



FIFTH NRN GLOBAL CONFERENCE

Report

Our Network-Our Identity: Prosperous Nepal

12-14 October 2011, Kathmandu, Nepal



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The global conference is a good opportunity /platform for the NRNs residing in different countries to discuss on the achievements of and issues related to NRNs across the globe. The global conference is a biennial event to be organized in the Kathmandu, Nepal. This conference elects the new executive committee for next two years term of NRNA which is the umbrella organization of Nepalis who are residing in different countries across the world involved in different profession.

Following the past trends, the 5th NRN Global Conference was jointly organized by Non-Resident Nepalis Association (NRNA), Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) and the Government of Nepal this year from October 12 to 14 in Kathmandu, Nepal with the theme **“Our Network – Our Identity: Prosperous Nepal”**. The High Level Organizing Committee of the conference was formed under the leadership of Hon. DPM and Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Narayan Kaji Shrestha. The committee comprised of the distinguished personalities of Government, Executives of FNCCI and NRNA, Officials of Private Sectors. The NRNA Secretariat worked as the focal point and the conference Secretariat.

However, NRNA launched different activities from October 10 by organizing interaction programs on different topics including dual citizenship to NRNs, knowledge investment by NRNs, Open University in Nepal, gender equality and economic development in Nepal. Similarly, inauguration and handing over of a Kiryaputri Bhawan at Pashupati and a literary program were also organized on the eve of the NRN Day.

Hosts of interactions on prominent issues were organized after the formal inauguration of the three-day conference by Right Honourable Prime Minister Dr. Babu Ram Bhattarai on October 12 at Tribhuvan Army Officer's Club, Bhadrakali in Kathmandu. During the conference, more than seven major topics on pertinent issues were discussed among the ministers, NRNs, policy makers, experts, economists, law makers, leaders of political parties, among others.

In the conference, different sessions were organized to discuss on investment climate as well as problems and challenges of NRNs. The topics of interaction include Mobilizing NRN Collective Investment for Development of Nepal, Role of NRNs in enhancing disaster preparedness of Nepal, Challenges and Prospects for Economic Prosperity of Nepal, Foreign Employment and Safe Migration, Opportunities and Challenges of Nepali Women Abroad, Incentives and Facilities under NRN Rules and Regulations; and Youth and Second Generation NRN Forum.

The General Convention of the NRNA was also concluded during the Global Conference. Coinciding the event, the new leadership and executive committee members of the NRNA for the term 2011-13 was also elected through the Election process during the Conference.

At the last day of the conference, a 17-point Kathmandu Declaration was released with the announcement of holding 6th NRN Global Conference in Kathmandu in October 2013. Altogether 980 participants from 45 countries attended the conference. The conference was graced by the dignitaries & High Level Officials of the Government of Nepal, Leaders of different Political Parties, Executives from Private and public sectors and many more.

PRE CONFERENCE PROGRAMS

PRE CONFERENCE -DAY 1

Date: 10 October, 2011 (Asoj 23, 2068)

Venue: FNCCI Hall, Teku

Interaction on Current Status of Constitution Drafting and Dual Citizenship

Members of Constituent Assembly (CA) representing different political parties expressed their positive views over long standing demands for dual citizenship being put forth by Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA). Speaking at an interaction organized on the first day of pre-conference activities of Fifth NRN Global Conference, they also stressed on the need to initiate open discussions about the NRNA's demands. Standing Committee Member of UCPN (Maoist) DevGurung said dual citizenship system for NRNs was instrumental to boost investment in Nepal from NRN community. He also emphasized that upcoming new constitution must address the demands of NRNs.



Politburo member of CPN (UML) Pradeep Gyawali, however, opined that government shouldn't be liberal in distributing dual citizenship certificates to NRNs keeping in view Nepal's given geopolitical situation, though his party was positive about it. He also viewed that an independent study should be conducted before jumping to the decision for dual citizenship to the NRNs residing in the countries other than SAARC countries.

Gagan Thapa, central committee member of Nepali Congress said Nepal would lose nothing by giving dual citizenship facility to NRNs. Hailing the role of NRN community in Nepal's economic and social transformation, Thapa underlined the need for open discussion about the issues of dual citizenship. He also expressed dissatisfaction over lack of clear view among political parties over the issue. He also stated that NRN leaders are lacking strong implementing power to implement their different commitments made during the NRN's different forums. General Secretary of CPN (ML) CP Mainali opined that Nepal couldn't become open like the USA in the case of providing dual citizenship facility to NRNs and stressed on the effective implementation of identity card system rather than pushing for dual citizenship.

Other CA members participated the interaction were Hon. Dinnath Sharma, Khimlal Devkota, Bimalendra Nidhi, Radheshyam Adhikari, Ramesh Lekhak, Pushp Bhusal, Surendra Pandey,

KalpanaRana, AbhishekPratap Shah, RamjanamChaudhary and Chandria Prasad Yadav. The program was conducted by the DC Tasforce Chair Mr. Ram PratapThapa, NRNA Patron.

29th NRNA International Coordination Council Meeting

29th NRNA International Coordination Council (ICC) meeting is held in Kathmandu on October 10, 2011 at the premises of FNCCI building, representing different continent and countries and discussed on various topics. ICC is an apex body of NRNA which is able to discuss various topics about agenda of particular topic. It is representing as a strong functional body and help to implement various decisions of NRN conference and many other issues which need for immediate implementation. Host of issues including NRNA statute, preparation of the conference were discussed at the meeting that was chaired by president Dev Man Hirachan. ICC office bearers, members and National Coordination Council members of different countries had participated at the meeting.



Symposium on Investment of NRN's Skill, Knowledge and Innovation (SKI)

A symposium on Investment of NRN's Skill, Knowledge and Innovation (SKI) was organized at FNCCI building on October 10, 2011. The symposium, which was organized by SKI Task Force of NRNA, was chaired by Prof Dr Surendra Raj Kafle of Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST). On the occasion, participants had shared their opinions on how to forge coordination among local scientists and NRN scientists to best utilize their knowledge for contributing to the development of science and technology in Nepal. NRNA President Dev Man Hirachan, Vice-president Jiba Lamichhane, Chief Patron Dr Upendra Mahato, among others had expressed their views on the occasion.



PRECONFERENC - DAY 2

Date: 11 October 2011(Asoj 24, 2068)

NRN Day 2011 Celebration



NRN Day 2011 was celebrated by conducting various activities in the morning of October 11, 2011. Dr. Upendra Mahato, Founder President of NRNA, President of NRNA Mr. DevmanHirachanand other Executive Committee representing various countries participated on Pooja Program at Swayambhu and Pashupatinathtemples . More than 100 NRNs were presents at the function.

Earlier a group of NRNA was also involved at a function of cleaning of Pashupatinath area. Pushupati Area Development Trust and Syambhu Development Trust had extended cooperation in performing the worships and cleaning at the most revered religious sites. NRNA had made available and donated some containers to collect garbage at Pashupati areas.



KiriyaputriBhawan handed over to Pashupati Area Development Trust PADT

On the occasion of NRN Day 2011, PhulKumari Memorial Trust (PMT) has handed over KiriyaputriBhawan- a building where 13-day death ritual are performed by relatives of those deceased, built at Aryaghat on the bank of holy Bagmati River, to Pashupati Area Development Trust (PADT). A key of the building was handed over by Dr. Upendra Mahato, chairman of PMT and founder president of NRNA, to the PADT through Culture Minister GopalKirati.

Speaking on the occasion Mahato said any one can do social work and get involved in philanthropic activities at any circumstances and expressed satisfaction over getting opportunity to provide financial assistance in constructing the KiriyaputriBhawan in Aryaghat. The building was constructed at the cost of Rs 30 million.



Open University Of Nepal Initiative, Stakeholders Interaction Program

Date: October 11, 2011

Venue: Soaltee Crowne Plaza

An open discussion was initiated over the establishment of Open University with the involvement of NRNA. The interaction program was jointly organized by the Ministry of Education and NRNA to discuss about the necessity and challenges of Open University. On the occasion, different experts and academicians had emphasized upon increasing the access to education through Open University at a time when the country is witnessing large chunk of population being excluded from the opportunity for education. They also cautioned to the authorities that Open University shouldn't be less effective for quality education as in existing formal universities.

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary at the Ministry of Education Shankar Prasad Pandey clarified that the process of establishing the Open University has been stalled as Higher Education Bill has been under consideration in the parliament for over one and a half year. Ganesh Man Gurung, chairman of University Grant Commission, said Open Universities have to absorb the groups which are excluded from the opportunity of education from formal universities. "We can utilize open universities for house

wives, teachers, youths involved in different profession, ethnic groups, Madhesis, among others who are deprived of getting education from formal universities,” said Gurung.

Vice Chancellors of different universities were also positive towards the need for Open University in the country. Professor KhagendraBhattarai, Vice Chancellor of Pokhara University underlined the need for the immediate implementation of Open University program, which has already been committed to by the government. He however, suggested that Nepal adopt its own system of Open University relevant to local need and technical capacity rather than blindly emulating the system adopted by developed nations.

Professor Padma LalDevkota, Vice Chancellor of Mid-Western University, also cautioned the government that problems will crop up in Open Universities like in other formal universities if relevance and local need couldn't be linked with Open Universities.

The government has registered the Higher Education Bill in the parliament one and a half years back for its endorsement with the vision to put education sector under the umbrella act. The bill which envisages increasing the higher education opportunity in the country, is gathering the dust in the parliament waiting its turn to get endorsed. NRNA has been working jointly with the government extending cooperation in expanding the education opportunities in education.



Vice President of NRNA, Jiba Lamichhane said NRNA was not going to invest in the Open University but utilize its world-wide network and knowledge gained by its members to promote such universities in coming days. Vice-chancellor of Lumbini University Professor Tri RatnaManandhar underlined the necessity to change the existing practice to run the Open Universities so as to achieve desired result from them. “It will be more practical to bring the private students under the purview of new system of Open University by changing the system of regular and private examination system.

Mahabir Pun, who has been working for the development of Information Technology in rural area, also opined that establishment of online study centers should be sped-up implementing the concept of Open Universities simultaneously in rural areas of the country for the effectiveness of Open University concept. Vice-chairman of National Planning Commission DeependraBahadurKshetrey said it was high time to implement the concept of Open University at a time when only 61 percent of the total population were literate with remaining chunk of population deprived of the education due to lack of access to the educational opportunities. Numbers of university in the country has reached to nine after the government gave approval to five more universities. Educationalists have expressed dissatisfaction that large chunk of youths are still deprived of getting opportunity for education in formal universities, though the number of universities has gone up significantly over few years. “The only way to minimize the drop-

out rate while being passed to higher grade is to effective implementation of the concept of Open University”, Educationist Bidhya Nath Koirala said.

Expressing the necessity of Open University in a poor country like Nepal, another educationalist Mana Prasad Wagle said NRNs have to assist the government to execute the concept of Open University which has been pending for last 18 years without implementation. NRNA has included Open University as one of the campaign agenda.

