ICAPP-CAPDI PEACE COMMISSION
PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA

January 07, 2010

H.E. Mr. Ram Baran Yadav, President of Nepal
H.E. Mr. Madhav Kumar Nepal, Prime Minister of Nepal
H.E. Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal a.k.a. Prachanda, President of the Maoist Party
H.E. Mr. Shushil Koirala, President of Nepali Congress Party
H.E. Mr. Jhalanath Khanal, President of UML Party

Subject: Invitation for Informal Peace Consultation on Nepal in Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Excellencies,

We are writing in response to your gracious invitation for the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP) Standing Committee to advise on your collective effort to form a *Government of National Unity* in the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal.

We support your initiative wholeheartedly. Too long has political instability prevented successive Kathmandu governments from using Nepal's potentials in hydroelectric power, agro-industry and tourism to raise its people to the eminence they deserve in South Asia.

We feel that a comprehensive settlement which gives rise to a stable, *tripartite* coalition government must take into account not only the power balance on the ground but also the epochal changes taking place in Nepal, in the Himalayan region, and in Nepal's larger Asian setting.

The *revolutionary* political changes occurring in your country must be *crowned* with *economic* and *social* modernization that opens up new opportunities and ultimately bring new lives—to all your people. Nepal should not be left behind by the surge of growth that the rest of South and East Asia are experiencing.

Hence we feel a negotiated political settlement in Nepal should *not* be just a matter of allocating Cabinet ministries in accordance with the balance of forces. Together you should perhaps *chart* a long-term governance *strategy* to which every major political grouping in Nepal can subscribe *without* reservation. (And a most basic infrastructure and economic / social program should be considered by all groups for the nation and the communities with initial implementation even when negotiations are ongoing.)

To enable your parties to work out the *modalities* of such a comprehensive settlement, based on Nepal's paramount interests, we propose to conduct an informal *Peace Consultation* in Phnom Penh, sometime in February 2011. It could be participated in by five ranking delegates each from your three parties, and less for the smaller parties, together with senior ICAPP-CAPDI members and selected resource persons. It will endeavour to look beyond Nepal's immediate political needs to its longer-term economic and social interests.

Hosts will be the Government of Cambodia, joined by the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP) as principal convenors, the Central Asia Pacific Democrats International (CAPDI), which has recently approved a CAPDI Peace Commission.

The elected Chairman of Emeritus of CAPDI, H.E. Samdech Techo Hun Sen, the principal architect of the successful "Cambodian Model for Peace" who chaired the successful 6th General Assembly and 10th Anniversary of ICAPP and the launch of CAPDI in Phnom Penh on December 1-4, 2010 and H.E. Deputy Prime Minister Sok An who is the Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the 6th GA, have agreed to offer Phnom Penh as the site of our Meeting for Peace Consultation in early February, 2011.

In advance of the Phnom Penh Peace Consultation, we intend to send a three-man ICAPP-CAPDI Mission to Nepal in January, 2011, to survey the political situation, conduct exploratory talks with political leaders, and gather insights that may be useful to the participants of the peace consultation.

This note is to apprise you of how we intend to proceed in carrying out our advisory task. May we hear from you soonest. Meanwhile, please accept the assurances of our most valued consideration and our best wishes for the Holiday Season.

Signed:

H.E. SOK An
Deputy Prime Minister,
Member of the ICAPP Standing Committee
and Senior Vice-President of CAPDI
Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Hon. Jose de Venecia, Jr.
Founding Chairman and Co-Chairman
of the ICAPP Standing Committee;
Founding President of CAPDI
Manila, Philippines

Hon. Co-Chairman Chung Eui-Yong
Co-Chairman and Secretary General of ICAPP;
Member of Governing Council, CAPDI
Seoul, Republic of Korea

Hon. Mushahid Hussain Sayed
Special Rapporteur of ICAPP,
Secretary General of CAPDI
Islamabad, Pakistan

Hon. Jusuf Kalla
Former Vice President of Indonesia
Chairman of CAPDI
Jakarta, Indonesia