

# NATIONAL COALITION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (NCICC)

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President Mr. Pier Ferdinando Casini  
The Inter-Parliamentary Union  
Chemin du Pommier 5, C.P. 330, CH-1218 Le Grand-Saconnex  
Geneva, Switzerland

Kathmandu, October 8, 2007

## NCICC Urge the Government of Nepal to Accede to Rome Statute of the ICC

Dear President Casini,

On the occasion of the 117<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union on 8-10 October 2007, Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC), on behalf of the National Coalition for the International Criminal Court (NCICC) in Nepal, would like to request you to call upon the Government of Nepal to accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

The Government of Nepal has been delaying to join the ICC, undermining the unanimous motion adopted by the House of Representatives on July 25, 2006 directing the Government to accede to the Rome Statute. The parliamentary motion has paved way to the Government to translate its commitments to democracy, human rights, peace and justice.

While taking into consideration the transition to peace and democracy, deepened culture of impunity has become one of the most serious challenges in Nepal. It is an obstacle to hold individual perpetrators accountable and to establish sustainable and just peace in the country. We are concerned that the most serious crimes, including crimes against humanity must not go unnoticed and their effective prosecution must be ensured. Accession to the Rome Statute of the ICC provides us with an international mechanism in order to bring individual perpetrators to justice when national courts are unable or unwilling to do so. The accession to the Rome Statute of the ICC is a way to prevent the repletion of the violations committed during the conflict and to end the culture of impunity. Nepal is in transition, and the accession to the Rome Statute is an opportunity for the government to demonstrate its commitment to peace, democracy and respect for human rights and justice.

In this backdrop, we would like to request the IPU, at its 117<sup>th</sup> Assembly in Geneva, to:

1. Encourage the Nepali delegation of the Interim Legislature-Parliament, including the Speaker, to push forward the agenda of accession to the Rome Statute at the upcoming special and regular sessions of the parliament in Nepal and to follow up with the Government about the implementation of the parliamentary motion of July 25, 2006;
2. Undertake strategies that could contribute to address threats to democracy in Nepal by challenging the culture of impunity and by balancing the issues pertaining to human security and individual freedom;
3. Strengthen communication with the Government of Nepal in order to pressure for its immediate accession; and
4. Aware international delegations attending the Assembly about the poor representation of Asian countries at the ICC, which weaken the cultural legal diversity of the Court.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely Yours,



**Subodh Raj Pyakurel**

Chairperson, Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC)  
Coordinator of the National Coalition for the International Criminal Court (NCICC), Nepal