

STATEMENT ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE SPOKESMAN
FOR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On UN Support for the Peace Process in Nepal

The Secretary-General is firmly committed to support the peace process in Nepal and was thus encouraged to receive identical letters earlier this month from the Government of Nepal and the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) requesting assistance from the United Nations in a number of areas. These include human rights monitoring, monitoring of the code of conduct during the cease-fire, management of arms and armed personnel of both sides, and electoral observation. He believes it is now urgent to undertake follow-on consultations with all concerned parties in Nepal in order to build on the common understanding that now exists, so that detailed planning for UN assistance may proceed.

Accordingly, he has decided to appoint Mr. Ian Martin as his Personal Representative in Nepal for Support to the Peace Process. Building on the recent pre-assessment mission to the country, Mr. Martin will conduct intensive discussions with the key actors in Nepal. He will begin his assignment immediately, and will be joined by a small multi-disciplinary team that will assist him in advising the parties in the areas where the UN has been asked to help.

New York
25 August 2006

=====
Jared Kotler
Public Information and External Relations
Office of the Under-Secretary General for Political Affairs
Room S-3780B
United Nations, New York, NY 10017
Tel: 917-367-5264 (HQ x7-5264)
Mobile: (646)-496-6075
Fax: (212)-963-5065