THE 44TH
COLOMBO PLAN
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

KATHMANDU, NEPAL
8-10 SEPTEMBER, 2014

RECORD OF CONCLUSIONS
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FOREWORD

Since I assumed office in May 2014, I looked forward very much for the upcoming important event of the 44th Consultative Committee Meeting (CCM) of the Colombo Plan and to be a part of it.

The preparations for the 44th CCM was intense and the experience was rewarding. I would like to pay a glowing tribute to the host country Nepal and its High Officials and express my most sincere thanks to the Government of Nepal for the warm hosting and successful conclusion of the 44th CCM.

My sincere appreciation is also extended to all participants of the Member Countries, Members of the Observer States, Donors and Council President HE Mr. Harimawan Suyitno, Ambassador of Indonesia to Sri Lanka and other relevant officials for their active participation and contribution at the 44th CCM. Their input will undoubtedly have a stimulant effect on the way forward of the Colombo Plan.

The Colombo Plan Secretariat looks forward to follow-up on the conclusions of the 44th CCM step by step and will proudly forward the fruits of it to the next CCM in the Republic of Fiji where the 45th CCM will be hosted in the year 2016.

Kinley Dorji
Secretary General
Colombo Plan
TENTATIVE AGENDA

Day 1  : 8th September  2014
Day 2  : 9th September  2014
Day 3  : 10th September 2014
**Day 1: 8 September 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>Pre-Meeting for CPS with Host Government on logistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 Onwards</td>
<td>Registration opens for delegates</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.00-18.00</td>
<td>Informal pre-conference meeting for Heads of Delegation:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>a. Discuss and confirm the draft agenda for the CCM;</td>
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<td>b. Provide an opportunity for the host government to bring to the</td>
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<td>notice of the delegates such points as it wishes e.g. procedures,</td>
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<td>social events;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>c. Confirm the host government’s suggestions as to who are to be</td>
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<td>elected chairperson and deputy chairperson as well as the respective</td>
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<td>proposers and seconders;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>d. Confirm the host government’s suggestions as to the main</td>
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<td>speakers for the inaugural and closing sessions, and who will</td>
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<td></td>
<td>respond;</td>
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<td>e. Confirm who will serve on the reception committee to receive the</td>
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<td>chief guest on arrival for the formal inauguration; and</td>
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<td>f. Decide who will serve on the drafting committee for the Record</td>
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<td>of Conclusions</td>
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<tr>
<td>18.30 – 20:30</td>
<td>Dinner hosted by the Colombo Plan</td>
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**Day 2: 9 September 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08.30 – 09.30</td>
<td>Registration of Delegates</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.30 – 09.40</td>
<td>Inaugural Session</td>
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<td>09.40 – 09.55</td>
<td>Welcome Address, Mr. Lal Shanker Ghimire, Joint Secretary, National</td>
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<td>Planning Commission Secretariat, Nepal.</td>
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<td>09.55 – 10.10</td>
<td>Address by the President of the Colombo Plan Council</td>
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<td>10.10 – 10.25</td>
<td>Key Note by Hon’ble Prof. Dr. Govind Raj Pokharel, Vice-Chairperson,</td>
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<td>NPC</td>
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<td>10.15 – 10.25</td>
<td>Inauguration by Chief Guest by lighting the panas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.25 – 10.30</td>
<td>Inaugural address by Chief Guest Hon’blr Mr. Mahendra Bahadur</td>
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<td>Pandey, Foreign Affairs Minister, and Government of Nepal</td>
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<td>10:30 – 11:00</td>
<td>Group Photo with Chief Guest</td>
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<td>10:30 – 11:05</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:05</td>
<td>Election of the 44th CCM Chairman from the host Government</td>
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<td>11:05 – 11:10</td>
<td>Acceptance speech from the Chairman</td>
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<td>11:10 – 11:30</td>
<td>Response from members</td>
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<td>11:30 – 11:50</td>
<td>i) Election of Deputy Chairman</td>
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<td>ii) Designating Chief Rapporteur and other Rapporteurs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>iii) Appointment of Drafting Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Activities</td>
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<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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| 11:50 -12:00 | i) Recognition of Observer Countries and International Organizations  
                ii) Adoption of the Agenda                                           |
| 12:00 -12:10 | Consideration to amendment of the Constitution (if any)                     |
| 12:10 -13:00 | Presentation of the 44th CCM theme on “Local Governance and Service Delivery”  
                by Dr. Som Lal Subedi, Secretary, Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development,  
                Government of Nepal, followed by questions and answers               |
| 13:00 -14:30 | Lunch to be hosted by the Government of Nepal  
                Lunch Speaker: Dr. Swarnim Wagle, Member, National Planning Commission, Nepal.  
                Topic: “The Colombo Plan and Regional Integration”                    |
| 14:30 -15.30 | Colombo Plan Secretariat Presentations:  
                i. Presentation on the overview of Colombo Plan and the way forward.  
                ii. Presentation by the Drug Advisory Programme (DAP)  
                iii. Presentation by International Centre for Certification & Education of Addiction  
                Professionals (ICCE)  
                iv. Presentation by Gender Affairs Programme (GAP)  
                v. Presentation by Programme for Public Administration & Environment (PPA/ENV.)  
                vi. Presentation by Programme for Private Sector Development (PPSD)  
                Followed by questions and answers                                      |
| 15.30 -15.50 | Coffee break                                                               |
| 15.50-16.30  | Presentation by Colombo Plan Staff College followed by questions and answers |
| 16.30 -17.00 | Briefing of the following day’s session                                    |
| 17.00-17.30  | Conclusion of the First Day Proceedings                                     |
| 19.30-21.00  | Dinner to be hosted by Colombo Plan                                         |

**Day 3: 10th September 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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</table>
| 08.30-10.00 | Regional Group meetings of the Member States: Tasks of the groups are:  
                (a) To review economic and social progress within the Colombo Plan region since the  
                    Consultative Committee last met, taking note of the various factors which have  
                    affected progress;  
                (b) To consider the tasks which lie ahead in economic and social development; the  
                    priorities; and the best use of available resources;  
                (c) To exchange views on technical co-operation programmes with a view to  
                    achieving efficiency and effectiveness;  
                (d) To discuss a pre-selected special issue of general concern relating to development; |
To review the activities of the Colombo Plan Council; the Colombo Plan Secretariat; the Drug Advisory Programme; the Programme for Public Administration and Environment Programme; the Programme for Private Sector Development; the Long Term Scholarship Programme and the Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education; and

To take decisions about the proceedings of the Consultative Committee itself.

**Regional Groupings:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>South Asia/Sub region of South West Asia</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>South East Asia</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Asia/Pacific</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Brunei Darussalam</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
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<td>Fiji</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Laos</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Japan</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Korea</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>USA</td>
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(In the 281st Council Session, the Regional Groupings was proposed and approved especially to decide on the hosting of the next CCM)

10:00 – 10:20 Tea break

10.20-12.30

i. Group presentation on the recommendation of the future collaboration of Colombo Plan Member States in the main conference hall.

ii. Pledges by Member States to future Colombo Plan Programmes

12.30-14.00 Lunch to be hosted by the Government of Nepal

**Lunch Speaker:** Dr. Shankar Prasad Sharma, Ex-Vice Chairman, National Planning Commission, Nepal.

**Topic:** North-South, South-South and Triangular Cooperation

14.00-15.00

i. Consideration and approval of the Record of Conclusion of the 44th Colombo Plan Consultative Committee Meeting

ii. Date and Venue of the next CCM

15.00-15.20 Tea break

15.20-16:00

i. Closing remarks on approved record of conclusions by the Deputy Chairman of the 44th CCM

ii. Closing Statement of Appreciation by the Council President

iii. Closing Statements and declare the successful closing of the 44th CCM by the Chairman of the 44th CCM.

19.00-21.00 Dinner to be hosted by Mr. Sharada Prasad Trital, Member-Secretary, National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal.
ADDRESS

- HE Mr. Harimawan Suyitno
- Hon. Prof. Dr. Govind Raj Pokharel
- Hon. Mr. Mahendra Bahadur Pandey
Hon. Mr. Mahendra Bahadur Pandey  
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,

Hon. Prof. Dr. Govind Raj Pokharel  
Vice Chairperson of National Planning Commission of Nepal,

Honourable members of the Government of Nepal

Excellencies, Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen

It is a great honour for me to make my welcome address as the President of the Colombo Plan Council. The Government of Nepal has extended its warm hospitality to the Member States of Colombo Plan in hosting this unique event.

