

**EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC FORUM
OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS**

MONDAY 16 – WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2004

**Hyatt Regency Hotel
Kathmandu, Nepal**

ARRIVAL DAY	SUNDAY 15 February 2004
3:00 – 5:00pm	Meeting of Senior Executive Officers – Administrative Issues Chair: Mr Richard Handley, New Zealand Human Rights Commission Room: Bhaktapur
4:00 – 4:30pm	Registration (open to all delegates) Room: Business Centre
5:15pm	Meet in hotel lobby for transportation to the Australian Embassy
6:00pm	Cocktail function (APF Members, Advisory Council of Jurists and OHCHR) Hosted by the Australian Ambassador to Nepal, Mr Keith Gardner

Closed Session - Forum Members and OHCHR

DAY 1	MONDAY 16 February 2004 Room: Kirtipur
9:00 – 12:00	Forum Members Meeting – General Business Chair: Dr Justice A.S. Anand, National Human Rights Commission of India <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Report on Forum Activities (Secretariat)2. Business Plan (Secretariat)3. Membership Applications (Secretariat)4. Discussion re Eighth Annual Meeting (Secretariat)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Agenda- Concluding Statement- 2004 Reference to the Advisory Council of Jurists5. International Coordinating Committee<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Election of four regional representatives to the ICC and one regional representative to the ICC accreditation sub-committee (Secretariat)- Consideration of draft regulation for Accreditation Sub-Committee

6. Senior Executive Officers – Issues for Discussion (Chair, Senior Executive Officers Network)
7. Funding Arrangements for the Asia Pacific Forum (Secretariat)
8. Location of Ninth Annual Meeting of the Forum and the next international meeting of national institutions (Secretariat)
9. Election of new Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons
10. General Business

12:00 – 1:00

Lunch

1:30 – 3:30

Meeting of Senior Executive Officers – Management Issues

Chair: to be confirmed

3:30 – 4:30

Presentation – Case Management System

Ms Vere Bavadra, Information Research Officer
Fiji Human Rights Commission

3:30 – 4:30

Registration (for all other delegates)

Room: Nargarkot

Opening Ceremony, Cultural Program and Formal Dinner

5:00pm

Opening Ceremony

Room: Regency Ballroom
Guests are asked to be seated by 5:15pm

5:30pm

Keynote Speeches

Rt Hon Nayan Bahadur Khatri, Chairman
National Human Rights Commission of Nepal

Representative
Government of Nepal

Representative
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

6:15pm

Cocktail Reception

Light refreshments will be served prior to the commencement of the Cultural Program

6:45pm

Cultural Program

8:00pm

Formal Dinner

10:00pm

End of Day 1

Open Session – Forum Members and Registered Observers

DAY 2

TUESDAY 17 February 2004

Room: Regency Ballroom

8.30

Registration

Room: Nargarkot

9:00 – 10:00

Asia Pacific Regional Cooperation

Chair: Rt Hon Nayan Bahadur Khatri

National Human Rights Commission of Nepal

Representative – (10 minutes)

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Report from Closed Session Meeting (10 minutes)

Mr Kieren Fitzpatrick, Director – Secretariat, Asia Pacific
Forum of National Human Rights Institutions

Reports from representatives of Asia Pacific Governments –
(3 minutes each)

Report from Non-Government Organisations – (10 minutes)
Representative

Asia Pacific Human Rights Network

10:00 – 10.15

Open Discussion - Question and Answer Session

10.15

Morning Tea

10.45

Reports from Forum Members (3 minutes each)

Chair: National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia

11:30 – 12.00

**Ten Years on from the Paris Principles: The Future for
National Human Rights Institutions**

Speaker 1: (NHRI Representative)

Speaker 2: (to be confirmed)

Speaker 3: (NGO Representative)

12.00 – 12.30

Open Discussion – Questions and Answer Session

12.30

Lunch

2.00

Thematic Issues

Chair: Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka

2.00 - 3.00

***Disability Issues for National Human Rights
Institutions***

Issues for National Human Rights Institutions – Report from
the New Delhi Workshop
National Human Rights Commission of India

Outcomes from the Ad Hoc Committee Meeting - Next Steps
New Zealand Human Rights Commission

3.00 - 4.00

National Human Rights Institutions and the Prevention of Torture

Overview of the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention Against Torture

Ms Debra Long, Association for the Prevention of Torture

Role of National Human Rights Institutions in the Implementation of the Optional Protocol

