Press Release

The Right Hon'ble Vice President Mr. Nanda Bahadur Pun addressed the 17th Summit Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement at Margarita Island in Venezuela today. In his statement, Right Hon’ble Vice President expressed Nepal’s unwavering faith in the fundamental principles and ideals of the Movement and stated that non-alignment constitutes one of the guiding principles of Nepal’s foreign policy. Stating that NAM is a voice for peace, justice and equality, Right Hon’ble Vice President said that NAM should position itself for the removal of entrenched and systematic inequalities and should continue to stand for global economic justice and shared prosperity for all.

Highlighting the leading role of UN system in global governance, he stressed the need of comprehensive reform in the UN system in order to reflect the vastly transformed political reality of the present day world. While doing so, he urged to accord equal emphasis on the third pillar of the United Nations, i.e. development, together with peace and human rights as they all are mutually reinforcing.

Right Hon’ble Vice President said that trade must contribute to reduce poverty and foster growth. Tendency to evade from the Doha Development Agenda risks negating the development dividend of the multilateral trading system and multilateral trading and financial systems must not fail to recognize the special and differentiated situation of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Land locked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and should aim at supporting those countries come forward, he added. He urged the developed countries to fulfill their commitments of providing 0.7 percent of the GNP to the developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 percent of GNP to the LDCs as official development assistance.

The Right Hon’ble Vice President called upon the international community to translate the motto of the Sustainable Development Goals conference - ‘leave no one behind’ into reality. He stressed on the need of assistance to the LDCs and LLDCs in particular to overcome structural challenges, eradicate poverty, and promote rapid,
equitable and sustainable development. He also emphasized on full implementation of the commitments made in the Istanbul Program of Action for LDCs and Vienna Program of Action for LLDCs.

The Right Hon’ble Vice President said that the adoption of new democratic and inclusive Constitution in Nepal on 20 September 2015 marks historic political watershed. The constitution, Right Hon’ble Vice President said, adheres to the principles of inclusion, participation, distribution of equitable economic opportunities to all and ensures social justice.

The Right Hon’ble Vice President expressed satisfaction over NAM’s evolution as a major inter-governmental forum of great moral strength. He stressed on the need of peace and harmony among the NAM Member States, genuine solidarity and unity within the movement, and on the need to adapt with the changing realities of the world to continuously demonstrate relevance.

The 17th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement will conclude on 18 September 2016 with the adoption of a Margarita Declaration and the Summit’s final document.

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