Empowering Nation: Moving Towards Gender Equality & Economic Development

Date: October 11, 2011

Venue: Soaltee Crowne Plaza

A symposium on Empowerment of Women for Gender Equity was organized at Soaltee Crowne Plaza on 11 October 2011 with the initiation of NRNA-Women Forum. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest of the program, Leader of UCPN (Maoist) and CA member Hisila Yami stressed on the greater involvement of women in every sector including development works to strengthen their position in the society. She highlighted problems such as abortion, domestic violence and women trafficking facing Nepali women.

Representative of Statistics Bureau of Nepal Government, Mr. Nabin Lal Shrestha informed about the different organizations working closely with Nepal Government in the field of women empowerment like Dalit Nepa, Didi project and many more. Madan Krishna Shrestha, renowned comedian however, said there have been some signs of improvement in discrimination against the women due to increasing awareness.

Dr. Bidya Ranjeet, Senior VP of NRNA-NCC, USA and Program Host opined that economic generation activities in collaboration with local women and emphasized on changes of socio-culture concept. She also sought greater role of NRNA-Women Forum, which has its network in 57 countries, to minimize the incidents of any forms of violence against women. She informed that the Women Task Force will be soon formed including women representatives from all 57 countries to work for issues related to women empowerment and safe migration in Nepal.

NRNA Deputy Women Coordinator and Chair of the Program Ranju Thapa said women are capable for investment and proper management of any responsibility but still it is not accepted for key role of their as a partner of economic development. Thapa also expressed commitment to increase the forum's role to empower the women rights and to voice against the violence against women. She also emphasized that women has lots of ideas and plans but they are unable to sphere out it.

Representatives from various organization and NRNA discussed about gender equality and economic development of the country. The program chair thanked all the participants for their valuable suggestions and kind participation.



Third Literary Festival & Award Ceremony By International Nepalese Literary Society (INLS)

Date: 11 October 2011

Venue: Russian Culture Centre

KhemLal-Hari Kala Lamichhane Social Welfare Trust has honored litterateurs National Poet Madhav Prasad Ghimire, Rabindra Samir and JhamakGhimire with Padmashree award. National Poet Ghimire was honored with Padmashree-SadhanaSamman for his special contribution in preserving and promoting Nepal literature and language. Similarly, Samir and JhamakGhimirewas awarded with Padmashree-SahityaSamman for ArjunDristhi- a collection of short stories and Jeevan: Kanda kiPhul?aself-autography- respectively.

Each price carries a purse of Rs 100,000 and Letter of Appreciation .On the occasion, Patron of the Trust and social worker Jiba Lamichhane mentioned that the Trust was established in the name of his parents with the intuition of contributing to the motherland despite being abroad. He also said the awards have encouraged those dedicated to the development of literature in the country.

On the occasion, he also provided a donation of Rs 150,000 to JhamakGhimireSahityaPratisthan. Similarly, Nepalis International SahityaSamaj has facilitated different literatures on the eve of Fifth NRN Global Conference for their contribution in uplifting literature in the country. Those awarded were Rajeshwor Nepali from art, MadhavGhimre from literature and RanjeetGajmer from music sectors. Hon. SubasNemwang, Chairman of Constituent Assembly gave away the awards. On the occasion, Nemwang released 'SapanakoDharahara' written by GeetaKhattri, SwotantrataKoSayapata authored by Radhe Shyam Lekali, ThopaThopa by Sunil Sangam and GhamKaAchhar by SandhyaPahadi.

5TH NRN GLOBAL CONFERENCE BEGINS

DAY 1: INAUGURATION

Date: 12 October, 2011

Venue: Tribhuvan Army Officer's Club, Bhadrakali

Day: Wednesday

Time: 8:00- 10:00 AM

The main agenda of 5th NRN Global Conference held in Kathmandu has become increasing investment in Nepal. Boosting investment in different sectors in Nepal dominated the agendas of the conference from the very beginning of the event. Most of the speakers had underlined the need for promoting investment for the development and prosperity of Nepal. Established in 2003, NRNA has been raising the issues of investment in Nepal with top priority since its First Global Conference.

Speaking at the inaugural function, Prime Minister Dr. Babu Ram Bhattarai informed the conference that the government was coming up with a special program to encourage more investment of NRNs to Nepal. Bhattarai stated that Nepal was celebrating the year 2011/12 as the 'Nepal Investment Year' to boost investment in Nepal with the target of luring investment from Nepali and foreign investors. "We are specially incorporating NRNs in the 'Nepal Investment Year campaign, of which I have initiated the process by setting up an economic cell in the Prime Minister's Office," said Bhattarai.



Acknowledging that peace is not possible without economic and social development, Bhattarai said the government has been pursuing the policy of massive investment with the target of achieving per capital income of US\$3000 in the country. He also stressed on the need to increase the investment to the tune of 45 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country and to create 500,000 new employment opportunities every year. He urged NRNs to make Nepal an investment destination as Nepal has been witnessing better investment climate after the establishment of the republic.

"You can investment in Nepal without any fear and we are ready to protect your investment here. Investment climate in Nepal is conducive unlike some sporadic bad publicity about security of investment in Nepal," said Bhattarai. He assured that present government was putting peace and constitution on the top priority adding that economic development would also go simultaneously. "As you are the first generation of NRNs, your soul is in Nepal though you are abroad. Keeping this fact you should make more investment in Nepal, we are ready to help you at our best," he said. He also mentioned he would have come back to Nepal in the position of NRN, had he not got into politics.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Narayan Kaji Shrestha informed the conference that the government had already initiated the process of formulating necessary acts to facilitate more investment from NRNs. “We are committed to fulfilling your desire to promote investment in Nepal. So, we are strictly enforcing the existing laws and ready to formulate new laws if deemed necessary,” said Shrestha.

He also assured that government would make necessary arrangement to register NRNA in Nepal. “We want your skill, knowledge and capital to come to Nepal. So we are committed to create legal and other necessary environment for facilitating your investment in Nepal,” Shrestha. Stating that NRNs are informal ambassador of Nepal in foreign countries, Shrestha urged them to extend cooperation on their part to promote tourism and lure more investment for the development of infrastructure in Nepal.

He also underlined the role to be played by NRNs in uplifting the dignity and prosperity of Nepal. He also urged NRNA to play a role as a bridge to establish link between NRNs and motherland. He said there is a reason to upbeat for investors as Nepal is heading toward ending the political transition at the earliest to create more favorable investment environment. He also requested supports from NRNs in the campaign for peace and constitution in Nepal.

On the occasion, Dr Upendra Mahato, Chief Patron of NRNA, said next generation would curse on the present if NRNs failed to turn Nepal into a prosperous country by bringing in more investment. “We have to invest in Nepal for our future generation as well. We have no time to wait for investment by merely blaming our country for not having favorable climate for investment,” said Mahato.

He said those who are not willing to invest in Nepal, have no right to put blame on Nepal. “It is high time to walk the talk as negative messages will spread if we are only limited to lip service,” said Mahato. He also urged all Nepali people to be united for the development and prosperity of Nepal, which is the common agenda. He also reiterated the demand for dual citizenship which he said would play significant role in creating the feeling of investment protection in Nepal.



Darshan Rauniyar, the first candidate from Nepali origin for the US House of Representative, expressed commitment to play role to strengthen the friendly relation between Nepal and the US in coming days. Stating that peace, development and right to self-decision as the corner stone for economic progress. Rauniyar urged all NRNs to increase investment in infrastructure for the prosperity of Nepal.

NRNA President Dev Man Hirachan blamed on ongoing political uncertainty for creating problems in inviting more investment in Nepal and urged the government to play a proactive role to create favorable

environment for more investment from NRNs. He demanded that the provision of dual citizenship for NRNs be inscribed in the upcoming constitution to ensure security of investment in Nepal.

Acting President of Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Bhaskar Raj Rajkarnikar said NRNs could play a role as the connecting bridge to bring in more foreign investment in Nepal. He also assured of the cooperation from Nepal's private sector for NRNA's endeavor to raise investment in the country.

Dev Man Hirachan
President, NRNA

(Edited version of the speech delivered by President Hirachan at 5th NRN Conference)



We have succeeded to expand our network across the world within short span of time since the inception of NRNA. We have already formed NRNA National Coordination Council in 57 countries. We, the Nepali people, residing in any country in the world are intentionally or unintentionally the representatives of Nepal. We have to uplift the dignity of our country in our respective countries and this is also our duty. Not only in our workplaces but we are interested to do something back in Nepal as well. We want to invest capital for development and prosperity of our nation.

However, investment is difficult due to political instability in the country. Nevertheless, we must do something for the sake of our country. Even if we couldn't do as per our desire, we have to go ahead with the objective of uniting all Nepalis. We want to toil in Nepal as we have been doing in our workplaces abroad. However, it is not good for us and our nation to leave for foreign countries to merely eke out a living.

The government and NRNs need to collaborate to minimize the situation that has forced the Nepali people to leave for overseas destinations for jobs. We are ready to join hand with the government in its every endeavor to minimize the overseas migration from Nepal. Some of the works done so far by the government in favor of NRNs are laudable. It is positive works from the government to introduce NRN identity cards by enforcing NRN act.

However, our long standing demands for dual citizenship for NRNs have not yet been fulfilled. So, provision of dual citizenship should be clearly stated in the constitution as it would ensure that they can live as a Nepali citizen. It is the fact that those Nepali who are remitting significant amounts to the country are facing different problems and should be addressed by the government at the earliest.

Hon. Narayan KajiShrestha
Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister

*(Edited version of the speech delivered by Narayan KajiShrestha,
Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister at Fifth NRN Conference)*



You are not far from us at this time of science and technology though you have migrated to overseas countries in the course of strengthening skill or knowledge or for employment. We have seen your real love towards Nepal even if you are not currently residing in Nepal. Definitely, government is committed to fulfill your desires and demands that may not have been fulfilled so far.

The government is ready to formulate necessary laws for this. We have already introduced identity card system to facilitate NRNs to bring in more investment in the country. We are also making effort to create favorable environment to simplify investment from NRNs in Nepal. We have also conviction that all Nepali overseas migrants have to get dignified employment and reasonable remuneration in the work places. We have initiated the process of getting NRNA registered in Nepal. Associations such as NRNA have great role in establishing relation between NRNs and motherland. NRNs are informal ambassadors of Nepal who can act as a mission in foreign countries.

Similarly, role of NRNs is significant to boost trade with foreign nations and promote tourism in the countries. The role you are playing in foreign countries has to uplift the good reputation and dignity of our nation. We have expected the cooperation from NRNs in our effort to end the existing political transition at the earliest. Our mission after the peace and constitution is economic development of Nepal as lasting peace is not possible without economic growth. We, all Nepalis, have to forge alliances with each other to ensure rapid economic development of our country.