It is indeed my great pleasure to welcome the distinguished delegates from the Member States. At this point, I have to extend a special welcome also to those distinguished delegates who are representing their countries and organizations in the capacity as Observers. A special and warm welcome to you all. At the end of the 44th CCM, I am sure you will carry back home lasting impressions of a fruitful event. Your positive feedback will also open new avenues to extend collaboration and co-operation outside the Member States of the Colombo Plan.

Today we need to bear in mind the needs of the world. The world has high concerns on environment, water, welfare of women and children, peace and a world free of drugs. We need to look at the priorities of the world and then gear ourselves to do what we can for those needs. Colombo Plan is one such organization that has been designed by the founding members to generate its capacity and potential in sharing the potential of the member states to reach out where it is necessary. As a result, the Colombo Plan became a world renowned organization spearheading important and vast development projects in the Member States. The Colombo Plan is now reaching out to other regions as well. It is very timely I would say.

Having this in mind, we need to give our knowledge to the future direction of Colombo Plan. Therefore this 44th CCM is of great importance in guiding the future of a great organization. It is our duty and responsibility to give our maximum in knowledge sharing and collaboration for the progress of Colombo Plan.

If we do that today and tomorrow, then we can be happy that our travelling from far and near to Kathmandu has brought in productive results for a renowned organization such as Colombo Plan to steer ahead in its programmes and objectives. The net result is that it is humanity that will benefit from it all, finally.

Thank you.
Key Note address by
Hon. Prof. Dr. Govind Raj Pokharel
Vice-Chairperson of the National Planning
Commission of Nepal

Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Mahendra Bahadur Pandey,
Honorable Deputy Minister from Afghanistan,
Honorable members of NPC Nepal
Mr. Kenley Dorje, Secretary General of Colombo
Plan,
Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, first of all I would like to welcome all delegates and observers of Colombo Plan to Kathmandu, Nepal.

Nepal has a close and sentimental attachment to Colombo Plan since it was the first multilateral organization we joined in 1952. Membership of Colombo Plan was mile stone for Nepal as it paved a way for its planned development endeavor and it has been a trusted development partner of Nepal since the beginning.

The contribution of Colombo Plan in human resources development in its initial stage of development has been highly noteworthy. Nepal has been one of the few countries which has greatly benefited from the training and other important programmes of the Colombo Plan.

The benefits obtained through such training programmes have increased the wealth of knowledge for its participants, skills and know-hows. At the same time, they would also be able to share best practices and expand their networking amongst like-mined professionals. Undeniably, the training programmes provided by the Colombo Plan contributed to the human resource capacity building for its member state.

In Nepal we strongly feel that these programmes should be widened and increased in order to help the Developing and the Least Developed countries for its sustainable and equitable development.

Nepalese economy has been growing gradually in recent year despite several challenges in many fronts. The Nepalese economy is estimated to grow by more 5.2 percent in fiscal year 2013/14 compare to 3.5 percent in the previous year. The major contributing sectors are agriculture, service and tourism. The structure of Nepalese economy has also been changing with gradual decrease in the share of agriculture sector compare to non-agriculture sector.

Nepal has made significant progress in achieving its MDGs and has been appreciated internationally. The majorities of health-related MDGs have already been achieved, or are on track to being achieved. The targets, especially related to poverty and hunger, universal primary education, gender equality and women’s empowerment, are also likely to be achieved by 2015. Hence, Nepal should focus on sustainability on MDGs achievement and continuation of its unfinished agenda in the years to come.

On this occasion, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Colombo Plan and other development partners for their generous support in the human resource development and other important areas of socioeconomic development.

Distinguished Delegates,

The global economy is reviving gradually in recent years and we expect that the economy of the developing countries of the Colombo Plan will also move towards recovery and betterment.

Almost all the least developed and landlocked countries in the region are facing the problems of poverty, unemployment, inequality. The increases in food and petroleum products prices have created additional problems sustaining the growth and
macroeconomic management. The efforts made by these countries to overcome the problems have not been enough. Moreover, climate change has become a global risk and it has made a serious impact on development efforts. As a result, glaciers in the Himalayas have become prone to melt down posing a serious threat to the livelihood and ecology of entire Himalayas and surrounding region. Therefore, we strongly advocate that there is an urgent need for collective action to mitigate the impact of this common risk and wish to urge that we must stand together to tackle this common threat and provide special attention to the mountain countries to address the vulnerability of climate changes.

Distinguished delegates,

Nepal has decided to adopt strategy to graduate from its LDCs status by 2022. It is necessary to achieve higher, wider and sustainable economic growth for upgrading the country from LDC status. Agriculture production has been playing vital role in Nepal’s economic growth. Agriculture sector is affected by climatic conditions, resulting in the fluctuation of GDP thereby affecting overall economic growth. Further investment in industrial sectors require more conducive policy environment by developing necessary legal, fiscal and physical infrastructure.

Nepal needs to create more employment opportunities to utilize growing young human resource and take benefit of population dividend. It would help to reduce the poverty intensity and ultimately the income gap in the society.

Nepal is also actively involved in the WTO, BISMTEC and SAFTA to increase its international trade. However, on the one hand, increase in domestic demand and increase in food and oil prices has increased the import share and on the other hand, the exports has been declining after the abolition of the Multi Fiber Agreement regime and attaining membership of WTO. These developments have led to increase in merchandise trade deficit and negatively impacted on the current account. Therefore, it indicates a need for augmenting production base and widening and expanding unrestricted access to the world markets.

A landlocked and least developed country like Nepal has many challenges. Specially the adverse impact of climate change is one of our greatest concerns. Every year we suffer floods, landslides and earthquakes causing significant damage to infrastructure and loss of lives. But, despite our own vulnerabilities, resource and capacity constraints, we regard environmental protection as one of the major focus of our present development endeavor.

I would like to state that after a decade long internal conflict; Nepal has entered into the new phase of political stability. We are in the process of socioeconomic transformation and restructuring of the state as well as moving towards creating investment environment.

Despite of all these challenges and constraints, Nepal has made significant improvement in social economic development during these periods.

Distinguished Delegates,

The success in achieving the MDGs in the member states of the Colombo Plan clearly indicated that the present and future generation of this region want a more inclusive and sustainable future. This has created challenges, responsibilities and opportunities to the people of this region. Previous experiences have shown that the member states could successfully handle this responsibility and move forward for changing its destiny.

I am sure that your deliberations and inputs over the next two days will help to define the priorities of member states to feed into shaping the future agenda for Colombo Plan member states for sustainable development. It will help to adopt a holistic and integrated development agenda to eradicate poverty and inequalities by creating investment environment, while respecting planetary boundaries.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Colombo Plan Secretariat and other relevant agencies for your hard work and contributions, making the Colombo Plan platform more effective and efficient.

I wish the Meeting great success and wish you all good health and all the best in Kathmandu.

Thank you.
Inaugural address by
the Chief Guest
Hon. Mr. Mahendra Bahadur Pandey
Foreign Affairs Minister of the Government of Nepal

Secretary General of the Colombo Plan,
President of the Colombo Plan Council,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a great honour and pleasure to participate in the 44th Consultative Committee Meeting of the Colombo Plan being held here in Kathmandu. We are very happy to organize this important Meeting in line with our longstanding trust and solidarity with this regional organization. At the outset, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all distinguished delegates and guests attending the function this morning. I hope that the meeting will come to a conclusion through fruitful deliberations. We all value that the Colombo Plan is the first regional organization of its kind with historic contribution in areas like human resource development. At this juncture, I would like to recall the hosting of the 26th Consultative Committee Meeting by Nepal back in 1977. We have seen astonishing changes across the world since then over a period of 37 years. This organization has demonstrated vitality and resilience in its long existence. It is, therefore, our common duty to render it more effective and efficient to cope with the emerging challenges.

This intergovernmental regional body was established at a time when regionalism was relatively unknown. Inception of Colombo Plan was unique in itself as it brought together the donor and the recipient countries in one platform as partners for development activities. As other regional organizations started to come up, the Colombo Plan kept on expanding its membership and the scope of activities. I think that institutionalized growth and expansion of the organization helped maintain its vibrancy in the midst of competition posed by similar other succeeding regional entities. Continued interest of the developed member countries, non-member countries and other international and regional organizations and donor agencies in the work of the Colombo Plan has been at the heart of the success of the Colombo plan process throughout these years. In the present time, member States of Colombo Plan have joined one or more regional organizations. I think that our focus under such circumstances should be how to ensure complementarities in the roles of various regional organizations in fostering development, peace and progress.

I am particularly encouraged by the increasing interests shown by the observer countries in the Colombo Plan process. Even though all the observers who were interested to participate this time could not make it, I would, nevertheless, like to express our goodwill to them and encourage them to come up with more innovative and practical ideas as well as other relevant resources to revitalize this organization.

