



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



Press Release – 18 March 2007

**Representative of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Nepal
Stresses human rights mandate**

In her meeting with journalists in Rajbiraj yesterday, Lena Sundh, Representative of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Nepal, was asked why OHCHR had not accepted a request that it assist in getting talks started between the JTMM and the Government.

The Representative responded that OHCHR had never received any such request. She also stressed that OHCHR did not have a mandate to mediate. Its mandate is human rights and that is where its competence lies. Within that mandate, OHCHR would continue to support co-operation between political parties and civil society which would help the protection of and respect for human rights.

If the United Nations were to be requested to assist political dialogue, that would be a matter for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General.

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