1ST SESSION: MOBILIZING NRN COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NEPAL

Date: 12 October, 2011

Venue: Army Officer's Club, Bhadrakali

Time: 11:00- 12:30 AM

Chair: Hon. Minister for Finance, Mr. Barsha Man Pun

Panelists:

Mr. Bhim Udas, NRNA Patron

Mr. Jiba Nath Lamichhane, NRNA VP

Dr. Yub Raj Khatiwada, Governor, Nepal Rastra Bank

Mr. Pradeep Jung Pandey, FNCCI VP

MC by Mr. Khagendra Nepali, NRN UK

Finance Minister Barsha Man Pun has urged NRNs to play role to lure more foreign investment in Nepal on the back of announcement by government as the Investment Year for the year 2012. "I hereby urge you all to bring in more investment on your own or with your foreign partners. The government is ready for not seeking source of income in certain sector as well as give other incentives to the investors," Pun said at an interaction on the occasion of Fifth NRNA Global Conference in Kathmandu.

He also said NRNs can work with the government under the concept of Public Private Partnership (PPP) in shoring up investment in the country. Stating that most of the Public Enterprises (PEs) are running through losses, Pun also urged to NRNs to take over the responsibility to convert those PEs into vibrant business venture. "I am ready to take initiative now to hand over the management of the PEs to NRNs if you are interested on it," he added. He also reiterated that the government was ready to create favorable investment climate in Nepal. "The government is planning to provide facilities and construct infrastructure for different industries on the basis of their capacity to generate employment," he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank, Yuba Raj Khatiwada, also said NRNs can make investment in the country according to their investment capacity. "The government has already paved the way for the investment from NRNs," he added. He also identified Mutual Fund, stock market, infrastructure, re-insurance, among other as the most potential sector for NRN investors.



“NRNs can take benefit not only from investment but also from the deposits at banks which are offering lucrative interest on deposits. Attractive interest and rising value of US dollar will jack up the profit at least 20 percent of total deposit in the bank,” he added. He also urged NRNs to take advantage by investing in share market where prices of shares have gone down significantly. He also said government-issued Foreign Employment Bond was also attractive for investment. “We have seen discouraging investment in the bond though it has offered lucrative profit to investors. So, we are investigating on why the bond has fewer takers,” he added.

He, however, suggested to NRNs who have less income and not ready to take risk in investment, to invest in Mutual Fund. He also urged the NRNs to invest in infrastructure which is more preferable than financial sector in term of economic development of the country. He was of the view that potentiality of generating more employment is in the sectors such as physical infrastructure, telecommunication and tourism. “NRNA can set example in infrastructure development by launching a housing project,” he added. According to him farm commercialization, garbage management and social infrastructure are also the major sector where potentiality of getting profit is very high. “NRNs shouldn’t be shied away from investment given the political situation instability as economic sector has taken a shape. So, economic policies will not be changed with the changes of the government,” he further added.

NRNA Vice-President Jiba Lamichhane reiterated the NRNs’ interest to invest in Nepal. “Small to big investors among NRNs are interested to make contribution in the development of country. We can collectively investment for the implementation of mega projects. We also can integrate investment by opening companies in different countries” said Lamichhane. He also said potentiality in hydropower sector is very high as the government has offered incentives for investors in this sector. “There would be our great contribution and protection of investment can be enjoyed if we invest in hydropower in Nepal. A 100 MW hydropower project is not the big deal if we all NRNs across the world are united,” he added.

Patron of the NRNA BhimUdas underlined the need to launch open discussion to explore the possibility of mobilizing collective investment for the development of the country. He said NRNs can be involved in Mutual Fund in the capacity of board of director or taking responsibility of management. “We can invest by indentifying the profitable sectors. The government has to guarantee the protection of our investment,” said Udas. He was of the view that NRNs can contribute to the development of the nation by sharing knowledge, skill and capital. “We can get profit if we deposit money in the bank. But we can get both profit and satisfaction if we invest through collective fund,” he added. Referring an investigation report on investment of NRNs, Udas said investors need incentives in opening bank account at zero balance, opening bank account in Nepal from abroad, free remit service and tax holiday for certain period as the tool for boosting investment in Nepal.

Let us seek for the alternative of Dual Citizenship – It is not easy to address the issue of Dual Citizenship so its better to seek an alternative urged Finance Minister Barsha Man Pun. Considering the current geo-political situation of Nepal, Iam quite not sure of fulfilling the Dual citizenship issue at present, said Minister Pun. He asked to observe the provisions made available in different countries regarding dual citizenship and come up with concerete suggestions. He also informed that Government is in process of establishing NRN Desk at the International Airport Kathmandu.

2ND SESSION: ROLE OF NRNS IN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS OF NEPAL

Date: 12 October, 2011

Venue: Army Officer's Club, Bhadrakali

Time: 2PM-3PM

Chair: H.E. Scott H. DeLisi, Ambassador to Nepal

Moderator: Mr. Ratan Jha, NRNA General Secretary

Panelists:

Mr. KanhaiyaKayastha, NRN USA

Mr. RajendraShrestha, Geologist

Mr. Amod Mani Dixit, ED NSET

Dr. RajendraParajuli, General Secretary, NCC Japan

Mr. Indu Sharma Dhakal, D.G. Road Department

NRNs have expressed readiness to support in mitigating effect of natural calamities and preparedness to Nepal which is situated at seismic zone. They showed their interest at an interaction on role of NRNs for the preparedness for impending natural calamities which was organized after the inauguration program of 5th NRNA Global Conference held at Army Officer's Club. The program was moderated by NRNA General Secretary Mr. Ratan Jha. On the occasion, US Ambassador to Nepal Scott H.DeLisi underscored the role of NRNs to mitigate the impact of natural calamities and necessary preparedness to minimize loss of lives and properties. He also expressed readiness of the US to support Nepal to minimize the risk of natural calamities and their impact.



On the occasion, KanhaiyaKayastha, Structural Engineer working in California of US, said Nepalis had learned the lesson from the disaster caused by devastating earth-quakes that rattled Haiti, Newzealand, India and Japan, though most of the Nepali were unaware about the destruction of earthquake occurred in BS 1990 in Kathmandu. "Nepal is the 11th country in term of earth-quake related risk in the world that shows the impending risk of earth-quake in Nepal. So, we have to immediately initiate the discussion about the precaution and preparedness to ease loss of lives and properties in the calamities," said Kayastha.

Stating that NRNs are worried about possible disaster in Nepal due to earth-quake, he also informed that Nepali engineer in US had initiated the preparation to help Nepal deal earth-quake related calamities.

According to him, an association of US-based Nepali engineers has already started preparation for concept paper on how to make preparatory measures to cope with such disaster in Nepal. Informing about the ongoing awareness activities being carried out by Nepali engineers in US, he underlined the need to take precautionary measures before, immediately after and then after the earth-quake to minimize the loss of lives and properties. He also suggested developing alternative means of communication as no means of normal communication can work after the devastating earth-quake.

RajendraShrestha, Geologist, had highlighted about the earth-quake technology and geological aspects. Stating that mismanaged urbanization is more disastrous than earth quake, Shrestha laid emphasis upon development of safe infrastructure in the cities. He cautioned about the impending loss of lives and properties in the cases of earth-quake amid rising population, unregulated housing, and lack of awareness about earth-quake impact among the residents of Kathmandu valley.

Dr. RajendraParajuli, an expert on rural development and public health, urged Nepalis to learn lessons from the recent earth-quake in Japan. He said well preparedness for earth-quake by Japan government and people are the main reasons behind the less loss of lives and property as compared to the magnitude of earth-quake in Japan.

Recounting the role played by NCC Japan to help Nepalis affected by earth-quake and Tsunami, he informed that total 3.5 million Japanese Yen was collected for the relief work. He opined that communication mechanism, management of rehabilitation works for affected people and post disaster management system adopted by Japan would be useful for Nepalis. He stressed on the need to forge an alliance between private sector, government, non-governmental organizations and other agencies to minimize the impact of earth-quake in coming days.

Speaking on the occasion, earth-quake expert Amod Mani Dixit, Executive Director -NSET underlined the need for collaboration, solidarity and alliance among the organizations working in the sector of disaster mitigation and humanitarian assistance. Stating that more than 3,000 Nepalese have lost their lives over three decades due to any form of disaster, Dixit warned that scale of loss of lives and properties would go up sharply if precautionary measures are not taken in time.

Indu Sharma Dhakal, Director General of Department of Housing informed that roads and highways are the most affected sectors due to natural disaster in Nepal and urged NRNs to support in the reconstruction and renovation of roads and highways which requires huge investment.

US ambassador to Nepal, Scott H.DeLisi, also said the US government is preparing to increase support to Nepal in the management and mitigation of natural calamities. He underscored the need to mobilize people in increasing awareness about natural disaster, strictly enforce building codes by Nepal government to minimize the impact of natural disasters. Discussing about the impact of recent earth-quake in more than 700 schools across the country he said lives of school children were safe as the earth-quake occurred during beyond the school time.

“We have to learn from this earth-quake. Risk of earth-quake has not weaned off but it is an indication of impending devastating earth-quake in Nepal,” he said. He also assured that US embassy would do its best during his tenure in Nepal to minimize the loss from natural disaster. “I want to see all children in Nepal to be aware of measures to protect lives themselves spontaneously after the feeling of even small shocks of earth-quake,” he added. He also suggested that banks and financial institutions invest in the project which are safe in term of impact of earth-quake as weak infrastructures are the main causes of huge loss of lives and properties so that project developers would follow the precautionary measures which helps minimization of risk from natural disasters in coming days.

UPDATE ON DUAL CITIZENSHIP

Date: 12th October, 2011

Time: 3:30-4:00PM

Mr. Ram P. Thapa – Chair of Dual Citizenship Task Force (DCTF)

CaptHitmanGurung- ViceChair DCTF

Mc by Mr. BhaktaGurung, Gen. Secretary NCC UK

NRNs have expressed their views over long standing demands for dual citizenship being put forth by Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA). Speaking at a DC update session organized on the Fifth Global Conference, Mr. Ram Thapa, chair of DCTF said it is right of dual citizenship system for NRNs and will help to boost investment to Nepal from NRN community. He also emphasized that upcoming new constitution must address the demands of NRNs.

HitmanGurung, Vice chair of DCTF, updated on the activities carried out by the NRNA DC Taskforce and opined that government should be liberal for it and take decision as soon as possible. He emphasized that Nepal would lose nothing by giving dual citizenship facility to NRNs. The program was hosted by Mr. BhaktaGurung, General Secretary of NCC UK.



3RD SESSION: CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS FOR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY OF NEPAL

Date: 12 October, 2011

Venue: Army Officer's Club, Bhadrakali

Time: 4:00-5:30PM

Chair: Hon. Dr. RamsharanMahat, Former Finance Minister, CA member

Moderator: Mr. Rambabu Nepal, NRN The Netherlands

Panelists:

Hon. SurendraPandey, Former Finance Minister, CA Member

Hon. DependraBahadurChettri, VC, National Planning Commission
Mr. Rameshwar Khanal, Advisor to PM
Mr. BishwamberPyakurel, Economist
Mr. PashupatiMurarka, FNCCI VP

Former Finance Ministers and economists said it is the best ever opportunity for investment in Nepal. They put forth their views at an interaction on ‘Challenges and Prospects of Economic Prosperity in Nepal’ organized on the occasion of the Fifth NRN Global Conference in Kathmandu. The program was moderated by Mr. Ram Babu Nepal, former NRNA ICC Member from Netherlands.