The donor community members deserve appreciation for their liberal funding for continuous running of the programs and projects. We all are required to introduce timely reforms into this historic organization in order to fulfill the increased demand of time.

I am happy to mention that Nepal’s membership to this organization, which dates back to 1952, precedes the date of our membership to the United Nations. Nepal remains committed to an active involvement in the Colombo Plan process. It is worth noting that several institutionalized mechanisms such as the Consultative Committee, the Colombo Plan Council and the Colombo Plan Staff College for Technical Education have been playing instrumental role in enhancing the cooperative spirit. Nepal has benefited from the scholarships for academic studies and technical training opportunities for students and government personnel.

We have aimed at graduating Nepal from LDC status by 2022 in line with the prime objective of
the Istanbul Programme of Action for the LDCs which was developed with the support of the world community under the aegis of the United Nations in 2011. We request for all kinds of possible support to translate this dream of Nepal into reality.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Colombo Plan’s limited programs and activities have given us easier time to make them more specific and result-oriented. It gradually widened its scope from human resource training and infrastructure development to areas like addressing pressing contemporary problem of drug abuse and incorporating programs on information and communications technology. In this respect, it may not need to duplicate the activities carried out by similar other organizations, but can explore new feasible areas for inclusion in the succeeding list of programs to add to its vitality.

I understand that with the decreasing global trend of foreign aid and increasingly competitive environment that compels to vie for a fair share of limited resources, securing regular flow of funding for the Colombo Plan projects is a challenging job. I appreciate the pragmatic approach taken by the Colombo Plan by focusing on a few permanent programs of foremost and common relevance such as Public Administration, Private Sector Development, South-South Technical Cooperation and the Drug Advisory Program rather than covering wider areas without ensuring adequate resources for their implementation.

I hope deliberations of this meeting over the coming two days will be able to provide innovative programs and strategies for the years to come.

Finally, I wish the meeting a great success, and wish those who have travelled all the way to Kathmandu a pleasant and memorable stay in this historic city.

I thank you for your attention!
COUNTRY THEME PAPER

on Local Governance and Service Delivery in Nepal

by
SOM Lal Subedi, PhD
Secretary
Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development, Nepal
Local Governance and Service Delivery

1. Local Governance and Service Delivery

Local governance refers to the ways in which local-level decision-making is carried out. The term ‘good local governance’ is more normative, and implies that decision-making in the arena of local public affairs is - to varying degrees - participatory, rule-bound, open and transparent, and subject to scrutiny and oversight by citizens. Local governments, as the key actors in the local governance process, are formal institutions headed by the elected officials. They are mandated to deliver a variety of public goods and services within the territorial jurisdiction. Local governance is a broader concept and is defined as the formulation and execution of collective actions at local level.

The assignment of service delivery responsibilities to local governments is predicated on the principle of subsidiarity, which suggests that government functions should be assigned to the lowest level of government that is capable of efficiently undertaking those functions. For example, if a small local government can efficiently provide pre-school services, then it should – according to the subsidiarity principle – be assigned that responsibility.

Public services are those services provided by governments to the public. Provisions of education, health, drinking water, sanitation, roads, waste collection and disposal, street lightings are some of the examples of public services. Public service delivery is the implementation of those services and making sure they reach those people who are in need of them. Strengthening the provision of quality public services can contribute to the long-term process of state building and enhances the economic growth and development of a nation.

As stressed in the Global Forum on Local Development, 2010 report, local governments have a comparative advantage in service delivery and can play a key role in the attainment of local economic growth and development. The report also makes it clear that supporting decentralization implies engaging sub-national entities with a range of capacities and accountability mechanisms to improve service delivery and meet the demand of local people.

Across the developed and developing countries, bulk of social and economic services are delivered at the local level, either through devolution, by de-concentration, or sometimes by the private sector or nongovernmental organizations. The idea behind assigning so many service functions to the local agencies in both the developed and developing countries is the research evidence that local level service delivery is more cost-efficient and tends to yield higher quality services. The services at local level can be delivered by a range of agencies from local, regional, national and supra-national level as complementary and supplementary ways in a coordinated manner.

Local governments play more proactive role and determines the type of services to be provided in which its citizens would be better served by entering into partnerships or contracts with outside entities. Local governments play a catalytic role and contribute to the expansions of governance network, strengthen accountability mechanisms and encourage efficiency and innovations.

In the rest of this paper we discuss accountability in the delivery of local public services, briefly highlights the global and regional context of service delivery through local governments and shares Nepal’s experiences with local government in the delivery of local public services. The remaining part of the paper outlines the central-local relations in delivering effective and quality public services. The final section concludes the paper with some prominent issues and challenges surrounding the local governance and service delivery.

2. Accountability in Service Delivery

As stated in the World Development Report, 2004, public services delivery involves relationships of accountability. For example, citizens pay taxes and influence politicians to satisfy their needs, and then hold politicians accountable for resource allocation. However, even if this voice chain works, services cannot improve unless politicians can hold service providers accountable. This accountability between politicians and service providers is called the compact chain. In public services delivery, the combination of voice and compact chains forms a relationship of accountability that links clients to service providers. This route is referred to as the long route of accountability.

Under this framework, service failures can be
attributed to a breakdown in one or both of the links along the long route of accountability. Making service providers and public agencies more accountable and responsive to citizens can promote democratic governance, inclusive growth and economic development. The accountability chain approach has three key actors in public services provision: (i) politicians/policy makers who make decisions on quantities, finances, and modes of service delivery; (ii) organizations/ frontline providers such as ministries, departments, agencies, bureaus, and their frontline service providers; and (iii) citizens/clients who are customers of public services. All these actors are linked through accountability relationships: (i) voice, connecting citizens/clients to politicians/policy makers; (ii) compact, connecting politicians/policy makers to organizations/ frontline providers; and (iii) client power, connecting citizens/clients to organizations/ frontline providers.

3. Global and Regional Contexts of Service Delivery

In countries around the world, the local public sector delivers various public services required by the public on a daily basis. Examples may include schools for their kids, public health services, access to drinking water, roads for getting goods to market, extension services for small farmers, and so on. In fact, almost all pro-poor public services that are believed to spur sustainable economic development are delivered at the local level, where the public sector interacts on a regular basis and in a localized manner with the people that it serves. Perhaps the most obvious indication that the local public sector plays an important role in growth-enhancing service delivery and inclusive development is the fact that industrialized countries typically spend 50 percent or more of public sector resources to fund public services at the local level. In contrast, developing economies typically dedicate a much smaller share of public resources to front-line service delivery within the local public sector. According to the Urban Institute, in countries like Bangladesh or Egypt, only about 20% of all public-sector spending trickles down to the local level for service delivery, which is expected to fund service delivery across all key sectors, including education, health, agriculture, water supply, solid waste management, and so on. The bulk of public-sector funding remains stuck at the central government level, where these resources often finance bloated bureaucracies or inefficient development projects.

The World Development Report 1994 on Infrastructure cited several cases of quality improvement and cost savings in infrastructure projects after local communities were given part of the responsibility in management. A review of World Bank data for 42 developing countries found that where road maintenance was decentralized backlogs were lower and the condition of roads better. Data for a group of developing countries revealed that per capita costs of water in World Bank-funded water projects were four times higher in centralized than in fully decentralized systems. A study of 121 completed rural water supply projects, financed by various agencies, showed that projects with high participation in project selection and design were much more likely to have the water supply maintained in good condition than would be the case with more centralized decision-making.

World Bank’s (2004) review of safe-water projects in Central Java, Indonesia, associates success with greater social capital. In Rajasthan, India, manifestations of “mutually beneficial collective action” were associated with watershed conservation and development activities more generally. Experience with decentralization varies. In Bolivia the creation of rural local governments has been associated with dramatic shifts in public allocations away from infra-structure and into the social sectors—and a sharp fall in the geographic concentration of public investments as they get more evenly dispersed across regions. Research has also documented that considerable improvements have been identified in water, education and road infrastructures by the Columbian 16 municipalities. They have given another example the city of Porto Alegre in Brazil, which experienced a doubling of enrollment rates and improved access to basic sanitation.

Recent reports have also documented that institutional reforms and service delivery improvements as experienced by the cities of Bangalore (India), Naga (Philippines) and Colombo (Sri Lanka) show positive results and encouraging outcomes. These cities faced enormous development challenges, which had been exacerbated by lack of transparency, accountability, and stakeholders’ engagement in city administration and delivery of public goods and services. Reforms have not only enabled city governments to more effectively identify the needs of the poor, but they also found better ways to address them. Experiences of these three cities indicate that change is possible through a range of interventions and that to generate the
desired ends, the government, private sector, and civil society must cooperate with each.