Mrs. Esther Schaufelberger, Association for the Prevention of Torture

The Role of National Human Rights Institutions

Philippines Commission on Human Rights

4.00

Afternoon Tea

4.30

The Work of the Fiji Human Rights Commission in Race Relations

Video Presentation – Introduced by Dr Shaista Shameem, Director, Fiji Human Rights Commission

5.00

Summary of Day 2 proceedings

Rapporteur

5.30

End of Day 2 – Free Evening

National Human Rights Institutions and the Primacy of the Rule of Law in Countering Terrorism

DAY 3

WEDNESDAY 18 February 2004

Room: Regency Ballroom

- 9:00 **National Human Rights Institutions, the Rule of Law and Anti-Terrorism Measures**
Chair: National Human Rights Commission of Korea
- Report from the Advisory Council of Jurists*
Representatives, Advisory Council of Jurists - Presentation and Panel Discussion
- 10.00 – 10.30 Open Discussion – Questions and Answers
- 10:30 Morning tea
- 11:00 **Balancing Human Rights Protections and Security Concerns: Regional Perspectives**
Chair: National Human Rights Commission of Thailand
- South East Asia* – Presentation from the Indonesian National Commission on Human Rights
- South Asia* - Presentation from the National Human Rights Commission of India
- North Asia* – Presentation from the National Human Rights Commission of Korea
- Australasia and the Pacific* - Presentation from the Australian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission
- 11.40 – 12.30 Open Discussion – Questions and Answers
- 12:30 **Lunch**
- 2:00 **Advisory Council of Jurists - 2004 Reference and Report from APF Members**
Chair: Human Rights Commission of Malaysia
- a) Decision on the 2004 Reference to the Advisory Council
b) Report from APF Members on Standing Issues
- Trafficking
 - Death Penalty
 - Child Pornography
- 3.00 – 3.30 Open Discussion – Questions and Answers
- 3:30 **Afternoon tea**
- 4:00 **CLOSED SESSION (Forum Members and OHCHR)**
Final Drafting of the Concluding Statement
Room: Bhaktapur

- 4:00 **The Work of the National Human Rights Commission of Nepal**
Representative, National Human Rights Commission of Nepal
- 5:00 **FINAL CONFERENCE STATEMENT**
Adoption of Statement of Conclusions and Recommendations
Room: Regency Ballroom
Chair: National Human Rights Commission of Nepal
- 6.00pm **End of Eighth Annual Meeting**

Note: The Advisory Council of Jurists will meet separately on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th February before joining the proceedings of the 8th Annual Meeting on Wednesday 18th February.

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE MEETING

Conduct of the Meeting

- Overall the meeting's sessions are to be chaired by a member representative of the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions.
- Background papers prepared for sessions will be available to all participants.
- Each session will begin with a short introduction, followed by comments and responses, and conclude with a summary of the discussion by the Chair.
- The interventions by Forum member representatives take place before those by other participants.

Participation of Forum member representatives

- The representatives of Forum members – the human rights commissions of the, Australia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Thailand (and any institution accepted as a member at the first day of proceedings) – are the principal actors of this regional meeting.
- For each session, Forum member representatives may make initial introductory presentations or be subsequent commentators, if they so desire.
- The responsibility for finalising the meeting conclusions lies with Forum member representatives.

Participation of the United Nations

- As co-sponsor of the meeting, the representatives of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights will be specifically invited to address the meeting under a number of topics.
- The Chair is to exercise flexibility to allow adequate opportunity for interventions generally by representatives of the United Nations throughout the meeting.

Participation of Government representatives

- The Chair of the meeting is to exercise flexibility to allow adequate opportunity for interventions by government representatives.

- Government representatives will be specifically invited to make a brief address to the meeting on any steps they have taken towards the establishment or strengthening of national human rights institutions under the topic – “Asia Pacific Regional Cooperation”.

Participation of NGOs

- The Chair of the meeting is to exercise flexibility to allow adequate opportunity for interventions by Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). NGO representatives with prepared written statements are requested to provide a copy of these to the Secretariat.

Participation of relevant institutions

- The Chair of the meeting is to exercise flexibility to allow adequate opportunity for interventions by representatives of relevant institutions.

The role of the Secretariat

- The role of the Secretariat is to facilitate the work of the meeting by:
 - (i) Providing necessary clarifications, inputs and information
 - (ii) Acting as resource persons – particularly in the preparation of background papers
 - (iii) Summarising discussions and preparing the final report of the meeting.