



Press Release

**Report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council on the request of Nepal
for United Nations assistance in support of its peace process**

5 May 2010

Today, the Secretary-General issued his report (S/2010/214) to the Security Council on the work of the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), providing an update on Nepal's peace process and the activities of UNMIN.

Since the last report of the Secretary-General to the Council in January 2010, no substantive progress has been made on the main outstanding tasks of the peace process. Disagreement over issues including integration and rehabilitation of Maoist army personnel, aspects of the new constitution and power-sharing appear to be compounded by mutual mistrust, insufficient political will and weak mechanisms for the implementation of past agreements. The prospect of a serious political-constitutional crisis resulting from failure to promulgate the constitution by 28 May has raised concerns, including that it could open possibilities for challenges from forces opposed to the aims of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.

The report also touches on numerous challenges to Nepal's peace process, including the failure to address impunity for human rights violations committed during or after the conflict.

The Secretary-General appeals to the Government and the parties to resolve without delay the remaining political impediments, and underlines that only adherence to existing commitments, and a negotiated settlement, will offer a satisfactory outcome for the future of Nepal.

The Special Committee tasked with the supervision, integration and rehabilitation of Maoist army personnel has not reached agreement on an action plan in this regard. This work was expected to have been completed by 28 May, on which basis an extension of UNMIN until 15 May 2010 was requested, and was accepted by the Security Council. The report highlights the need for the parties to develop and implement a realistic and well-prepared plan for the integration and rehabilitation of former Maoist army personnel, and re-affirms UNMIN's readiness to assist.

Following the Security Council's encouragement to the parties, to consider measures that would give the Mission an exit strategy and as per resolution 1909, UNMIN conducted lengthy consultations with senior leaders of the three main political parties on options for the handing over of UNMIN's mandated role. From these discussions, it is clear that the parties seek UNMIN's continued support to Nepal's nationally-driven peace process. Regrettably, no formal communication has been received on this matter, but should the Government of

Nepal, in consultation with the parties, request an extension of UNMIN's mandate, the Secretary-General would recommend that the Security Council respond positively. He underlines his expectation that such a request specify the areas in which UNMIN should strengthen its support, in order to both expedite progress in the peace process and to enable the Mission to complete its mandated tasks.

It is the strong desire of the Secretary-General and of the United Nations to see the parties move forward in the implementation of the agreements they have reached, with the aim of adopting a new constitution and ensuring long-term peace, stability and prosperity. At the same time, the United Nations recognizes that a positive resolution of the various complex aspects of the peace process requires patience and sustained effort.