4. Nepalese Context of Service Delivery

Nepal has been making serious efforts to overcome prolonged political instability and economic stagnation over the years. Despite protracted political conflict and instability, Nepal has been able to achieve significant progress in several socio-economic fronts due to policy and programs initiated in the beginning of last two decades. Absolute poverty level has been reduced 49 percent to 23.8 percent between 1990 and 2013. Similarly, improvements in human development indicators, infrastructure development, expansion of transport networks, widespread communication, quality and quantity improvements in social services, private sector’s strong presence and expansion of cooperatives have been the results of various development initiatives undertaken at the national and local levels.

Currently, Nepal is in the process of federalism and state restructuring of the state. The basic parameters of our federal model are under intense discussion in Constituent Assembly (CA). It is expected that a new Constitution will be drafted by January 2015. Further, as per a long term development vision 2030, the government is also committed to formulate a road map of transforming the country into a developing country status by 2022. In order to make people feel the sense of good governance, the government is also committed to make public service delivery simple, easy, accessible and qualitative.

Presently, there are 75 District Development Committees (DDCs), 3625 Village Development Committees (VDCs) and 130 Municipalities (Muns) in Nepal. The term Local Bodies (LBs) is used for the Local Governments (LGs) in Nepal that include the VDCs, Muns and DDCs. The DDCs function as a middle tier between the central government and VDCs/Muns, whereas the VDCs and Muns serve as units of Local Governments (LGs) in rural and urban areas, respectively. Most of the government ministries also have their deconcentrated offices at district and sub-district levels. Along with the LGs, they are the key agencies to deliver public services at the local level. It should be noted here that the local-level agencies under the ministries are administratively and financially controlled and managed by central government. However, these agencies work in close coordination with the LGs.

The legal basis of local governance in Nepal is the Local Self-Governance Act 1999 (LSGA) which is a landmark legislation in the devolution of power and resources from the central to the local level. It establishes an important foundation for the provision of socially inclusive services to the citizens through grassroots democracy. The Act not only makes arrangements for ensuring that LGs are accountable to their citizens, but also dictates that citizens be involved in local democratic and developmental processes in an accountable and transparent manner. The underlying idea behind the creation of LGs is that people’s participation ensures inclusive, equitable, responsive, open, transparent and accountable government.

Basically, there are two categories of legal framework that provisions local service delivery in Nepal. The first set is related to local governance as legally established by Local Self-Governance Act (LSGA), 1999 and related regulations (devolution). The second set is sectoral Acts and regulations. Almost all of sectoral agencies (education, drinking water, sanitation, road, forest agriculture, postal services, etc.) have their own sectoral acts and regulations under which these agencies operate from center to the grassroots level (deconcentration). These acts and regulations were not harmonized with the LSGA, therefore, conflict in many aspects.

The LSGA, 1999 envisions and authorizes local bodies/government for providing services from different levels: district, municipal and village. The framework follows the devolution form of decentralization (shifting power and accountability from center to elected local government). It clearly envisions two broad levels of governance: central and local level.

Broadly, local governments have four major categories of functions:

- Efficient service delivery in different aspects of citizen’s concerns
- Physical infrastructure development
- Environmental and disaster management
- Local economic development and poverty alleviation

The scope of service delivery functions and responsibilities assigned by the LSGA to each level of local governments are summarized in the table 1 below:
The LSGA envisioned different territorial scope of these functions. However, in practice there are a number of duplication and competition practiced in reality. As spelled out in the table, the intermediate local governments have 16 categories of functions and responsibilities while the grass root levels local governments have 11 categories. Different levels of local governments are assigned similar sectoral and cross-sectoral functions and responsibilities. These categories cover almost all types of public services. Indeed, their roles and functions are limited within their respective jurisdiction.

The functions and responsibilities specified in the LSGA are not vivid. There are instances when functions and scope of work of local and central government overlap. The central governments have been continuing their activities through sectoral line agencies since the 1980s under a de-concentrated or administrative model of decentralization. Many functions and activities which are more appropriate for the local governments to carry out have not yet been addressed accordingly. Consequently, there is unclear role of delineation and even if the same has been sorted out, it is not possible to pinpoint accountability with precision.

More functions and authorities are devolved to the local governments after promulgation of the LSGA. In 2000/01, the functions of four sectors-agriculture extension, livestock services, primary education and basic health services-were devolved to local governments in Nepal. In the following fiscal year (2001/02), functions under three sectors and sub-sectors: rural roads and bridges, small irrigation, and community water supply and sanitation-were...
also devolved to local governments. The local governments are recognized as an autonomous and corporate body with perpetual succession. The council of the respective local governments is the apex body to deliberate issues formulates and approves their policies and plans. Local governments implement their policy and programs through users group, civil society organizations, sectoral units, NGOs and private sector. In accordance with the provision made in the LSGA, programs of line agencies of central government, NGOs, etc should also be submitted and integrated in the plan of the concerned local bodies and require endorsement. This process is ritual and there is no control and ownership of respective local bodies in the programs.

5. Centre Local Relations and Stake Holders of Service Delivery

The central level ministries and departments carry out their functions through their respective line agencies mostly present in each district and down to the village/municipal levels. The sectoral functions of line agencies and functions of local governments are very similar in nature which, incidentally, explains the functional conflicts between line agencies and local bodies. Co-ordination, in most cases, is complicated by the parallel system and mandates. There are various types of stakeholders of service delivery. At central; governments ministries and departments and at grass root level; the local governments are the strong basic service providers. The central and local levels stake holders in deliveries the services are summarized as follows:

1. Central Level
   - Government level ministries, commissions and secretariats
   - Constitutional bodies
   - Departments under different ministries
   - Regional offices
   - Public enterprises

2. Local Level
   - Local Governments : district level local governments, rural and urban level local governments
   - District level offices : District level offices of various ministries, department and public enterprises
   - Devolved offices: Primary education, primary health, live stock extension & rural roads
   - Other local level offices: Postal service, mini custom offices
   - Community Schools
   - Police Office
   - Community based organization (CBOs) and NGOs
   - Consumer groups
   - Private sector (Local Chamber offices)
   - Local mother communities

6. Key Issues

a) Overlapping between Central Government and local governments and within local governments: The type of services that are carried out by central government and local governments are similar in the sense of nature of tasks, planning, programming and implementation. As a result, the central government is involved in services at local level that could be carried out even by the local governments.

b) Uncoordinated planning: The LSGA has made provisions that the respective ministries should make available the estimation of means and resources, national development policy relating to that sector and priorities and other guidelines for coming fiscal year for formulating district plans and programs of local governments. The line agencies are also envisaged as technical hands for LGs to assist in preparation of integrated plan of LGs. However, the practice is different than what is envisaged in the LSGA. In most of the cases the LGs and line agencies plan in parallel ways. This has resulted in uncoordinated planning.

c) Unfunded areas of service deliveries: The areas of service delivery those are unfunded include the ones that are unclear. The LGs consider that these service delivery functions are largely unfunded, or very few are funded in terms of conditional grants and transfers. If we considered the demand of local people, there is no limit of LGs areas of service delivery, and most of them are largely unfunded and underfunded.

d) Participation, voice and accountability: Citizen’s voice, which is the fundamental of democratic governance, has been poorly heard/considered by service provider and policy makers. There is less transparency in service delivery and weak access to services by poor and marginalized groups.
e) Development policy and central-local relations: There is inadequate pro-poor focus on existing local governance practices and service delivery. Central-local relations in service delivery are very top-down and dominating to the local level institutions.

f) Result-orientation and citizen centric service delivery: Current service delivery mechanism is not citizen friendly, but traditional, cumbersome and very process oriented. Transaction cost of intermediate level of local governments is much higher in many areas of services.

g) Capacity local governments and local organizations: Capacity of LGs is weak in delivering services in effective and efficient manner. Collaboration among different partners, team spirit and working relations are weak and fragmented.

h) Generalized provisions of services: Central agencies have generalized policies and program frameworks. The tendency of ‘one size fits all’ is not conducive for local bodies and people.