Speaking from the Chair of the interaction program, former Finance Minister and Economist Dr. Ram SharanMahat suggested to the NRNs to invest in industry, hydropower, agriculture and Information Technology in Nepal. He said Nepal would easily achieve double digit economic growth if more investment is lured from NRNs. He underlined the need to create investment friendly environment by the government and make industrial sector free from any kinds of banda and strikes for next three years.



“It is the best ever opportunity for investment in Nepal”: Economist

Former Finance Minister and leader of CPN (UML) SurendraPandey urged NRNs to invest in productive sectors in Nepal which is limping back to inductive environment for investment after a decade long conflict. He was also of the view that reasonable wages should be offered to the workers to minimize incidents of Banda and strikes in industrial sector.

RameshworeKhanal, Economic Advisor of the Prime Minister, said the nation has expected real investment rather than donation from NRN community. Khanal, who is also a former Finance Secretary, also suggested NRNs to bring in investment in the areas such as agriculture, forest resources, tourism and hydropower. Suggesting NRNs to prove wrong the blame that NRNs are only paying lip service rather than walking the talks, Khanal urged to announce at least one landmark project on the occasion of the 5th NRNA Global Conference.

PashupatiMurarka, Vice-President of Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI), said economic investment, working culture, skill and knowledge of Nepali expatriate are the key base of economic prosperity of Nepal. He also said the commitment by major trade unions to not to

organize any Banda for next four years was the indicator that investment friendly environment is gradually being created in Nepal.

Stating that government has identified investment sectors for NRNs, DeependraBahadurKshetrey, vice-chairman of National Planning Commission said Nepali bureaucracy is ready to make any strong decision to attract investment of NRNs to Nepal. Speaking on the occasion, Professor Dr. BishambherPyakuryal alleged that government ignores the role of private sector that has been contributing more than 70 per cent to the national economy. He also blamed unclear economic policy behind the economic uncertainty in the country.

On the same day, a Concert of Renowned Nun Singer AniChoying Dolma was arranged, in support to the charity for the establishment of Kidney Hospital. Ani started with MangalVani, sung more than half dozen Nepali songs and also updated on the kidney Hospital.



Also a social responsibility of NRN a Blood Donation Program was organized in support of NRNA NCC Russia associated with Nepal Red cross. NRNs from different countries donated blood during the program.



NRNA hosted the welcome dinner on the evening of the first day of fifth NRN Global Conference at Soaltee Crowne plaza, Kathmandu. All the high profile personalities of Nepal Government, leaders of different political parties, Ambassadors, Executives of the Private and Public Organizations, conference participants and sponsors were invited in the welcome dinner.



DAY 2

Date: 13th October, 2011

Venue: Soaltee Crowne Plaza

Day: Thursday

PRABACHAN BY DINBANDU POKHAREL

A BahanPravin (religious speaker) DinbanduPokharel expressed his views on the importance of meditation and philosophical aspect for day to day life. Pokharel stressed that without certain logical instrument people can't achieve their targeted mission. He has pointed out that people are only actor here in world. He urged the people to the think, pray and implement the plan asking ownself. Pokharel was speaking about rituals and philosophical tips for progress, prosperity and success.



Immediate after the religious speech by Pokharel, Chandra BahadurGurung, General Secretary of Gorkha Ex-SoilderOrganisation (GESO) and PadamBahadurGurung, Founder President of GESO spoke about the activities of Gorkhasoldiers for the development of the nation. Speaking on the occasion, GESO General Secretary Chandra BahadurGurung informed the program that preparation was on to establish Gorkha Memorial at the border between Gorkha and Syangja districts.

4TH SESSION: FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT AND SAFE MIGRATION

Date: 13th October, 2011

Venue: Soaltee Crowne Plaza

Day: Thursday

Chair: Dr. Ram HariAryal, Secretary – Ministry of Labor& Transport Mgmt.

Moderator: Mr. BhimSherchan, ICC Member, Malaysia

Panelists:

Dr. Ganesh Gurung, Socialist - NIDS

Mr.SthaneshwarDevkota, ED –Foreign Employment Promotion Board

Mr.Narendra Raj Sharma, DG, Department of Foreign Employment

Mr. SomLalBatajoo, President, NAFEA

Mr. PremKatuwal, President, Manpower Assoc. of Nepal

Ms. ManjuGurung, President – Paurakhi

Nepali expatriates have complained that weak laws and lengthy bureaucratic process for foreign employment has invited hosts of problems to Nepali overseas migrants. “They said problems facing Nepali workers in the Gulf and Malaysia is still prominent due to apathy of the government which is supposed to guard the rights of Nepalis abroad. Narendra Raj Sharma, Director General of Department of Foreign Employment said the government was ready to provide training to Nepalis who are seeking jobs in foreign labor destinations in joint collaboration with Non-governmental organizations. He further stated NRNs could play vital role in providing trainings to the Nepalis interested to go for foreign employment.



Labor Secretary Dr. Ram HariAryal said the government was ready to amend the Foreign Employment Act in favor of the rights and welfare of Nepali migrants. He also said the government is changing the foreign employment policy to ensure greater protection of Nepali women workers in the international labor market.

Former member of National Planning Commission Ganesh Gurung urged NRNA to work for rights of the Nepali migrants who have been exploited in foreign land esp in Middle East and Malaysia. He further said NRNA movement would be successful if it could work in favour of 20 lakh Nepalis working Middle East and Malaysia and address their issues.

NRNA ICC Representative from Malaysia BhimSherchan asked the government to do more for Nepali workers in overseas market. Though it has been said that Middle East and Malaysia are open for Nepali Female workers but it is not implemented properly in practice stated Mr. Sherchan.

NRNA ICC Representatives of –Kuwait Mr. RajanKunwar narrated the plight of huge number of illegal Nepali women in Kuwait. He urged that the insurance policy for the migrant workers to Kuwait should be simplified and the Migration information desk should be established at the Tribhuvan International Airport, Kathmandu. He further said that establishment of the Embassy in Kuwait could ease the problem of female migrants which in return would increase the volume of revenue in Nepal.

SthaneshworeDevkota, Executive Director of Foreign Employment Promotion Board, expressed commitment to spend money collected from Nepali overseas migrant for Foreign Employment Welfare Fund for the welfare of workers and relief for the families of those deceased in overseas destinations. The government has been collecting Rs 1000 from each worker for the fund. Total amount collected in the fund has reached around Rs One Billion.

President of Nepal Association of Foreign Employment Agents, SomLalBataju, urged NRNs for collaboration with foreign employment agencies to minimize the problems in overseas destinations. He also informed that foreign employment agencies have given direct or indirect employment to over 300,000 youths within the country. He further stated that 50% of Nepal's population is dependent on foreign employment and around 53% of foreign currency income of Nepal comes from foreign employment.

Likewise Mr. PremKatuwal President of Manpower Agencies and Foreign Employment said that all the responsible sector and agencies should play vital role to make the foreign employment safe and sound migration. ManjuGurung, President of Paurakhi shared the problems faced by the female workers of Middle East. She urged that Nepal Government should bring policies to ensure the safe migration of female workers.

5th SESSION: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF NEPALI WOMEN ABROAD

Date: 13th October, 2011

Venue: Soaltee Crowne Plaza

Day: Thursday

Chair: Hon. Dan Bahadur Choudary, Minister, Women, Children and Social Welfare Ministry.

Moderator- Ms. Sapila Rajbhandari, NRNA ICC Member Russia

Panelists:

Ms. Ranju Thapa NRNA Deputy Women Representative

Ms. Janakee Gurung, President NCC Belgium

Dr. Bidya Ranjit, VP, NCC USA, Report from Women's preconference

Dr. Sharmila Gurung VP, NCC Hongkong

Dr. Ang Tschering Sherpa, Medical Doctor Nepal- NRN migrants' health

Ms. Radha Basnet, NRNA ICC Member Canada

Ms. Bhawani Rana, FNCCI VP

Women representatives of NRNA have stressed on the need to impart orientation and training to women before they go for overseas jobs. They also demanded that the government come up with effective training mechanism for them as most of the women facing difficulties in international job market are known to have no knowledge of their jobs. They expressed their views at an interaction on 'Opportunities and Challenges for Nepali Women Abroad' on the occasion of 5th NRN Global Conference held in Kathmandu.

"Since most of the women going overseas for jobs, have no vocational training, knowledge and skills, they are confronting with host of problems including different kinds of exploitations," Ranju Thapa, Women Deputy Coordinator of NRNA said.

Radha Basnet, women representative of NRN-Canada said skilled women are highly in demand even in the developed countries. She further said, well-educated trained female workers have lot more opportunities in different professions like health, nursing in compare to uneducated and unskilled female workers.



Janaki Gurung, President of NCC Belgium said Nepali women in Europe are facing different kinds of problems due to lack of language proficiency and skills for jobs. “Though women are given high priority in jobs, they are still in limited number in top jobs,” said Gurung.

Sarmila Gurung, representative of NCC Hong Kong, complained that the government failed to set a mechanism to check the trafficking of women in the Gulf countries where incidents of different kinds of exploitation on women is rife. She further urged that Government develop control mechanism to stop the women trafficking in the gulf countries and Malaysia. Bhawani Rana, Vice-President of Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) urged NRNs to invest in Nepal to create more employment opportunities within the country so that no woman has to leave the country for overseas employments.

Similarly, Dr Bidhya Ranjit, stressed on the increasing awareness and educational program to minimize the incidents of domestic violence against Nepali women. Dr. Ang Chhiri Sherpa, who is working in Nepal as doctors for women workers, shed light on the present scenario of the health condition of Nepali women.

Dr Samata Prasad President of Narinikunj Russia was of the opinion to teach to own children about the mother language and culture of Nepal. She suggested that the NCCs should established the Nepali Language Center in respective country so that the new generation Kids get opportunity to learn their national language.

Indra Ban, Advisor of NRNA underlined the need to provide equal access to education for both sons and daughters. Similarly, Bishnu Maya Pariya, NRN member from USA, demanded that women be nominated to the top leadership position of NRNA.

Dan Bahadur Chaudhary, Minister for Women, Children and Social Welfare expressed commitment to introduce special programs to control the trafficking of women to overseas labor markets.

6th SESSION: PRIORITY SECTOR FOR INVESTMENT IN NEPAL

Date: 13th October, 2011

Venue: Soaltee Crowne Plaza

Day: Thursday

Chair: Mr. Rameshwar Shah, NRNA Treasurer

Moderation: Mr. Ram SharanShimkhada, GS NCC UK

Speakers:

Mr. SubarnaShrestha, President IPAN

Mr. Om Rajbhandari, Executive Member – FNCCI

Mr. IshworShrestha, MD, Global Capital Investment Pvt. L- Platinum Partner

Presentation of Down Town Housing Pvt. Ltd., Gold Partner

Presentation of TBI Group, Gold Partner

Nepali business people have urged NRNs to participate in national development by investing in priority sectors in Nepal. Nepal has indentified hydropower, tourism, infrastructure and agriculture sectors as the highly prioritized sector for investment. They made the suggestions to NRNs at an interaction on 'Priority Sector for Investment in Nepal' organized on the occasion of 5th NRN Global Conference held in Kathmandu.



