and Finance Secretary Mr. Vidyadhar Mallik. Dr. Pokharel's presentation was on TYIP wherein he highlighted critical TYIP targets and stated what the government expected from development partners and what the government is committed to do. Presenting on behalf the Development Partners Ms. Bella

Bird of DIFID emphasized the need for IMPLEMENTATION and IMPACT ON THE GROUND. At the same time, most of the speakers congratulated government for TYIP.

Third, Mr. Mallik in his presentation highlighted immediate economic challenges, and the issue of aid harmonization. He mentioned immediate economic priorities and approaches to aid effectiveness. Commenting on his presentation Mr. Izaj Navi of the World Bank raised the issue of giving proper attention to migration and remittance. He also emphasized the need for regional integration and how Nepal could be an energy corridor.

Fourth, the delegates emphasized the need for strengthening implementation, improving governance and focus on transparency. At the same time, some questions were raised how local level service delivery could be strengthened and be made accessible and effective in the absence of local bodies. Everyone emphasized the need for higher and inclusive growth.

Now I turn to the Second Session of Yesterday's meeting.

The Session began with a Video Presentation on Nepal Peace- Nepal's Peace Piece and Piece that kept us captivated for about twenty-two minutes. The session was a round table on the Peace and Development which was expertly moderated by Mr. Kul Chandra Gautam.

Commentator on the Peace and Development at the outset of that session was UNMIN Chief Mr. Ian Martin who mentioned six areas of high priority, among others, for credible CA elections. Honorable Ministers, senior politicians, eminent personalities, leaders of the different political parties, member of the development partners and member of civil society spoke their views. The discussion was very candid. The roundtable was diverse and the discussions were very enriching. Some young faces also spoke about the future face of Nepal. I think discussions throughout this session were very useful for all of us.

Now, coming to the Third Session; first day, we had the opportunity to listen from our development partners. And, it was a honored to Nepal Government to listen from almost all delegates to the meeting. The message we felt was not only loud but also clear that ALL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS WISHED TO STAY ENGAED FOR PROMOTING PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT.

**Honorable Finance Minister, Excellencies Ambassadors and Head of the Missions and the Delegates,**

The joint communiqué we arrive at manifests our mutual commitment and stronger partnership. However, this is not going to be an end. Instead, this is the beginning that we all agree, I am sure.

On behalf of the Government of Nepal, and on my own, I would like to thank you all for your active participation, and words of encouragement and support.

Many people and organizations helped make this meeting a success. Naming them individually could be beyond my comprehension. Hence, I wish to extend special appreciation to them all.

My special thanks are due to the team that drafted the Joint Statement this morning and yesterday- Foreign Secretary Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya, and Peace and Reconstruction Secretary Mr. Madhav Prasad Ghimire from our side and Ms. Bella Bird and her team.

Finally, before I invite Honorable Minister to give his concluding remarks and conclude NDCM, 2008, I wish a bon voyage particularly to those development partners' delegates who traveled to Nepal from their work stations and home. Thank you very much.

With these words, I would like to invite Honorable Minister for the concluding remarks and conclude the meeting.

Honorable Minister!