7. Policy Recommendations

a) Devolving authority, and strengthening service delivery capacity

Increasing access to and use of public services are critical for effective service delivery, especially in rural areas. However, service delivery and infrastructure development have been weak in most rural areas. Local government units, which are in a better position (potentially) to deliver services effectively, efficiently and equitably in rural areas, are understaffed, weak and fragile. Therefore, devolution and capacity building processes must go side by side with institutional development and staffing provisions. The role delineations among central government and local government themselves need to be clear.

b) Participation, voice and accountability mechanisms

Participation of stakeholders at local level, especially the poor and marginalized groups, is critical to the empowerment process, equity and accountability. Absence of voice is part and parcel of poverty. Therefore, there is a need to develop mechanisms, which ensure greater accountability to local communities. To start the initiatives of strengthening voice and accountability mechanism from the existing mechanism could be explored and implemented. To strengthen voice and accountability mechanism, local bodies’ elections are urgently needed.

c) Pro-Poor development policy and strengthened central-local relations

It is important to create interdependency among different levels of government and complementing in performing their roles and responsibilities, and thus strengthening central and local government relations. In recent years, there are signs of increasing focus on pro-poor policy frameworks, and strengthened cooperation between the levels of government. Furthermore, an enabling policy environment and institutional reform at the central level is also required to transform the central role to one of stewardship, so that authority can be given to local governments to manage and deliver services.

d) Partnership with private sector and community organizations

The government also needs to give further attention to improve and enhance the performance of local government through a democratization process, encourage establishing and strengthening partnerships with the private sector, including NGOs, and networking with civil society and community-based organizations. It also provides avenues for voicing citizen’s concerns.

e) Result-oriented and citizen centric service delivery

In general, local government units in Nepal have been functioning in a very traditional fashion, staff’s recruitment process is not strengthened and institutionalised. Service delivery systems and procedures is not citizen friendly. Proper attention has not been given to improve the service delivery. Therefore, service delivery systems and procedures need to be aggressively improved and modernized and thus should be made citizen-centric adapting alternative models of service delivery. Furthermore, service delivery functions should be given to the grass root level local governments, and/or private sector and community organizations as appropriate. Thus,
intermediate local government (DDCs) role should be more of policy making, development facilitation, planning and coordination.

f) Periodic facility and service delivery surveys

Local government, being the nearest democratic government institutions, need to ensure that citizens are satisfied enough on their overall functioning and the service delivery in particular. Indicators need to be developed in a participatory manner and periodic facility survey with exit interview and service delivery surveys have to be conducted on periodic basis and linked with the performance measurements tools. Such surveys have not been conducted in the local governments’ level in Nepal yet.

g) Utilize transition as an opportunity

Generally, post conflict situation offers unique opportunities for rebuilding of nation and governance reform, in the service sectors as elsewhere. In this phase, focusing efforts improving the policy and institutional framework is critical – and this can be done even while front-line service delivery is in the hands of non-state partners. The assigned responsibilities to LBs by LSGA must be minimum in designing local government’s responsibilities under federal Nepal. Functional, structural, financial, organizational and managerial reforms are needed for effective local government even under the federal Nepal.
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1. FORMALITIES AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 The 44th Colombo Plan Consultative Meeting (CCM), hosted by the Government of Nepal in the beautiful city of Kathmandu, was held from 9-10 September 2014. A pre-conference briefing of the Heads of Delegates was held on 8th of September, 2014.

1.2 Delegates attended the meeting from 24 member countries, 1 observer country, and 2 international organizations. Please see the list of participants under Annexes in page No. 38.

2. Opening Session

2.1 During the opening Session on 9th September Mr Lal Shanker Ghimire, Joint Secretary, National Planning Commission of Nepal and the National Focal Point for Colombo Plan to Nepalese Government delivered the welcome address. He expressed his appreciation on the co-operation made by the Member States for the 44th CCM and welcomed all delegates warmly to Kathmandu. He further stated that the Government of Nepal fully appreciated the Colombo Plan’s enhancing role of co-operation in the areas of socio-economic development contributing towards the South-South Cooperation. He further extended his appreciation to the CP Drug Advisory Programme and encouraged Member States to take advantage of the Programmes of the CP.

2.2 Following the welcome address, the Council President of the Colombo Plan, HE Mr Harimawan Suyitno, Ambassador of Indonesia to Sri Lanka delivered the opening remarks on behalf of the CP Council. He emphasized the importance of the CCM and re-affirmed that it is an ideal platform for delegates of the Member States to share and recommend new directions to the CP in its Road Map to a greater exploration of reaching out to the Member States, as well as to the other regions and countries to achieve its objectives and goals. It is also a good forum to review the progress of the CP since the 43rd CCM in Manado, Indonesia in 2012.

3. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

3.1 The Meeting endorsed the following office bearers;

i. Chairperson- Mr. Sharada Prasad Trital, Member Secretary, National Planning Commission Secretariat, Government of Nepal.

ii. Deputy Chairman Mr. Amenatave V. Yauvoli, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Fiji.

iii. Moderators for working Groups: Asia Pacific group- USA, South Asia/Sub-region of South West Asia - Nepal, South East Asia- Philippines.
3.2 Appointment of Drafting Committee & Rapporteurs

i. The Meeting agreed that the Drafting Committee be chaired by the Deputy Chairman as a practice of the CCM procedures.

ii. The Drafting Committee: The Moderators of the working Groups assisted the Deputy Chairman as part of the drafting committee.

iii. Rapporteurs: The host country delegated a team of six Rapporteurs led by a Chief Rapporteur who worked in close co-ordination with the Colombo Plan Secretariat.

4. Recognition of Observers

The Meeting endorsed the attendance of delegates from non-member countries and international organizations. From International Organizations, JICA & USAID were present and from observer countries- a representative from the Government of Qatar was present at the meeting.

5. Adoption of the Agenda

The Meeting acknowledged and adopted the agenda. (Please see page No.7 for a copy of the Agenda).

6. Consideration of the amendment to the Constitution of the Colombo Plan – (if any)

There were no amendments proposed.

7. Presentation of the 44th CCM Country Theme Paper on “Local Governance and Service Delivery”.

i. The Meeting received a presentation from Dr. Som Lal Subedi, Secretary, Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development of the Government of Nepal on the country theme paper “Local Governance and Service Delivery in Nepal”, which is consistent with the CP constitutional principles of self help and mutual help.

ii. The presentation highlighted a number of important issues pertaining to the theme of the Meeting, in particular the importance of devolution of powers to the local communities to empower them in the quest for better and efficient public services delivery. It further emphasized that the CP could be a useful platform for the exchanges of experiences and ideas/knowledge in this regard where members could utilize it for their benefits.

iii. The Meeting heard interventions and comments from various Members as well the Secretary General expressing deep appreciations on the theme selected by the host Government as it is consistent with the CP principles on Self Help and Mutual Help which is still valid today and it is an inspiration to generate useful and meaningful discussions. Experiences from the delegation of India and Afghanistan were shared and noted in this regard.

Please see page No. 16 for the full text of the Theme Paper.

8. THE COLOMBO PLAN ACTIVITIES

8.1 The Secretary General presented an overview on the Colombo Plan current programme activities and future initiatives:

i. The overview of the CP programme activities were presented by the Secretary General Mr. Kinley Dorji. The Secretary General called upon Members to support and guide him in future work of the Secretariat, including the strengthening of the organization.

ii. The Secretary General underlined that each of the existing programs of the Colombo Plan are equally important and relevant. However, he said although dimensions and focus areas are different, the underlining principle is still “self help and mutual help” and reaching out to the un-reached.

iii. The Secretary General also pointed out that drug menace is a common problem faced by all countries and made a mention of the growing new trends like abuse of Pharmaceutical drugs, synthetic drugs and abuse of opiates drugs etc.

8.2 The Secretary General outlined a set of way forward in the forum for consideration:

i. The Colombo Plan aspires to encourage and facilitate student exchange programmes among member states and also focus on scholarships for diploma and certificate level on specialized subjects.

ii. Possibilities of enhancing short term studies and training on specialized subjects on climate change and pollution control and environment auditing etc.
iii. The Secretariat also plans to encourage forum for young entrepreneurs through regional trade fairs, conferences and work attachments etc.
iv. To institutionalize at national/sub-regional and regional level drug treatment and preventive educational model programmes in all member states
v. To develop treatment and prevention curriculum series
vi. To provide training and certification to train-trainers in the member states
vii. Identify national/sub-regional and regional level institutional based programmes for certification and training
viii. Institutionalize CP GAP National Focal Points
ix. Institutionalize CP GAP Annual National Focal Points meeting

8.3 The respective Programme Officers and Programme Directors also presented the current status of their programmes as highlighted below:

All presentations are attached as Annexes from page Nos. 46 - 82.

i. Long Term Scholarship,
ii. Programme for Public Administration and Environment,
iii. Programme for Private Sector Development,
iv. Drug Advisory Programme, International Centre for Certification and Education of Addiction Professionals,
v. Gender Affairs Programme.