Discussing about the importance of hydropower for overall development in Nepal, Dr. Subarna Das Shrestha, President of Nepal Independent Power Producers Association, urged NRNs to put money in hydropower projects. Presenting the statistics about the production and consumption of electricity in Nepal, he said only 700 MW electricity has been produced though licenses have been issued for producing 16,000 MW. Considering the current demand, it could be presumed that Nepal will need 5000MW by 2020, if we plan for increasing production now it will ease our problems in days to come.

Om Raj Bhandari, Executive Member of FNCCI said increasing urbanization in Nepal has created the opportunities to invest in housing and real estate sectors. According to him, at least 200,000 units of apartments are required annually to fulfill the demands for housing given the urbanization in the country. He further stated that Nepal Government has made provisions for foreigners to invest and buy housings/apartment upto 2 lakh US dollars.

Director General of Global Capital Investment Mr. IshworShrestha briefed about the company and its motives. Mr. Min Man Shrestha, Managing director Of Down Town Housing Company said that this is the right time with appropriate opportunity to invest in housing and real estate sector in Nepal.

Mr. ShisirBhatta, Managing Director of TBI Group said there was huge potentiality for investment in Readymade Garment and medical education sectors and urged NRNs to invest in these sectors. He also informed that his group is soon launching the Bhagwan Buddha Airlines in Nepal.

Mr. Rameshwor Shah, Treasurer NRNA central committee member said that NRNs were ready to immediately invest in hydropower for producing at least 100 MW of electricity that requires an investment between US\$ 2 to US\$ 2.5 billion.

7TH SESSION: INCENTIVES AND FACILITIES UNDER NRN RULES AND REGULATIONS

Date: 13th October, 2011
Venue: Soaltee Crowne Plaza
Day: Thursday

Chair: Mr. ParasGhimire, Joint Secretary, MoFA
Moderator: Mr. Ambika P. Adhikari, NRNA RC Americas
Speakers:
Mr. Ram BabuDhakal, Under Secretary, MoFA
Mr. GobaKatuwal, Regional Coordinator Oceania
Dr. DronaRasali, Deputy Coordinator Americas
Mr. Mukesh Singh, NRN USA

NRNs have asked the government to introduce the act that allows dual citizenship to all Nepali expatriates so as to maintain the relationship with their motherland despite their long stay abroad. On the occasion of 5th NRN Global Conference held in Kathmandu, they also urged the government to set up NRN- Constitutional Commission to ensure that the dual citizenship facilities to NRNs be incorporated in the upcoming constitutions. The program was moderated by Dr. Ambika P Adhikari NRNA RC Americas.

Dr. DronaRasaili, NRN representative from the US, said dual citizenship provision is necessary to protect investment for NRNs in Nepal. He also demanded that the government form a high-level panel to study the different demands put forth by NRNs including proper management of property of NRNs in Nepal, protection of investment and provision of citizenship. Mukesh Singh, a Nepali lawyer in the US, asked the government to end the discrimination between NRNs and local Nepalis to create conducive environment for investment.

Ram Thapa, Patron and Chair of Dual Citizenship Taskforce, said NRNs continue to knock the door of the political parties and civil societies to lobby for constitutional provision for dual citizenship. Mr. GobaKatuwal, NRNA Regional Coordinator Oceania, expressed dissatisfaction over the treatment to NRNs, putting them under the less-privileged status than even foreign investors. He further mentioned the areas of improvements to be made in the NRN bylaws and urged government to take such issues seriously to increase NRNs investment in Nepal.



Speaking on the occasion, Advocate, Dinesh Tripathi, also demanded rights to NRNs at par with the normal Nepali citizen to encourage investment in Nepal. NRNs had complained over the tedious process in making NRN-card which has been provided by the government.

NRN Representatives also expressed about the legal issues and problem associated with the making of NRN Card provided by Nepal Government. NRNs requested to clarify the issues about the right of their kids to get admission and enrollment in Nepali Universities as the resident Nepali students. They further stated, despite of having keen interest and love towards its motherlands NRNs are compelled to stay away, so they demanded the need to rectify the NRN by laws.

ParashGhimire, Joint Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) assured that the government would do more in coming days to address the demands put forward by NRNs. “The government is not only encouraging NRN investment in Nepal but also trying to prove that Nepal is home to all NRNs. Ram BabuDhakal, UnderSecretary of the MoFA also underlined the necessity upon timely amendment of NRN Act to as to protect the investment of NRNs in Nepal.

8TH SESSION: YOUTH AND SECOND GENERATION NRN FORUM

Chair: Mr. Bhabani P Oli, NRNA YA Coordinator

Moderator: RajenKandel, ICC member, UK

Panelists:

Hon. GaganThapa, CA Member

Hon. Hem Raj Bhandari, CA Member

Mr. YogeshBhattarai, Member UML

Mr. Ganga Raj Rai, ICC Member Korea

The interaction on the second generation youth was organized during the 5th NRN Global Conference on the day of 13 October at the Soaltee Crowne Plaza. The program was started with a query : What are the problems faced by Nepali Youth today and what role they could play in nation development?

Speaking on the occasion, youth leader of CPN UML and CA member, Hem Raj Bhandari, also said NRNs can make investment in the country and able to generate a huge level of employment for youth

.He said, “We have problem in leader for better future of youth and if we are able to reduce youth unemployment then outdated leader are automatically removed and country will run by youth” he added. CA Member cum CPN UML youth Leader Mr. YogeshBhattarai opined that the new generation should take a lead in building New Nepal. Youth have new vision and innovative ideas, so they should be involved in socio economic development activities. Speaking in the program he highlighted that economic revolution is possible only if we bring revolution in educational sector. Nepali Diaspora Second Generation could help in bringing economic revolution by transforming their skills, knowledge to the resident Nepali Youth.



Likewise CA Member GaganThapa cum Youth Leader of Nepali Congress urged that youth are playing pivotal role for economic development of Nepal and ready to reduce to aboard young people for low level income through investment of productive sector in country. “I hereby urge you all to bring in more investment on your own community, village and district with your foreign partners. Then we will be able to produced fruits and vegetables in our own country,” Thapa said. He also said NRNs can work with local communities where they born and spent childhood period. “I am ready to take initiative to aware those unemployed young to stay country for economic development but they need income generation activity,” he added. He also reiterated that if we provide facilities and invest in agriculture, fishery and technology based production in the basis of their capacity to generate employment.

Concluding the session, BhabaniOli, NRNA Youth Coordinator and Session chair emphasized that the NRN Youth should play vital role in developing the nation and thanked all the speakers for their views and suggestions.

9TH SESSION: PRESENTATION OF REPORTS BY NRNA TASK FORCES

In this session, coordinators and members of different Task Forces of the NRNA had presented their progress reports. This session was coordinated by Tenzi Sherpa, Secretary of NRNA.



10th SESSION: PRESENTATION OF PROGRESS REPORTS BY NCC REPRESENTATIVES

Representatives of NCCs from different countries had presented their respective progress reports. The session was coordinated by Ratan Jha, General Secretary of NRNA.



The session was followed by a dinner for all participants Nepal Police Club.



DAY 3

Date: 14 October 2011

Venue: Soaltee Crowne Plaza

Former President of FNCCI and Managing Director of Nepal Infrastructure Development Company Kush Kumar Joshi has presented concept, importance and challenges of Infrastructure Development Board. He highlighted the activities being done by the company. He also urged NRNs to make investment in different sectors in collaboration with local business people.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NRNA

Chair: NRNA President

General Secretary's Report

MC by Kumar Basnet- NRNA Spokesperson

A General Assembly meeting of NRNA was held on the third day of the 5th NRN Global Conference. Ratan Kumar Jha, General Secretary of NRNA, had presented a report about the activities doing during the past two year's term. Similarly, Rameshwor Shah, treasurer of NRNA had presented the audit report of his term. Similarly, Dr Hem Raj Sharma, presented NRNA's statute that was amended in 2011. NRNA president Dev Man Hirachan had presided over the meeting. Dr Kumar Basnet was the presenter of the session. Due to lack of time, the AGM was partially conducted after the Election process.



ELECTION of NRNA

General Assembly of NRNA was followed by election procedure of next two-year term. The election was actively participated by ICC members and NCC representatives from different countries. Chief Commissioner of the Election was Sharada Jung Thapa where as Ram Babu Nepal, Dr Hem Raj Sharma, Badri KC, Deepak Kumar Khadka were election commissioner. Election process was lasted until 8 PM followed by announcement of election results. Existing NRNA, ICC, executive committee was dissolved before installation and swearing in program for the new committee members.

List of Elected and Nominated Persons from the Election

1. President: Jiba Lamichhane
2. Vice-president: Hit Man Gurung
3. Vice-president : Rameshwor Shah
4. General Secretary: Tenzi Sherpa
5. Secretary: TekBahadurKarki
6. Treasurer : BhawanBhatta
7. Spokesperson: Dr Hemraj Sharma (Nominated)
8. Regional CoordinatorAsia Pacific: Yem Kumar Gurung
9. Regional CoordinatorEurope: Kumar Pant
10. Regional CoordinatorMiddle East : NarendraBahadurBhatta
11. Regional CoordinatorAmericas: Mukesh Kumar Singh
- 12.Regional CoordinatorOceania: ManaKhatri
13. Deputy Regional CoordinatorAsia Pacific: KiranBikramThapa
14. Deputy Regional Coordinator Europe: LakshaBahadurGurung
15. Deputy Regional Coordinator Middle East: Lok Nath Subedi
16. Deputy Regional Coordinator Americas : Ram Chandra Kharel
17. Deputy Regional Coordinator Oceania: NeerajShrestha
18. Women Coordinator: MrsRanjuThapa
19. Youth Coordinator: DhurbaSubedi (Nominated)
20. Deputy Women Coordinator: RadhaBasnyat



CLOSING CEREMONY AND VALEDICTORY SESSION

Chief Guest: Mr. Narayan KajiShrestha, DPM & Minister for Foreign Affairs

- Reading of Kathmandu Declaration - 2011
- Tokens to Sponsors
- Felicitating New ICC Members (2011-13)
- Special Note by the NRNA President
- Summary of the Conference by Mr. Rajendra B Shrestha
- Special Note by Hon. DPM & Minister for Foreign Affairs NarayankajiShrestha
- Vote of Thanks by FNCCI Senior VP – Mr. Bhaskar Raj Rajkarnikar
- Showcasing of Karate

MC - Ms. Sangeeta Maratha, NRN UK

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Narayan KajiShrestha was the chief guest of the closing ceremony of the 5th Global NRNA Conference in Kathmandu. Shrestha, who is also coordinator of the conference, extended thanks to NRNA, FNCCI and all those who had directly or indirectly contributed from their respective field to make the conference a success. On the occasion, Shrestha had felicitated by presenting Token of Appreciation to all sponsors of the event. Dr Kumar Basnet, spokesperson of the NRNA had read out the Kathmandu Declaration 2011.



