



Press Release

UNMIN welcomes agreement on follow-on arms monitoring arrangements

15 January 2011

Representative of the Secretary-General in Nepal Karin Landgren welcomes the agreement reached last night between the Government of Nepal and the Unified Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist on arrangements to continue the monitoring of arms and armies after UNMIN's closure at midnight tonight.

"I congratulate the Government and the Unified Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist for agreeing on arms monitoring arrangements, which are so crucial to reinforcing confidence in the peace process. I hope the parties will build on this to implement the long-awaited integration and rehabilitation of the Maoist army personnel," said Landgren.

"Although it came at the last hour, the agreement should also pave the way for UN headquarters to consider a temporary loan and later donation to the Government of the closed circuit television (CCTV) equipment and other monitoring-related assets that can be transferred under UN procedures. The need for agreed follow-on monitoring arrangements before any transfer of UN assets could be considered appears to be met," Landgren said.

"The UN will continue to offer all the support that it can to the new monitoring mechanism. Even as they are hours away from leaving the cantonments, UNMIN arms monitors are preparing to brief the members of the new monitoring mechanism.

Yesterday, the UN Security Council expressed its appreciation to the Representative of the Secretary-General and the UNMIN team and reaffirmed its support for the peace process. The Council called on the Government and the parties to work together in the spirit of consensus to fulfill their commitments to resolve expeditiously the outstanding issues of the peace process, including the completion of a new constitution by 28 May.