9. The CCM approved the Colombo Plan Annual Reports 2011/12 and 2012/13 which were circulated.

9.2 A Report on the Colombo Plan DAP Focal Point Meeting and Expert group consultation in Chiang Mai from 3-5 September were also circulated for information and endorsement of CCM delegates.

10. Reports of the Governing Board of the Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC) for Technician Education for FY 2011-2012 and 2012-2013

i. The Meeting received a detailed presentation from the Director General of the Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC), Dr. Mohammed Naim Yaakub, and noted the Reports of the Governing Board of CPSC for FY 2011-2012 and 2012-2013.

ii. The Meeting conveyed its appreciation to the CPSC for its useful and training initiatives to Member States. The Meeting noted interventions from various Member states for its support to the CPSC, in particular the Government of India for providing a grant of US$ 500,000 for capacity building initiatives.

11. Regional Group Meetings of Member States. The groups were divided as follows:

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The main tasks of the groups were:

(a) to review economic and social progress within the Colombo Plan region since the Consultative Committee last met, taking note of the various factors which have affected progress;
(b) to consider the tasks which lie ahead in economic and social development; the priorities; and the best use of available resources;
(c) to exchange views on technical co-operation programmes with a view to achieving efficiency and effectiveness;
(d) to discuss a pre-selected special issue of general concern relating to development;
(e) to review the activities of the Colombo Plan Council; the Colombo Plan Secretariat; the Drug Advisory Programme; the Programme for Public Administration and Environment Programme; the Programme for Private Sector Development; the Long Term Scholarship Programme and the Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education; and
(f) to take decisions about the proceedings of the Consultative Committee itself.

The Meeting noted the presentations from the three groups South Asia/Sub-Region of South West Asia; South East Asia; and Asia/Pacific. These are highlighted below.

11.1 South Asia/Sub-Region of South West-Asia Group made presentations in the following Programs and Activities:

i. Give continued importance to human resource development with a focus on Technical and Vocational Training and Education
ii. Need to focus on training and capacity development programs to get benefitted from the Knowledge Economy.
iii. Felt the need for longer-term Scholarship
iv. Ensure efficiency and effectiveness, experts need to be arranged and invited so that a large number of participants can be benefited at lower cost.
v. Ongoing programs are highly relevant; however it needs to be prioritize among the priorities.

Recommendations:

i. All communication and correspondence from Secretariat should be channeled only through National Focal Point. It can be copied to other technical or functional focal points.
ii. Secretariat and Council to propose and the host country while finalizing the agenda for CCM should include a session to update and review on the decision taken in the last CCM and implementation status.
iii. CCM agenda also needs to be accompanied with proposals to be considered and decided by the CCM.
iv. Outgoing, Current, and next Chair should meet before the CCM.
v. The Chair Country until it hands over the chairmanship to next country should spare some time to monitor the implementation of decisions made at the CCM and the implementation of same under the Colombo Plan Mechanism.

11.2 South East Asia Group

A. Review of activities:

i. Member countries are satisfied with Drug Advisory Programme initiatives and collaborations.
ii. Member countries are encouraged to identify other donor agencies for Colombo Plan related programmes such as long term scholarships, PPA, PPSD and Gender Affairs.
iii. Number of scholarships offered is decreasing; however, continuity should be maintained. Colombo Plan should revitalize long term scholarship program to encourage Member States participation and funding.
iv. Colombo Plan should organize long term scholarship alumni to raise the profile of the Colombo Plan to generate more support for the programme.

Recommendations:

i. Colombo Plan must try to allocate funds properly as well as pursue more funding. Insufficient budget is a reason affecting the programs.
ii. Colombo Plan needs a proper mechanism to evaluate and prioritize the needs of its member countries.
iii. Colombo Plan should increase co-ordination and collaboration among other international organizations in the region such as ASEAN, SAARC and Pacific countries.

B. Tasks which lie ahead in economic and social development:

i. Colombo Plan should promote South-South, triangular and multilateral co-operation in order to enhance the capacity building for economic and social development.
ii. Colombo Plan should optimize the use of expertise and good practices from each member country.
iii. Colombo Plan should come up with revised strategies and priorities and should also consider the priorities of the beneficiary and donors as well.

C. Technical cooperation programs:

i. South-South co-operation should be one of the priorities of Colombo Plan.
ii. Needs assessment of the member countries is needed.
iii. The group has focused on following areas: development, governance, health services, poverty alleviation and peace building.
iv. Colombo Plan Secretariat needs to explore collaboration for the scholarship and trainings with other countries and institutions.
v. Colombo Plan needs to extend its collaboration with related stakeholders and related ministries in the member countries.

D. Concerns of any pre-selected issues:

i. In line with MDGs Colombo Plan should focus on development, health services, poverty alleviation, gender equity and women empowerment.

11.3 Asia Pacific Group

Observations:

i. CP Needs to revitalize, to attract more donors to enhance their programmes
ii. CP established Drug Advisory Programme in 1973. CP needs international recognition to attract new donors and to meet the needs of the member countries.

12. Pledges of Voluntary Funds/Technical Co-operation Program

The meeting noted with appreciation the contributions being pledged by Member States that are indicated below.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Support Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **INDIA** | India will continue its support in the following areas:  
i. Apart from 90 scholarship slots through the Colombo Plan Secretariat, India will provide additional 410 slots in 2015 and 2016.  
ii. Deputation of resource persons to member countries including Bhutan.  
iii. Offering customized training programs to the member states in the areas of women empowerment, water resource management, environmental affairs etc. through its national universities and technical institutions, with their Diploma or Master’s Degree programs. |
| **IRAN** | i. Iran expressed its readiness for holding workshop within the framework of the DAP, PPA-ENV, PPSD, especially for SMEs. |
| **NEPAL** | i. Nepal will be offering scholarship for two-year Master’s Program in Social Sciences through the universities in Nepal. |
| **SINGAPORE** | i. Since 1961, Singapore has been working with the Colombo Plan to extend technical assistance to officials in various fields such as Climate change, Environment, Human resource development etc, which will be continued in 2015.  
ii. Singapore is also committed to conduct a TVET Course in April 2015 with Colombo Plan Staff College. |
| **SRI LANKA** | i. The Government of Sri Lanka has announced the approval of the 60 perches of land to the Colombo Plan Secretariat.  
ii. Sri Lanka will also contribute towards scholarships and training programs |
| **THAILAND** | i. Thailand will conduct two training courses per year from 2015 to 2017 on cost sharing basis in area of rural development on community based in order to support economic and social development of the member countries. |
| **USA** | i. In addition to supporting DAP and ICCE projects, US has pledged to support the Gender Affairs Program. US$ 44 million for DAP, ICCE, and GAP projects. |
| **VIETNAM** | i. Vietnam expressed its willingness in hosting/co-hosting activities within the framework of Colombo Plan in the future on the basis of cost sharing. |
13. Date and Venue of the next Consultative Committee meeting:

The 44th CCM has accepted the generous offer from the Government of the Republic of Fiji to host the next CCM in 2016. The exact date and venue of the 45th CCM will be consulted further with the Secretariat and member countries, and will be conveyed accordingly.

14. Any Other Businesses:

The Meeting received two side event presentations firstly on 9 September from Dr. Swarnim Wagle, Member, National Planning Commission of Nepal who spoke on the Topic, “The Colombo Plan and Regional Integration in the Asia-Pacific and secondly on 10th September from Dr. Shankar Prasad Sharma, Ex-Vice Chairman, National Planning Commission of Nepal who spoke on the topic, “South-South, North-South, and Triangular Co-operation”.

15. Appreciation to the Government of Nepal:

The Meeting wishes to convey its appreciation to the Government and the wonderful people of Nepal for the excellent hosting and arrangements of the 44th CCM and requested the Chair to convey this message appropriately to the Government of Nepal.

16. Consideration and Approval of the Report of the 44th Colombo Plan Consultative Committee Meeting:

The CCM forum deliberated and approved the draft Report of the 44th CCM.

17. Closing Remarks of the 44th Consultative Committee Meeting by the Deputy Chairman of the 44th CCM:

17.1 The Deputy Chairman on behalf of all delegates and observers expressed his gratitude to the Government of Nepal for hosting a successful meeting of the 44th CCM. As the next host of the CCM, he invited all delegates to the Republic of Fiji. The Government of Fiji will be happy to welcome all delegates to the 45th CCM in 2016.