Speaking on the occasion, Dev Man Hirachan, President of NRNA, had given thanks to the Government, FNCCI, all members of NRNA's conference organizing committee, ICC office bearers and members, media persons, sponsors and participants who had made contribution for the grand success of the conference.



POST CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES: 5TH NRN GLOBAL CONF. **15 October, 2011 (Saturday)**

30th ICC Meeting of the Newly-Elected Members

Venue: FNCCI Building

Time: 10:00-14:00hrs

The 30th NRNA ICC Meeting was held immediately next day after the conclusion of the Global Conference at the premises of FNCCI Building. The meeting was chaired by the newly elected President Jiba Lamichhane and conducted by the General Secretary Tenzi Sherpa. The meeting was attended by the newly elected and nominated ICC executives and the members.



The meeting discussed some major NRNA issues and took decisions. The meeting decided to form a NRNA Philanthropic and Charity fund and NRNA Building Fund and was successful in announcing contribution of Rs. 1 Crore and Fifty Seven lakhs for the NRNA Charity Projects and One Crore Twenty Five lakhs for the NRNA Building. The contribution was committed by all the ICC Executives and members. The meeting also decided to establish a NRN Mutual Fund and committed to invest in the 100 MW Hydroproject in Nepal. The newly elected President requested all the NCC members to support at least one Social Project in Nepal. The meeting also decided to conduct the social activities related to Health and Education through Help Nepal Network and establish Local Library through or in partnership with the Nepal Library Foundation.

Tea Reception Hosted by Nepali Congress Party in the Honor of the Newly Elected NRNA Members

Venue: Party Office Sanepa

Time: 14:00-16:00hrs

The President of Nepali Congress Sushil Koirala hosted reception in honor of newly elected members of the Executive Committee NRNA, ICC. Parliamentary party leader of Nepali Congress Ram Chandra Paudel welcomed all the elected members of NRNA. Making welcoming remark Poudel stated that the nation had a lot of expectation on the NRNs and expressed commitment to support and extend help to

Nepali Diaspora on behalf of the party. President of NRNA, ICC, Jiba Lamichhane thanked the Nepali Congress Party for the warm welcome and informed the audience that the newly elected executive committee was very serious in delivering tangible results in its activities. Chief Patron of NRNA Dev Man Hirachan highlighted on necessity for unity among NRNs and stated that individualism is less significant and may no longer be effective in coming days. He urged all not to say 'me' but say 'us'.

The Founding president of NRNA Dr. Upendra Mahato stated that individual achievement was insignificant if the nation was not prosperous. He also said the duty and responsibility of each individual should be to contribute to nation building in whatever way they can. Nepali Congress President Koirala thanked all the NRNs present at the tea reception and assured that the party was always be a well-wisher of the NRNs.

Tea Reception Hosted by Communist Party of Nepal, UML in the Honor of the Newly Elected NRNA Members

Venue: Hotel Malla

Time: 16:00-19:00hrs

The Chairperson of CPN-UML Jhala Nath Khanal welcomed all the newly elected members of the executive committee and presented khadato them. Senior leader and chief of the Foreign Division of CPN-UML, K.P. Sharma Oli made the welcoming remarks and stated that there should not be two types of citizenship among Nepalis no matter where they are residing in. Thanking to CPN-UML for reception and highlighted about the contribution made by NRNs in socio-economic development of Nepal. He said that NRNs had already invested in various sectors and the new executive committee was serious in bringing collective investment in Nepal.



Chief Patron of NRNA, Dev Man Hirachan spoke of the importance of unity among NRNs and justified the reason behind his withdrawal of his candidacy for the presidency. NRNA Founding President, Dr. Upendra Mahato stated that time had come to make tangible and substantive efforts in contributing to the socio-economic development of Nepal and believed the NRN community was ready for this responsibility. Giving thanks to the participants of the tea party, CPN UML chairman Jhala Nath Khanal stated that the motherland was always ready to assist NRNs in their every need. He remarked that this cordial relation between diaspora community and the country should be always maintained and developed further.

DAY 2: POST CONFERENCE PROGRAM

16 October, 2011 (Sunday)

Cricket Matches between Secretaries of Nepal Government with NRNA in Partnership with Media House

Venue: Kritipur Ground

Time: 8:00-10:00hrs

The opening match of the Soaltee Crowne Plaza Super Six Corporate Cricket Tournament was organized between the secretaries of Nepal Government and NRNs in partnership with Media Houses. The secretary's team was led by the Chief Secretary Madav Prasad Ghimire and the combined team from NRN& Media House was led by NRNA, ICC, President, JibaLamichhane.

It was a first ever match which turned out to be very competitive in which secretaries' team won by just 8 runs. The participants from NRNA's side were NRNA, ICC President JibaLamichhane, NRNA founding President, Dr Upendra Mahato, Vice President, Rameshwar Shah, ICC member from China, RanjanDhakal, Executive Director Rajesh ShumsherRana and Officer Anil Dhungana.



Meeting with Film Producer's Association of Nepal and Actors

Time: 12:00-15:00hrs

A meeting between NRNA, ICC executive committee led by Jiba Lamichhane and the members of Film Producer's Association and Actors was held to discuss how NRNs can contribute to the sector.

Tea Reception Hosted by Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) in the Honor of the Newly Elected NRNA Members

Venue: Hotel Malla

Time: 16:00-18:00hrs

Chairman of the Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) Puspa Kamal Dahal “Prachanda” welcomed all the newly elected members of the executive committee and presented khadato them. He expressed happiness on unanimous selection of NRNA president and extended wishes that that all political parties of Nepal could follow the path. He mentioned that he was the person who had raised the issue of “continuation of Nepali citizenship” to NRNs at the parliament. He took the opportunity to express his full support on this issue.

The NRNA President thanked the UCPN (Maoist), especially the Maoist chairman Dahal for sparing some time from his busy schedule to organizing the reception to the newly elected executive members. He expressed that the warm welcome extended by the Nepali people and various political parties has further boosted the NRN morale.

Chief Patron of NRNA, Dev Man Hirachan expressed his view that the collective efforts of NRNs had already begun and the unopposed election of the NRNA president was just a beginning to be followed by many collective efforts of the NRN community. Founding President, Dr Upendra Mahato remarked that NRNs have devoted enough time enhancing networks between NRNs that has now reached to 57 countries.



DAY 2 : POST CONFERENCE PROGRAM

17 October, 2011 (Monday)

Meeting between NRNA Executive Committee and Government Officials of Various Ministries and Departments under the Chairmanship of the Finance Minister, Hon. Barsa Man Pun

Venue: Finance Ministry

Time: 11:30-13:30hrs

Finance Minister Barsa Man Pun welcomed all the executive committee members. While chairing one of the sessions of the 5th NRNGlobal Conference, he had suggested that the election be able to elect the President unopposed. He remarked that it turned out as he had suggested but definitely it was not only achievable due to his suggestions, people had sacrificed for a common goal. He also told the audience that NRNs are the global ambassadors of Nepal and should promote Nepal and Nepali products abroad.

He requested NRNs to bring collective fund to invest in Nepal and also further requested NRNs to promote their business not only in their resident country but in Nepal as well. The Finance Minister also thanked the NRN community for their commitment to bring some tangible projects in Nepal and informed the participants that the 5th Global Conference had produced successful outcome. He also promised to NRN participants that there would be a NRN desk at the airport by the time they left Kathmandu.

President of NRNA, ICC, Jiba Lamichhane thanked the Finance Minister and the secretary for arranging the meeting and giving the NRNs an opportunity to put forth their cause. He informed that the new executive committee was very interested and committed to bringing collective investment to the country and requested the Finance Ministry to minimize the paper work, mandatory provision for collective signatories in the financial statement of the companies. He further requested to the Company Registrar's Office to expedite the registration process for such companies.

NRNA Founding President Dr. Upendra Mahato requested the Nepal government to provide one readymade project for the NRNs to bring in their collective investment to Nepal. He highlighted the fact that one of the drawbacks in attracting foreign investment in Nepal was the lack of internationally reputed rating companies in Nepal. He also inquired about the government's views on opening the petroleum business to the private sector. Dr. Mahato also informed the gathering that foreign suppliers were willing to supply materials and equipments on credit but the government required to open letter of credit as the parties were barred from enjoying the credit facilities. He also informed that a compulsory 10 percent bonus has increased the tax from 25 percent to 35 percent. The employer should be given a right to adopt the system-- 'hire and fire'.

The Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank Dr. YuvrajKhatiwada advised NRNs to invest in number of companies rather than concentrating in a single company. He also informed the gathering that the government was seeking avenues to bring in rating companies of international repute to Nepal.

Some of the points highlighted by NRN participants in the meetings were:

- The Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) rate is old and has to be revised.
- Tax holiday for hydro projects
- The government should create basis for collective investment
- The government should solve obstacles related to double taxation
- NRNs are interested in investing in international airlines

- There should be no taxation on second hand goods sent as donation to universities
- There should be no taxation on personal goods of NRNs (car, clothes and computers).
- Nepal House should promote and sell Nepali products

Replies put forth by high level government officials were:

- Requested NRNs how they can participate in the investment year 2012-13 through investment forum
- Venture into projects with 50% equity with Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) and Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI)
- The government requested NRNs to bring into Nepal foreign investment and technology.
- The government is committed to simplify registration process for NRN projects and would provide services to NRNs in two days that would otherwise takes seven days.
- NRNs should also think of investing in manufacturing and value adding projects with zero percent tariffs. Nearly 4500 products have been identified and are exportable to Europe, China and India.
- For hydro power to be more feasible, transmission line to India should be built.
- If NRNs come through the collective investment concept, then the government is ready to give one project.
- There is no VAT in electrical and hydro power equipment.
- The government is considering rebating Rs one million per watt
- Tax treaty with the US government is being considered and is in process.
- Government is ready to work together and facilitate NRNs in every way possible.
- The officials at Company Registrar Office informed that signatory requirements will be simplified

Tea Reception Hosted by Vice-President Parmananda Jha and Public Media Forum in the Honor of the Newly Elected NRNA Members

Venue: Office of VP, Jamal

Time: 17:00-18:00hrs

The President of NRNA, ICC, Jiba Lamichhane, thanked the Vice-President Paramananda Jha and the Public Media Forum for hosting a tea party in the honor of the newly elected executive committee. He informed the gathering that now the time was ripe to bring in collective NRN investment and solve problems related to migration issues in the Middle East.

Patron of NRNA BhimUdas highlighted the initial struggle in forming the NRNA and the contributions made by various people and expressed delight in what NRNA had achieved in just eight years.



Vice-President, Jha, expressed delight in being able to welcome the newly elected executive committee members of NRNA and wished them all the success in their endeavor in uniting Nepalese living all over the world to contribute in the socio-economic development of Nepal.

