



NEPAL

Statement by Mr. Ghana Shyam Lamsal, Minister Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations at the First Committee on Agenda 99 (f): United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

New York, 27 October 2016

(Check against delivery)

Mr. Chairman,

I thank you for giving me the floor to introduce a draft resolution under the agenda item 99 (f) entitled “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific” contained in document A/C.1/71/L-27.

The sponsors of the draft resolution are Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, El Salvador, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Maldives, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam and my own country Nepal. My delegation expresses its sincere gratitude to all the sponsors and those delegations that will co-sponsor it.

Nepal strongly believes that regional approach complements efforts to promote the global disarmament agenda. In the absence of intra-regional confidence, our efforts for peace and disarmament would not gain momentum. Only constant dialogues and exchanges of views would help nurture confidence and create conducive environment for making further progress in regional peace and disarmament. As this year marks the 30th year of the establishment of the Regional Centres, we believe this is an opportune time for the Member States to express our commitment and redouble our efforts to strengthen the capacity of the Regional Centres.

It is in this light that the Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament for Asia and the Pacific (RCPD) has been working to promote regional discussions on important disarmament agenda. Given the importance of the regional efforts as well as the agenda, we emphasize that the “Kathmandu Process” be further strengthened to facilitate dialogues and deliberations on contemporary issues.

Mr. Chairman,

As the host country of the Regional Centre, Nepal is committed to lending its full support for an enhanced and constructive role by consolidating the 'Kathmandu Process' so that it can contribute to peace and disarmament in the region by building renewed sense of confidence and understanding. The Government of Nepal has extended all possible support for the early resumption of the post-earthquake operations of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu. I am happy to announce that the Government of Nepal will provide nearly 112 (one hundred twelve) thousand US dollar towards meeting the cost of the refurbishment of its new office in Kathmandu.

Mr. Chairman,

The Regional Centre's programmes are conducted from resources generated from voluntary contribution, which is not sufficient to sustain its activities in mandated areas. I would like to take this opportunity to express Nepal's sincere appreciation to those Member States that have extended their continued support to the Regional Centre, including through the voluntary contributions for the program and activities of the Centre. We are confident that more Member States will lend their support to expand and enrich the Centre's activities in the course of promoting peace and stability in the region and beyond.

It is in this context that my delegation has the honor to introduce, on behalf of the sponsors, draft resolution L-27 entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific" before this Committee, with technical updates on the Centre's work over the past one year.

We appreciate the continued support from all the delegations for adoption of the resolution by consensus as in the previous years.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.