17.2 Statement of Appreciation by the Colombo Plan Council President:

The Colombo Plan Council President expressed his grateful thanks on behalf of the Secretariat to the Government of Nepal for hosting the 44th CCM and the successful conclusion of the event. He further thanked all delegates, representatives of observer countries and International Organizations for their active participation in the CCM. He expressed his appreciation and sincere thanks to all officials of the Government of Nepal who assisted to make the 44th CCM a great success.

17.3 On behalf of the Government Nepal the Chairman thanked all delegates and observers and expressed his appreciation on the contribution made by the Member States to make a successful meeting of the 44th Colombo Plan Consultative Committee Meeting. Thereafter the Chairman declared the successful closing of the 44th CCM.
44TH CCM PHOTO GALLERY
## Annexes

- List of Participants
- Presentation on the Overview of the Colombo Plan by the Secretary General
- Presentation of LTSP, PPA/E, PPSD and GAP
- Presentation of DAP
- Presentation of ICCE
Annex 1
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PRESENTATION ON THE OVERVIEW OF THE COLOMBO PLAN BY SECRETARY GENERAL
The unforgettable past of the Colombo Plan - A gateway to the future

The Founding Fathers of Colombo Plan 1951
The Colombo Plan Secretariat was established in 1951 with 7 founding member countries as a result of discussions at the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers Conference held in Colombo in 1950.

- An international inter-governmental organisation
- Colombo Plan follows a partnership concept of self-help and mutual-help for socio-economic development of member countries
- Its membership has grown from the original 7 Commonwealth countries to 27, including non-Commonwealth countries.
## Objectives of the Colombo Plan

- Promote technical cooperation and assist in the sharing and transfer of technology among member states
- Review relevant information on technical cooperation between the member governments, multilateral and other agencies with a view to accelerating development through cooperative effort;
- Facilitate the transfer and sharing of the developmental experiences.
- Self help and mutual help, co-operation and co-ordination networking and collaboration.
**Structure of the Colombo Plan**

- **The Colombo Plan**: An Inter-Governmental Organization
- **The Consultative Committee**: Heads of the assigned focal point of each member country. Biennial Meetings
- **The Colombo Plan Secretariat**: Appointed by CP Council for 4-year tenure
- **Secretary-General**: Appointed by CP Council upon Recommendation by SG for 4-year tenure
- **Programme Directors**

**Funding**

- Administrative costs of the Council and the Secretariat are borne *equally* by all member countries;
  - An annual membership fee of USD 17,400 is paid.
- Programmes are funded by voluntary contributions by member countries;
- Developing member countries are also encouraged to meet local currency costs when they host CP Programmes;
- Training programmes are also funded by contributions from non-member governments, regional / international organisations, public and private sector foundations.
The Colombo Plan has 4 permanent programmes:

1. Long-Term Scholarships Programme (LTSP since 2005)-

   At Master’s level covering areas of study subjects from IT Management, Agriculture, Social Sciences, Environmental, Diplomacy and International Relations and Public Policy are offered. Colombo Plan offers scholarships annually to the member states in collaboration with the KDI School in the Republic of Korea.

   *The Colombo Plan aspires to encourage and facilitate student exchange programmes among member states and also focus on scholarships for diploma and certificate level on specialized subjects.*


   To develop human capital in the public sector of member states, through short-term training programmes in prioritized areas such as; Public Governance, IT Management, Strategic Management, International Relations, Poverty Reduction, Project Management, Economic Planning & Management, Teacher Training, Research in Biotechnology and Sustainable Environment Management.

   *Possibilities of enhancing short term studies and training on specialized subjects on climate change and pollution control and environment auditing etc.*
3. Programme for Private Sector Development (PPSD since 1995)-
Established in 1995 provides short-term training programmes for the development of the private sector, particularly the development of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The focus of the PPSD is on capacity building for industrial development, SMEs development and entrepreneurship development.

The Secretariat also plans to encourage forum for young entrepreneurs through regional trade fairs, conferences and work attachments etc.

4. Drug Advisory Programme (DAP)
Establishment in 1973, DAP focused on enhancing human resources development in member countries, particularly for those involved in the treatment and rehabilitation of addicts in the public sector.

To institutionalize at national/sub-regional and regional level drug treatment and preventive educational model programmes in all member states.
ICCE Project

- The International Centre for Certification and Education of Addiction Professionals (ICCE since 2009): is the Drug Advisory Programme’s largest initiative which provides technical support to governments through training and certification of addiction treatment professionals and drug prevention practitioners.

- To develop treatment and prevention curriculum series
- To provide training and certification to train-trainers in the member states
- Identify national/ sub-regional and regional level institutional based programmes for certification and training

New Initiatives In the Pipeline

- Women and Gender Affairs Programme (GAP since 2014)
  - To increase awareness, conduct research and provide capacity building on gender equality, gender development, women’s legal rights and gender issues among the developing member states through workshops and trainings.

- Institutionalize CP GAP National Focal Points
- Institutionalize CP GAP Annual National Focal Points meeting
The unforgeable past of the Colombo Plan—a Gateway to the future

Questions and Answers

BE A MEMBER OF THE COLOMBO PLAN FAMILY

THANK YOU

For Cooperative Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific
PRESENTATION ON:

- LONG TERM SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME (LTSP)
- PROGRAMME FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & ENVIRONMENT (PPA/E)
- PROGRAMME FOR PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT (PPSD)
- GENDER AFFAIRS PROGRAMME (GAP)
Long-Term Scholarship Programme

**Background:**
- Re-established in 2005 with scholarships in Thailand
- Scholarships were offered by:

1) Thailand
   - Chulabhorn Research Institute
   - Chiang Mai University
   - Maejo University …

2) Republic of Korea – KDI School (M.Sc. in Public Policy)

3) Malaysia
   - University Putra Malaysia – Agriculture
   - University Science Malaysia- Social Sciences
   - Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations- Strategy & Diplomacy

4) Singapore
   - National University of Singapore – IT & Law
   - Singapore Management University – Business Administration
Current Situation:
- Council decision on LTSP in 23 Sep 2010
- CP contributes on transport while University contribution on the tuition fee and the accommodation
- 2012/2013:
  2 scholarships with University of Sains Malaysia
  1 scholarship with IDFR, Malaysia
- 2013/2014:
  4 scholarships with KDI school, Republic of Korea

Future Directions
- Student Ex-change Programme
- Promote University Scholarships through Colombo Plan website and network
Programme for Public Administration & Environment (PPA/E)

Background:
- PPA was established in 1995 based on recommendations by the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on 4 October 1994.
- The objective - to facilitate the development of human capital in the public sector in the developing member countries.
- For start up, PPA received a voluntary contributions from the Government of Japan and for the Environment programme received funds from the Government of Thailand.
- Environment programme was established in 2005 and merged with PPA in 2007.
- Supported by member countries in terms of local costs and experience sharing in joint programmes.
### FUNDS RECEIVED FOR PROGRAMMES FROM F/Y 1994/95 TO 2012/13

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</tbody>
</table>

**Total**

**Current Situation:**

**2012/2013**
- Conducted 8 training programmes for 104 participants

**2013/2014**
- Conducted 7 training programmes for 93 participants

**2014/2015**
- Scheduled 4 training programmes
Future Directions:

- Focus on facilitating fully funded training programmes with much emphasis on the environment programmes

Programme for Private Sector Development (PPSD)
Background:

- PPSD was established in 1995 based on recommendations by the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) on 4 October 1994.

- The objective - to facilitate the development of human capital in the private sector in the developing member countries.

- For start up, PPSD received a voluntary contributions from the Government of Republic of Korea.