The Chair of Public Media Forum RajrajyaLaxmiShakya thanked all the executive members for attending the function despite their busy and hectic schedule on a short notice.

Dinner Hosted by Kathmandu Metropolitan City Office in the honor of the Newly Elected NRNA Members

Venue: Nepali Chulo, Lazimpat

Time: 18:00-20:30hrs

The President of NRNA, ICC, Jiba Lamichhane thanked Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC) and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Ganesh Rai for hosting a dinner in honor of the newly elected executive members of the NRNA and showed interest to work with mentioned that he and his team looked forward to work with KMC.

Welcoming NRNA new team with khada and Nepali caps, KMC's CEO Rairequested NRNA delegates to shares their experience on how the developed countries are managing the waste. He also thanked all the delegates for accepting his invitation.

DAY 3 : POST CONFERENCE PROGRAM

18 October, 2011 (Tuesday)

Introductory Meeting with the Members of Nepal Chamber of Commerce (NCC) and the Newly Elected NRNA Members organized by Nepal Chamber of Commerce

Venue: Chamber Building, Jamal

Time: 09:00-10:30hrs

President of NCC SurendraBasynet welcomed all the delegates of newly-elected executive committee of NRNA and expressed commitment to work together with the NRNs supporting their future endeavors.

President of NRNA, ICC, Jiba Lamichhane thanked the members of NCC for hosting a gathering and providing an opportunity to know each other. He also informed the gathering that efforts have already started to bring NRN collective investment in Nepal. He also expressed his view that the knowledge, skill and experience of local entrepreneurs could no doubt be helpful to the NRNs.

The Immediate Past President of NCC SurendraBirMalakar congratulated all the newly elected members of the NRNA ICC executive committee and wished them a successful tenure. He also urged NRNAs to walk the talk not only paying lip service regarding their contribution in national development.

Presentation of its Activities by Help Nepal to the Newly Elected NRNA Members

Venue: Help Nepal Office, Baudha

Time: 11:00-12:00hrs

Help Nepal, whom the 30th ICC meeting nominated to monitor and implement all social projects of NRNA ICC, made their presentation and briefed the executive members about their activities and programs. President of NRNA, ICC, Jiba Lamichhane and the President of Help Nepal Arun Singh Basnet signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to this effect.

Joint Meeting between Newly Elected NRNA Executive Committee, FNCCI Members and the Foreign Ministry Officials Under the Chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister and Chair of the High Level Organizing Committee of the 5th Global Conference, Hon. Narayan KajiShrestha

Venue: Foreign Ministry

Time: 13:00-14:00hrs

The Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister and the Chair of the 5th NRN Global Conference High Level Organizing Committee Narayan KajiShrestha congratulated all the newly elected executive committee members of the NRNA, ICC. He highlighted the four objectives of formation of NRNA and requested the members to work towards achieving them.

The four objectives highlighted by Shrestha were:

- Unity among NRNs.

- Socio-economic development of Nepal through the transfer of capital, knowledge and skills.
- Promotion of Nepal and Nepali products in the resident country.
- Improvement of socio-economic conditions of Nepalis residing abroad.

Raising doubt over how the NRN declarations can be implemented more effectively Shrestha suggested that a monitoring body consisting of representatives of MoFA, FNCCI and NRNA be formed to materialize the announcement made in the declaration.

He also requested all the participants to ponder on how NRNs could be more effective as provided by NRN Act and threw suggestions to the monitoring body.

He assured the gathering that MoFA will, as per national interest, consider the universal practice and try to reach consensus to resolve the problems facing NRNs. Finally, he stated that it was also the responsibility of the government to make NRNA's positive efforts successful.

President NRNA, ICC, Jiba Lamichhane thanked Shrestha for his presence and support that he extended during the 5th NRN Global Conference. Lamichhane also assured the Shrestha that NRNs were committed to sincerely making efforts for the implementation of the declarations of the conference. He informed the gathering that NRNs had already discussed with the Finance Ministry about how to go ahead towards bringing collective investment to Nepal. Lamichhane also briefed to Shrestha about the NRN Act 2064 which stipulates that people living outside SAARC countries for more than two years and those living more than 182 days in third countries as NRNs.

The President drew the attention of Shrestha that there were some comments regarding the sponsorship of the conference by the government and if it was really a big issue to the government, then NRNA could consider it. He however, said that NRNA would not deny the support from the government as the government was the major organizer of this conference.

The officiating president of FNCCI, one of the co-organizers of the conference, BhaskarRajkarnikar, remarked that this was a joint contribution made by government and FNCCI to meet certain conference related expenses as the co-organizers of the 5th Global Conference and not to NRNA. He also expressed readiness to work with NRNA in coming days.

Founding President of NRNA, Dr. Upendra Mahato mentioned that rounds of discussion being made in different forums about NRNs showed that the role of NRNs in national development has increased for last few years.

One of the major obstacles faced by the organization was not being able to register the organization in Nepal though the political leaders had repeatedly reassured the NRNA members about the amendment in the NRNA Act 2064 from the third global conference. He requested the MoFA to put pursue on this issue in consultation with NRNA stating that it was for the interest of all Nepalis. He also took this opportunity to assure the gathering that NRNA will deliver more effectively this time around.

Other Issues Raised by the NRNA Delegation were:

- To install a desk at the airport for renewal of work permit and related works.
- Issues related to double taxation especially with the USA.
- End deportation of Nepalese from Europe.
- Open embassies in Bahrain and Oman
- Initiate diplomatic process to open embassy of Portugal in Kathmandu

Replies by the Government Official:

MoFA assured that they would discuss the matter with Ministry of Labor and resolve the work permit issue. The Nepal embassy was forced to make deportation paper due to confessions of coming from Nepal by concerned persons

Introductory Meeting with the Prime Minister of the Newly Elected NRNA Executive Committee

Venue: PM Resident, Baluwatar

Time: 17:00-18:00hrs

The President of NRNA, ICC, Jiba Lamichanne, thanked the Prime Minister Dr. Baburam Bhattarai for gracing the opening ceremony of the 5th NRN Global Conference and sparing time to the newly elected executive committee of NRNA despite his busy schedule. He assured the Prime Minister that NRNs were committed towards fulfilling the commitment made in the conferences' declarations. He mentioned that NRNA had already begun dialogue with the Ministry of Finance as to how it can bring collective investment to Nepal. He presented to the Prime Minister the concept paper on continuation of Nepali citizenship as well as a memorandum submitted by the NRNs from Portugal.

Founding President of NRNA Dr. Upendra Mahato stated that even for individual identity NRNs had to do something for their mother country. "We are ready to do something collectively and are responsible for branding our country and encouraging foreign investment in Nepal. We also believe the Prime Minister will support us in our efforts," he said.

NRNA Patron Bhim Udas informed the Prime Minister that the investment of NRNs was not discouraging as highlighted by the media. "Though the atmosphere for collective investment is not yet conducive, many new initiatives are taking place and NRNs are ready to support motherland", he said.

He also suggested to the Prime Minister to implement of PPP (Public-Private Partnership) concept in creating hydropower development fund. NRNA, ICC, Vice-President, Hitman Gurung, reminded the Prime Minister that since the time had come to finalize the issue of continuation of Nepali citizenship for NRNs to be included in the new constitution. NRNA, ICC General Secretary, Tenzi Sherpa drew suggested to the PM that the possibility of erecting transmission lines between Nepal and India be discussed during the PM's upcoming visit to the southern neighbor so that Nepal can easily import and export of electricity.

NRNA, ICC, Secretary, T.B. Karki, brought to the notice of the PM the difficulties faced by the migrant workers especially in the Middle East countries. He suggested the government to provide five years work permit so that the problems related to renewal of work permit could be minimized. He also demanded that the genuineness of the visas provided to Nepali workers be checked through the website.

On the occasion, PM Bhattarai congratulated the newly elected members of the executive body and requested everybody to think positively for the sake of nation. He thanked the NRNs for their continuous support and commitment towards the motherland and reminded them that the nation is in need of their knowledge, skill and innovation as well as capital. Stating that Nepal was underdeveloped, it means there are lots of opportunities for development and requested NRNs to actively participate and contribute to the nation in whatever way they can. He highlighted the importance of building a fast track to Kathmandu, international airport at Nijgad, Lumbini development, among others crucial projects under PPP model.

DAY 4 : POST CONFERENCE PROGRAM

19 October, 2011 (Tuesday)

Meeting between FNCCI Members and the Newly Elected NRNA Members

Venue: FNCCI Building

Time: 14:00-16:00hrs

FNCCI President SurajVaidya welcomed all the executive members and thanked all NRNs for the role they have played in the socio-economic development of Nepal. He stated that the relationship of FNCCI and NRNA now needs to be more consolidated and focused on their strengths. He further stated that in the coming two years, the relationship should be improved to deliver something tangible jointly. He also said that FNCCI would also focus on strengthening its relations with the government officials rather than just with the politicians. He also urged for joining hand to make the Nepal Investment Year 2012-13 a grand success with collective efforts from the government, NRNA and FNCCI. He also emphasized that Nepal was not poor but has not been able to capitalize on its potentials.

Vaidya also said FNCCI was going to identify 50 projects for the investment year and sought involvement of NRNs in some of them. He suggested an investment forum meeting between NRNs and FNCCI members in February, 2012 and stressed on the need to establish the bilateral network to promote each other's activities.

He stated that FNCCI could promote NRN's interest in 75 districts of Nepal and NRNA could promote FNCCI interest in resident affiliated countries through the NCCs. The president of FNCCI requested the NRNA to identify such individuals who could collaborate with FNCCI in this regard. He also stated that FNCCI was ready to provide additional space in its building for NRNA secretariat.

NRNA, ICC, President Jiba Lamichhane thanked FNCCI for welcoming the newly elected members of the executive committee and thanked FNCCI for its continuous support to NRNA from its very inception. Lamichhane also extended thanks to FNCCI presidentVaidya for coining the NRNA motto "For Nepali by Nepali". He also expressed that NRNs are ready to fulfill their commitment amid high expectations of people toward NRNs.

He informed the program that NRNs were working towards collective investment and would present concept paper soon and looked forward to working together with FNCCI. He further stated that NRNs were ready to join hands with FNCCI in a 50 percent equity sharing deal. He further stated that NRN Act 2064 allows NRNs to fund projects in Nepal without showing the source of fund. He informed the meeting that NRNs were interested in investing in 100 megawatt hydro power project through collective investment.

GyanendraLalPradhan, executive member of FNCCI, suggested that NRNs invest in smaller projects of up to 25 megawatt and could come through Singapore to enjoy more tax benefits. He further suggested that if NRNs were to work together with the Nepali local promoters, they be given 60% share so that dealing with the local banks will be more comfortable.

