

KATHMANDU DECLARATION 2007

Issued by the Third NRN Global Conference

Reiterating the full commitment to the long term peace in the country, Democracy, Press Freedom, Human Rights including Rights to Private Property the Third NRN Global Conference organized jointly by the Government of Nepal, Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Non-Resident Nepali Association has issued this Kathmandu Declaration 2007 on 17th October 2007.

1. The conference welcomes the cooperation among the Government of Nepal, NRNA and FNCCI for the social and economic transformation of Nepal in the context of the country marching on the path to peace. The conference reiterates its unequivocal support to the peoples' wishes for change, the movement towards it and the decisions taken in this context.
2. The Third NRN Global Conference appreciates the positive response from the prime minister and leaders of main political parties to the continued request of the NRNs dual citizenship provision.
3. The conference welcomes the plea by the government, political parties, civil society and others for the use of knowledge, skills and the intellectual capital of the Non-Resident Nepalis in the overall development of Nepal. The NRNA reiterates its commitment to extend all possible cooperation in this context.
4. The conference welcomes the new law on Non-Resident Nepalis passed by the interim legislature – parliament and expresses its commitment for initiatives for amendments in the law incorporating the suggestion raised in the present conference including the need for change in the definition.
5. The conference reiterates its position that the election of the constituent assembly should be carried out as soon as possible in order to end the political deadlock in the country. The conference reiterates its commitment for continued efforts to ensure the NRN's participation in the constituent assembly election.
6. The remittance from Nepali workers working in foreign countries has been making significant contribution to the economy of Nepal. In this context efforts will be made to create opportunities of foreign employment in developed countries. We reiterate our commitment for a fund in the welfare of persons in foreign employment. Initiatives will be taken to increase the insurance amount and ease the process of insurance for those going for foreign employment and also for resolution of various problems faced by persons going on foreign employment.
7. Necessary initiatives will be taken to maximize the use of knowledge and skills of persons returning from foreign employment
8. The Nepali mission abroad will be made more effective in promoting foreign employment and investment, tourism and export of Nepali products under economic diplomacy. Initiatives will be taken to establish Nepal missions including consulates in countries with large Nepali population. The nearest missions of Nepal will be authorized to provide consular services to Nepalis in countries where their number is small.

9. The National Coordination Councils of NRNA in different countries will initiate at least one philanthropic project in Nepal. The priority in implementing such projects will be accorded to the conflict ridden and economically and socially back ward areas.
10. The conference reiterates its commitment to continue efforts to mobilize the women and youth in the overall development. The NRN community will initiate development of Nepali cultural centers in different cities of the world.
11. The conference reiterates NRNs commitment to set up the 100 million dollar Nepal Investment fund within 1 year of official registration of NRNA. Through this fund, the individual and collective investible resources will be channelized for the development of national infrastructure.
12. The conference supports the campaign "Send Friend a Home". The NRN community will be mobilized to make this program a success.
13. The conference commits itself to mobilize the entire NRN community to attract tourists to Nepal by marketing Nepal using such world famous landmarks as Lumbini 'The birth place of Lord Budhha' and Sagarmatha 'The highest point of the Earth as the USP of Nepal'.
14. The NRNs will cooperate with organizations and institutions devoted to protection of environment as well as Nepal's natural and cultural heritage.
15. The NRNA will take initiatives to add and upgrade facilities/services at the Tribhuwan International Airport.