

National Rehabilitation Centre of the Disabled Nepal (NRCD) Nepal



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nepal Ratifies UN Disability Rights Convention, Reaffirming its Strong Support

National Rehabilitation Centre of the Disabled (NRCD) Nepal Advocates for Effective National Implementation

(Kathmandu, Nepal, October 7, 2009): [NRCD Nepal] welcomes the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) [and its Optional Protocol] by the Government of [Nepal], further demonstrating [the full] commitment to the principles of non-discrimination, inclusion and equal opportunities for all people in society.

[NRCD President and RI National Secretary Mr. Ram Prasad Dhungana would like to extend his warm appreciation and congratulation to the government of Nepal for ratifying UN CRPD to protect and promote the rights of persons with disabilities in Nepal. You can also raise the following points:

- Nepal government has played the significant role in the negotiations toward the Convention
- Nepal government has collaborated with many disabled peoples' organizations or NGOs that has played key strategic player in the field of disability, like NRCD Nepal.
- The ratification has opened the door for taking the steps necessary to implement the Convention by developing more inclusive laws, programs and policies
- RI Nepal is very much interested to work with the government entities and civil society stakeholders to assist for the implementation of UN CRPD effectively.
- The importance of ratifying the Optional Protocol, if not already done so.]

The CRPD is the first human rights treaty of the 21st century and prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities in all areas of life, and includes specific provisions related to rehabilitation, habilitation, education, employment, health and access to information, public facilities and services. The Optional Protocol relates to how individuals or groups can seek redress for violations of the CRPD once national remedies are exhausted. To date, [143] countries have signed the Convention, [87] have signed the Optional Protocol, [70] states have ratified the treaty and [45] states has ratified the Protocol. [TO FIND OUT THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE CRPD AND PROTOCOL, GO TO: <http://www.un.org/disabilities/>] Twenty nations must ratify the Convention before it becomes international law.

[OPTIONAL: ANOTHER QUOTE FROM SOMEONE IN YOUR ORGANIZATION OR FROM RI.]
For more information, please contact [RI Nepal Office OR Mr. Ram Prasad Dhungana, President, NRCD Nepal and National Secretary, RI Nepal Office in the following contact details:

About NRCD Nepal:

National Rehabilitation Centre of the Disabled (NRCD) Nepal (which is known as RI Nepal) is a national level cross-disability self-help organization of the persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Nepal. It is a non-profit making, no-governmental, non-political and service oriented right based an autonomous social organization. Established in 1997, it is registered with the Government of Nepal under the **District Administration Office, Kathmandu** and affiliated with **Social Welfare Council**. It is working nationwide for the protection and promotion of the rights and dignity of the PWDs. It provides PWDs

counseling, medical, social, educational, cultural and economic rehabilitation services based on the need of their disabilities. It aims to ensure the sustainability of employment for the persons with disabilities. NRCD improves opportunities for employment creation, enhances their personal development through capacity building, independent living skills and builds up abilities of PWDs employees and professionals.

NRCD Nepal, as a key player of disability movement in Nepal conducts advocacy, lobbying, awareness raising and capacity building trainings to the government people, I/NGOs, civil society organizations, PWDs and stakeholders working in the field of disabilities. Within the country, it works closely with both government entities and civil society stakeholders. NRCD Nepal is the national member organization of Workability International and National Secretariat of Rehabilitation International (RI) in Nepal that represents the different categories of PWDs throughout the country. NRCD Nepal believes that all PWDs have the right to live happily and respectfully in the society with full enjoyment of fundamental human rights, liberty, security, equality and independently. Since its inception, NRCD Nepal has become instrumental in providing different rehabilitation services and elevating the status of PWDs with full inclusion in society.

NRCD works to ensure the principles and strategies envisaged in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other UN Resolutions and Declaration including UN Standard Rules on Equalization of Opportunity for PWDs and UN Convention on the Rights of PWDs respectively. NRCD Nepal represents PWDs in National and International arena. It expresses full commitments and participation worldwide for mainstreaming disability.

Vision:

NRCD Nepal envisages empowered persons with disabilities who are productive, economically self-dependent, mainstreamed and free from all kinds of discriminations against them.

Mission:

Access of PWDs at all sectors of society in order to protect and promote their rights, dignity and lead a meaningful life through economic, social, educational and political development.

Goals:

Educate, train and empower the PWDs improving the quality of their life.

Strategies:

- Economic development through skills training, income generation and employment creation activities
- Awareness raising through different means of publication, rally, seminars etc. on disability issues.
- Capacity building, Independent living skills & personal development to PWDs, staff and beneficiaries.
- Advocacy on government agencies to implement, adopt and formulate disabled friendly policies
- Networking and Collaboration among like minded organizations at national and international level.