- Actively supported by member countries in terms of local costs and experience sharing in joint programmes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAMME NAME</th>
<th>PPSD</th>
<th>Figures in US $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KOREA</td>
<td>NORAD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994/95</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995/96</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996/97</td>
<td>100,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997/98</td>
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<td>-</td>
</tr>
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<td>1998/99</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>45,606</td>
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<td>1999/00</td>
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<td>2000/01</td>
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<td>122,060</td>
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<td>2002/03</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003/04</td>
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<td>2004/05</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>6,311</td>
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<td>2005/06</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006/07</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007/08</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008/09</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009/10</td>
<td>16,586</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010/11</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/12</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/13</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1,316,586</td>
<td>173,977</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PPSD ~ Programme for Private Sector Development.
Current Situation:

2012/2013
- Conducted 7 training programmes for 91 participants

2013/2014
- Conducted 5 training programmes for 54 participants

2014/2015
- Scheduled 3 training programmes

Future Directions:

• Focus on organizing international workshops/conferences/trade fairs/meetings

• Developing young entrepreneurs

• Organizing sub-regional events
Gender Affairs Programme

Background:

- Started fund women shelters in 2007 under CPDAP with the INL support
- Initial funding, USD 20 million from the Government of United States
- Gender Awareness, Training on Gender Issues, Research in Gender

Future Directions:

- CPGAP focal points in each member countries
- Conduct need assessments
- Annual International Gender Forum with the CPGAP focal points
PRESENTATION OF DRUG ADVISORY PROGRAMME (DAP)
“At the 23rd Consultative Committee Meeting of the Colombo Plan in Wellington, New Zealand in 1973, the establishment of the Drug Advisory Programme (DAP) was proposed to address the growing drug menace in the region.”
DRUG ADVISORY PROGRAMME NETWORKS

- Prevention Network
- Treatment and Rehabilitation Network
- Curriculum Development Credentialing Network
- Expert/Advisory Network
- Youth Network
- Special Services for Children Network
- Supply Reduction and Law Enforcement Network
- Publications Network

Drug Advisory Programme
Drug Focal Points and Expert Consultation Meeting
3 – 5 September 2014
Chiang Mai, Thailand
Objectives

Discuss and identify priority needs of each member state

Formulate a strategic plan for member states to collaborate with the Colombo Plan on Demand Reduction and Supply Reduction related interventions.
Drug Focal Points and Expert Group Consultation Meeting Mechanism

Highlights

Intensity of the drug problem, Cross-border trafficking, misuse or abuse of pharmaceutical drugs is on the rise

Increase incidence of substance use among children and adolescence

Increased production and availability of illicit opioids, precursor chemicals and synthetic substances

Most countries have launched drug control strategies
Positive Developments

Strength collaboration between narcotic control bureaus among member country

National policies in most member country

Faith-based approach contributes to drug treatment

Continues prevention programmes in member countries

Member countries expressed their need for support and collaboration and further partnership through a more sustainable approach
Future Collaboration

Supply Reduction and Law Enforcement Network

a. More training on border control; precursor control with expertise from member countries

b. Raising awareness of the emergence of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)

c. Strengthening law enforcement through capacity building

d. Sharing knowledge on Alternative Development for illicit crop cultivation

e. Increase coordination between and among ASEAN, SAARC and Pacific countries

Future Collaboration

Treatment and Rehabilitation Network

a. Technical assistance on research in substance use among children and adolescence

b. Technical support on specialized treatment for children, women and clients in prison

c. Technical assistance in conducting monitoring and evaluation

d. Specialized training on outpatient treatment approach

e. Capacity building of treatment workforce

f. Technical support for development and strengthening of treatment standards and guidelines, licensing and regulation system and treatment monitoring system
Future Collaboration

Prevention Network

a. Orientation and training on International Standards on Drug Use Prevention

b. Requirement of trained and credentialed professionals and expert on prevention for substance use

c. Technical assistance for early childhood education; Community Based multi components, preventive education; workplace prevention; media campaign
PRESENTATION OF
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR CERTIFICATION AND
EDUCATION OF ADDICTION PROFESSIONALS (ICCE)
The Colombo Plan International Centre for Certification and Education of Addiction Professionals (ICCE) was established on 16 February 2009 as part of the INL’s global initiative to train and professionalise the drug demand reduction workforce.

The ICCE is also the training and certification arm of the DAP and established through a decision by the Colombo Plan Council.

The ICCE has the status of being the NAADAC Approved Education Provider.

The ICCE Commission is the policy making body for all ICCE training and credentialing matters.
ICCE Goals

- To create an international cadre of addiction professionals by enhancing their knowledge, skills and competence, thereby enabling them to provide quality services and care for recovering individuals and families.
- To provide a regional standard that encourages addiction professionals to continue learning for the purpose of providing quality services to their clients.
- To focus on the individual counsellor and to provide a formal indicator of the current knowledge and competence.
- To promote professional and ethical practice by adhering to a code of ethics.

ICCE Commission
ICCE Functions

ICCE Functions

Curriculum Development
- International Advisory Panels

Training
- Collaboration with Focal Points, UNODC, OAS and Education Providers

Credentialing

Research

ICCE Functions – Curriculum Development

Curriculum Development

International Advisory Panels
- INL, UNODC, OAS, ICCE and Experts

Universal Treatment Curricula for Substance Use Disorders

Universal Prevention Curricula for Substance Use

Specialised Curricula
ICCE Specialised Curricula

- GROW 10 Curricula
- Child Addiction 6 Curricula
- Peer Recovery 3 Curricula
- Community Outreach
- Rural Based Treatment
- Therapeutic Community 4 Curricula

ICCE Curriculum Development

Universal Treatment Curricula

Universal Prevention Curricula

GROW Curricula

Recovery Curricula

Adaptation and Translation of Manuals

Afghanistan  Pakistan  Central Asia  Sri Lanka  Korea  Indonesia  Malaysia

International Centre for Certification and Education of Addiction Professionals (ICCE)
The ICCE Approved Education Providers offer training on INL/ICCE global curricula and prepare candidates to be credentialed through the ICCE with their own financial resources and thereby expand the ICCE certification initiative regionally.

The Korean Association for Addiction Professionals (KAAP) is appointed as the approved education provider for the Republic of Korea.

TTK Hospital India is appointed as the approved education provider for India and South Asia.

NRC of UAE is appointed as the approved education provider for the Middle East.

DDB is appointed as the approved education provider for the Republic of the Philippines (for UPC only)
ICCE Functions – Credentialing

Credentialing

- Treatment (UTC)
- Prevention (UPC)
- Examinations
- Renewal

ICAC I  ICAC II  ICAC III  Recovery Coach  Clinical Supervisor  ICPS I  ICPS II  Multiple Sites Online  Manual  Every two years

ICCE Functions – Credentialing Cont...

Credentialing

- Work Experience
- Training
- Examination

ICAC, ICPS and RC
### ICCE Credentialing Process (UTC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CREDENTIAL</th>
<th>ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA</th>
<th>TRAINING</th>
<th>EXAMINATION</th>
<th>CREDENTIAL AWARDED</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RECOVERY COACH</td>
<td>1 year of supervised work experience in substance use disorders</td>
<td>Basic Level UTC 1 and 2 Recovery Curriculum</td>
<td>RC 100 MCQ 3hrs</td>
<td>Recovery Coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High school education 100 contact hours of education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASIC</td>
<td>1 year of full time or 1500 hours of supervised work experience</td>
<td>Basic Level UTC Nine Curricula Developed</td>
<td>ICCE I 125 MCQ 3hrs</td>
<td>International Certified Addictions Counselor I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High school education 120 contact hours of education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLINICAL</td>
<td>2 years of full-time or 3,000 hours of supervised experience Bachelor degree 240 contact hours of education</td>
<td>Intermediate Level Development of Curriculum in process</td>
<td>ICCE II 175 MCQ 3 ½ hrs</td>
<td>International Certified Addictions Counselor II</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADVANCED</td>
<td>5 years of full-time or 8,000 hours of supervised experience Master degree 500 contact hours of education</td>
<td>Advanced Level Development of Curriculum in process</td>
<td>ICCE III 225 MCQ 4 hrs</td>
<td>International Certified Addictions Counselor III</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Universal Prevention Curricula (UPC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Curricula</th>
<th>Credential</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coordinators</td>
<td></td>
<td>International Certified Prevention Specialist II (ICPS II)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2014) Bachelor/Master degrees</td>
<td>1. Introduction to prevention science</td>
<td>260 hours of continuing education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with 5 years of supervised</td>
<td>2. Pharmacology and Physiology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>experience</td>
<td>3. Family based prevention interventions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. School based prevention interventions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Prevention in the workplace</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. Environmental preventive interventions and the media</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. Drug prevention delivery systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8. Drug prevention monitoring and evaluation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialists / Implementers</td>
<td>Shaped after the coordinator’s curricula. Six major curricula.</td>
<td>International Certified Prevention Specialist I (ICPS I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2015) High school education/2</td>
<td></td>
<td>120-140 hours each curriculum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>years working experience</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ICCE Strategies

- Commitment of countries
- Integration of evidence based practices into policies and programmes
- Formation of national certification boards
- Professionalise the drug demand reduction workforce

Integration of UTC and UPC into the University System

- The ICCE is negotiating with universities in the region to provide the UTC and UPC as a post graduate diploma or master degree.

  This strategy will enable addiction professionals to acquire a post graduate degree relating to addiction studies as well as being certified by the ICCE.
ICCE Internships

- Opportunities for young people to gain work experience in the addiction field
- Experience in working with inter-governmental organisation in a multi-cultural setting
- Exposure to ICCE curriculum development, training and certification of addiction professionals
- Duration: 3 months to 12 months