



Government of Nepal
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
Kathmandu, Nepal

Press Release

Postponement of the 19th SAARC Summit

Nepal regrets that regional environment is not conducive to host the 19th SAARC Summit scheduled for 9 and 10 November 2016 in Islamabad. The host country, Pakistan, has informed the Chair of SAARC of the postponement of the 19th SAARC Summit.

As the current Chair of SAARC, Nepal underscores the need for creating a conducive regional environment for the SAARC Summit. Nepal will initiate necessary consultation on successfully holding the 19th Summit with the participation of all member states.

Nepal strongly believes that an environment of peace and stability is essential for a meaningful regional cooperation. To achieve peace and stability in the region, SAARC member states must, among others, ensure that their respective territories are not used by terrorists for cross border terrorism.

Nepal unequivocally condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and expresses its solidarity in the global fight against terrorism. Nepal has always condemned all acts of terrorism in our own region. Most recently, Nepal has condemned the terrorist attack on Indian army base in Uri, Kashmir on 18 September 2016, that resulted in the loss of life of Indian soldiers.

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Government of Nepal
Kathmandu**

02 October 2016