



**UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN NEPAL**



Press Release – 10 August 2009

**OHCHR-Nepal and the National Women's Commission
identify further collaboration activities**

10 August, Kathmandu

Women's rights are increasingly under attack in Nepal through rape, witch-hunt, dowry, and other forms of gender-based violence. Domestic violence and discrimination against women continue to be deeply entrenched. In this context, OHCHR-Nepal, and National Women's Commission (NWC) today, held a joint Strategy Development Workshop to address key concerns in this area. Specific activities were identified for future cooperation between the two organisations. Several forms of support to assist the NWC in fully utilising its legal mandate were also agreed upon.

This initiative is part of a series of on-going collaborative efforts between the NWC and OHCHR-Nepal with the goal of protecting of women's rights and promoting gender justice. In June, OHCHR-Nepal conducted a two-day human rights training with NWC, focusing on human rights indicators.

At the end of workshop, Jyoti Sanghera, Deputy Representative of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, handed over a variety of human rights books, audio-visual materials, and reports published by OHCHR-Nepal to Nainakala Thapa, Chairperson of NWC in Kathmandu. These materials will allow the NWC to establish a human rights resource centre at its headquarters in Kathmandu. The NWC's resource centre will be used by its staff members and civil society partners.

On the occasion, the chairperson of the NWC, Nainakala Thapa, expressed hope that collaboration with the OHCHR will help in ensuring the rights of women in Nepal. "The NWC has a vital role to play in the empowerment of women in Nepal and in ensuring women's access to justice in Nepal" stated Jyoti Sanghera, Deputy Representative of OHCHR-Nepal. "OHCHR-Nepal looks forward to a fruitful collaboration with the NWC, together with the NHRC and civil society, in these endeavours to strengthen women's rights".

For further information contact Chun Gurung at OHCHR-Nepal:
Tel.: 428 0164 (Ext.320); Mobile 9851016937 or cgurung@ohchr.org
Rituraj Bhandari at NWC Tel:4256701 or info@nwc.gov.np

