



# Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA)

## गैरआवासीय नेपाली संघ

### Minute of Foreign Employment Relief Fund Committee 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting

**On 2 May 2018 at 5 pm** first meeting of Foreign Employment Relief Fund was conducted. Meeting was facilitated by FERF convener Mr. Som Sapkota. Meeting was attended by advisors, associate advisors, regional conveners and fundraising coordinators.

#### Agenda:

1. Introduction of all participants
2. Brief by convener:
  - a. Objectives of FERF
  - b. Data collection of Nepalese on various jail in foreign country
3. Feedback on TOR of FERF by participants
4. Feedback on FERF Disbursement Guidelines by participants
5. Collection of Fund for FERF:
  - a. Policy on raising fund
  - b. Contribution from members
  - c. Role of NCC for such fund collection
6. Concluding Remarks

#### Decisions:

1. TOR and FERF Disbursement Guidelines was passed.
2. Each region to contribute 50 lakhs for the relief fund.
3. Foreign Employment Relief Fund target amount is 5 crores.
4. Individuals who are interested to contribute the amount should show their commitment in written form.
5. Meeting has agreed to request each NCC to contribute 10% of their yearly budget for the relief fund.
6. Regional Convener need to contact members of their region whose pledge amount for the fund is due.
7. NCCs to communicate and coordinate with their respective embassies to collect data of Nepalese who are in various jails in foreign land.
8. FERF to work closely with other committees of NRNA on foreign employment issues.
9. FERF members are requested for financial contribution of any amount of their capacity.
10. FERF members are requested to send their suggestions and ideas for effective functioning of the committee.

#### Important issues discussed:

1. Many members insisted on matching of NRNA's fund with the fund of Nepal Government to support migrant workers in need. GoN especially FEPB has fund which should be utilized for the rescue and relief of migrant workers.
2. FERF committee should prepare guideline for the nature of cases to be supported. Genuine cases to be selected, giving priority to case of death sentence. There are other cases including driving where different legal measures are applied. Driving orientation, awareness about traffic rules should be provided to the migrant workers before they leave for destination countries.
3. There is a need of coordination between NRNA, GoN and Embassy for the rescue and relief of the migrant workers in distress.



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4. Rewati Paudel, Consulate General of Nepal for Saudi Arabia present the case of Nagendra Lama who is in need of 2,000 Saudi Riyal and ask for the NRNA support. It was decided that the amount can be collected in coordination with NCC Saudi Arabia.
5. Rohan Gurung, Chairman NAFEA present the fact that FEPB has sufficient fund for the rescue and relief of migrant workers but due to lack of proper guideline government is not able to utilize and mobilize the fund. Manpower agencies is also one of the partner and has been contributing for the rescue of migrant workers.
6. It is essential for embassies and also workers to understand destination countries' laws including labour law so that whenever any migrant workers comes in conflict of law embassy could support it. Nepalese embassy should proactively speak on behalf of migrant workers to provide them justice.
7. There are many women migrant workers facing various problems in destination countries. FERF need to address and focused on these problems and provide them relief.
8. Regional conveners and fundraising coordinators committed their support from their respective region for the successful tenure of FERF committee.

### Pledged amount:

1. Lok Nath Tiwari, USA, Regional Convener - Rs 2,00,000
2. Tek Bahadur Lama, USA, Fundraising Coordinator - Rs 1,00,000
3. Ishwor Raj Paudel, Qatar, Fundraising Coordinator – Rs 25,000

### Attendees:

Rohan Gurung, TB Karki, Khagendra Chhetri, Rewati Paudel, Som Sapkota, DB Chhetri, Deepak Kharel, Swechha Ghimire, Lok Nath Tiwari, Chhetra Kumar Shrestha, Prem Sapkota, Bishwa Raj Bastola, Bishwa Baral, Tek Bahadur Lama, Banita Katila, Khagendra Neupane, Giri Raj Kuwar, Prem Acharya, Nar Bahadur Thapa, Bhim Kamal KC, Pushpa Bhandari, Shanta Gyawali Adhikari, Deependra Chudal, Sambhu Gautam, Mitra Lal Parday, Chitra KC, Ishwor Raj Paudel, Raghu Sharma, KB Gurung, Dila Kharel

### Apologies

Narendra Bhat, Lachhya Gurung, Kamal Bhandari, Surya Lamsal, Rabina Aryal

### Concluding Remarks:

The first meeting of FERF was very productive as there were good number of participants where almost everyone put their opinion and comments. Meeting could not be conducted at Skype for business due to technical reason. Participants joined meeting at face book messenger. However, next meeting will take place at Skype for business on **2 August 2018**.

**Som Sapkota**

**Convener**

**NRNA Foreign Employment Relief Fund Committee**

07-05-2018