NRNA, ICC, General Secretary, Tenzi Sherpa, also agreed to and supported the use of each other's network in promoting mutual interest in Nepal and abroad. Om Rajbhandari, executive member FNCCI, expressed the need to bring NRN's expertise to Nepal's housing sector. KalyanKayestha, NRN USA, advised the gathering to devise a mechanism that converts expertise into capital value. Mukesh Singh, NRNA Regional Coordinator, requested FNCCI members to know how funds could be channeled to Nepal so that double taxation could be exempted. Dr. RajuAdhikari, NRN Australia spoke of the value

addition potentials of agriculture especially the herbs of Nepal. He informed that at present the value addition for Nepali herbs has been made in India and China.

BhabhaniRana, Vice-President of FNCCI, suggested that NRN Global Conference be organized in different regions of Nepal. Finally, Senior-Vice President, BhaskarRajkarnikar, thanked all the NRNA ICC executive members for participating in the welcome meet. As a member of steering committee to organize, he thanked all the members of the organizing committee for making the 5th Global Conference a grand success. He further assured that FNCCI and NRNA will make the coming Global Conference a more organized, effective and rewarding.

Dinner Meeting between Newly Elected NRNA Executive Committee Members and the Secretaries of the Government of Nepal under the Leadership of the Chief Secretary, MadhavPrasadGhimire

Venue: Ustav Restaurant, Kathmandu

Time : 18:00-20:00hrs

A dinner was by the Chief Secretary, Madav Prasad Ghimire on behalf of all secretaries of Nepal government. Welcoming all newly elected members of NRNA, ICC, the Chief Secretary lauded the progress made by NRNA so far and expressed hope that it would be further strengthened in the coming days.

He stated that the Nepal government was always ready to extend support to NRNAs and underline the need to work together by government and NRNs to resolve the problems facing NRNs and contribute to the socio-economic development of the country. He also summarized that this gathering had helped develop a one on one working relations between government and NRNA. The Chief Secretary further stated that there was a need to conduct a joint exercise to make NRNs more productive in the socio-economic development of Nepal. He also remarked that the task in NRNA should be divided and important and priority issues should be addressed by its president. He also mentioned that there had been little exercise in amending the NRN Act and if effective initiative is taken by the NRNs now there would be positive result in the near future. He also stated the government is not against continuation of Nepali citizenship to people who have taken citizenship of other resident nations.

NRNA, ICC, President Jiba Lamichhane thanked the secretaries for organizing the gathering and giving the NRNA executive committee members opportunity to discuss their problems and seek solutions. He informed the gathering about the meeting with the Finance Minister and expressed the commitment of NRNs to bringing more collective investment to Nepal.

He expressed NRNs' dissatisfaction about the NRN Act 2064 and requested the government to amend it and follow international best practices. He further suggested that if NRNA could be registered in Nepal any complication could be solved and a better working environment created.

Hence, he again appealed to the government to make amendment in the NRN Act. Various issues about safe and easy foreign employment was also raised and requests were made to the government to abolish many adversaries such as re-work permit, re-insurance and to establish a foreign employment desk at the airport which would look after all works relating to overseas employment .

NRNA, ICC Chief Patron Dev Man Hirachan, stated that NRNA has come a long way since 2003 to be expanded to 57 countries with the collective effort from all sides. NRN movement is not just for one generation but for generations to come.

"We have all contributed as much as we can individually and now time has come to contribute collectively," he said. He also emphasized on continuation of such dialogue and interaction with the government officials. It is time for NRNA to forget thinking as "ME" and the time has come to think as "US", he added. NRNA, ICC, Founding President Upendra Mahato, informed the gathering that NCELL is a gift that NRNs have given to Nepal and a proof that foreign investment can be successful in Nepal. He also further suggested that NRNs can contribute one dollar, foreigner invest one dollar and resident Nepali invest one dollar so that a pool of resources can be accumulated. "We must not only focus on maintaining our relations with the politicians but also with the government officials," he said. He also requested that government amend NRN Act as mutually agreed by all political parties.

NRNA, ICC, Vice-President Hitman Gurung stated such dinner meetings make people feel comfortable with each other and discourages formality and creates a more conducive atmosphere for open dialogue. He stated that it would be in the interest of Nepal and the people of Nepali origin if they were allowed to retain their Nepali citizenship even after taking foreign nationality. NRNA, ICC, General Secretary, Tenzi Sherpa introduced himself as a person having more than 20 years' experience in hydropower and stated that the need of the hour is to build transmission lines between India and Nepal and make public the updated Nepali hydropower potential. Since oil price has drastically increased we can invest more in hydropower if the provides revised and updated data. He also assured the secretaries that NRNs can bring in a lot of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).

Lila Mani Paudyal, secretary at the Prime Minister's Office, thanked all the executive committee members for accepting the invitation and coming to the meeting.

DAY 5: POST COFERENCE PROGRAM

22 October, 2011 (Friday)

Meeting with Nepal PhD Association

Venue: FNCCI Building

Time: 16:00-17:00hrs

A meeting between members of Nepal PhD Association led by President, Rajendra KC, PhD and NRNA, ICC, General Secretary Tenzi Sherpa was held in the FNCCI building. The members of the association expressed their desire to work together with NRNs holding PhD- especially in research and policy making works. Sherpa expressed his views that together NRNs can contribute a lot to the national development and efforts will be made to make the contribution more fruitful and productive in coming days.

5TH NRN GLOBAL CONFERENCE

KATHMANDU DECLARATION

In the presence of the Right honorable Prime Minister, honorable Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, ministers, members of Constituent Assembly, chiefs of diplomatic missions, high ranking officials of Nepal government, acting president of Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry and president of NRNA, chief patron, patrons and its office bearers and more than 980 representatives from 45 countries, 5th NRN Global Conference which was organized with the slogan “Our Network-Our Identity: Prosperous Nepal” from October 12 to October 14 was concluded in grand manner.

The conference jointly organized by the government of Nepal, FNCCI and NRNA was addressed by right honorable Prime Minister, honorable Deputy Prime Minister, ministers, top leaders of different political parties, Constituent Assembly members, high ranking officials of Nepal government, representatives from private sector, dignitaries from different walks of lives and NRN representatives.

Incorporating the views expressed by them, the 5th NRN Global Conference issues Kathmandu Declaration with the following commitments:

1. This conference heartily requests all political parties to make constitution to address the changes as per the aspiration of people and bring the peace process to positive end, guarantee human rights and fundamental freedom by institutionalizing the achievements of movement for democratic republic keeping sovereignty, independence, national unity and integrity intact.
2. NRNA welcomes the announcement made by Nepal government to observe the year 2012/13 as the Nepal Investment Year. A significant amount of investment will be brought in to Nepal in the prioritized sectors like hydropower, physical infrastructure, tourism and agriculture sectors with a joint collaboration forged among Nepal government, FNCCI and NRNA in the sectors such as energy, infrastructure, know-how and technology which Nepal is lacking, for economic growth. The conference also makes commitment to start the process with execution of the 100MW – a middle-sized-hydropower project with collective investment from NRNs and positive cooperation from the government is expected in this regard.
3. A joint collaboration between government of Nepal, FNCCI and NRNA will be forged to amend the existing Foreign Employment Policy in line with the suggestions put forth by NRNA in different occasions in a bid to resolve the various problems regarding personal safety and job security of Nepali workers employed in Middle East and Malaysia, and to make foreign employment secure, dignified and regulated.
4. This conference expresses commitment to establishing a mechanism by NRNs to provide integrated information about precaution and preparatory measures adopted by different countries on the back of growing need for Nepal to be well prepared to cope with the natural calamities and a specially preparation for potential earth-quake in the country.
5. Participation of women, youths and new generation of NRNs in the development of Nepal is inevitable. This conference pays respect to the roles played by NRN women, youth and the new generation for the development of Nepal and they will be encouraged to get involved more in socio-economic activities of Nepal.

6. As the development of human resources is significant for overall development of the nation, this conference has decided to highly encourage the transfer of knowledge, skill and technology. A permanent natured structure will be set up to give continuity to the initiation taken by NRNs in the sectors of science and technology transfer.
7. It has been necessity of time to implement the concept of Open University in Nepal to support the induction of highly skilled human resource in Nepal. This conference welcomes the commitment made by International Open and Distant Education Council and other renowned Universities to extend technical support to establish Open University in Nepal and urges the Nepal government to make necessary legal provision for this. The process of establishing the Open University in Nepal will be initiated by mobilizing resources from Nepal government, Nepali abroad and development partners.
8. The participants of the conference are confident that upcoming constitution will make provision for not surrendering the Nepali citizenship even after being granted a foreign citizenship to materialize the feeling of “One time Nepali, forever Nepali” and to facilitate the people of Nepal globally.
9. Since it is necessary to maintain attachment of NRNs with Nepali language, literature, original culture and arts to keep the feeling of Nepali alive, this conference urges all to contribute for the promotion of Nepali art, literature, culture and language.
10. This conference appeals to all Nepalis scattered across the globe to participate and organize themselves for the development of their respective birth places. A joint effort will be made with Nepal government and FNCCI for support the program -One District One Product – which is instrumental for the economic development because it is utilizing local resources.
11. This conference requests to all to express solidarity for the construction of proposed ‘Gorkha Memorial’ that covers over 300 Ropanies of land located at Phedikhola VDC-8, Salmedada of Syangjha district, in memory and honor of 60,000 Gorkha soldiers who laid their lives during First and Second World War.
12. Acknowledging the fact that NRNs can play a vital role in tourism promotion of Nepal, maximum possible efforts will be made for the promotion of tourism.
13. NRNs will promote Nepali products in concerned countries in collaboration with appropriate agencies of Nepal government and Nepali business organizations to enhance the contribution of exports in total foreign trade of Nepal.
14. The conference urges each National Coordination Council (NCC) of NRNA to launch at least one welfare project in Nepal.
15. A tripartite initiation will be taken to review the implementation of commitments made in the declarations of this conference and earlier conferences.
16. This conference expresses gratitude to all sponsoring agencies, partner organizations and individuals who supported to make it a grand success.
17. The sixth NRN Global Conference will be held in Kathmandu in October 2013.

LIST AND NUMBERS OF PARTICIPANTS (COUNTRYWISE)

S.No.	Country	No. of Participants
1	Australia	115
2	Bahrain	2
3	Belarus	9
4	Belgium	43
5	Brunei	1
6	Canada	18
7	China	22
8	Cyprus	2
9	Denmark	5
10	Finland	4
11	France	6
12	Germany	31
13	Greece	2
14	Hongkong	33
15	Ireland	3
16	Italy	5
17	Japan	94
18	Kuwait	6
19	Lebanon	2
20	Lesotho	2
21	Luxembourg	2
22	Macau	1
23	Malaysia	11
24	Myanmar	1
25	Nepal	42
26	Netherlands	6
27	Newzealand	1
28	Nigeria	2
29	Norway	4
30	Oman	15
31	Philippines	1
32	Portugal	11
33	Qatar	103
34	Russia	45
35	Saudi Arabia	14
36	Singapore	1
37	South Korea	11
38	Spain	12
39	Sweden	3
40	Switzerland	5
41	Taiwan	2
42	Thailand	4
43	UAE	103
44	UK	94
45	USA	81
	Total	980