



संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघका लागि नेपालको स्थायी नियोग PERMANENT MISSION OF NEPAL TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Press Release

Nepal and the Republic of South Sudan established diplomatic relations today. With this, the number of countries with which Nepal has bilateral diplomatic relations reached 175.

Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations H.E. Mr. Amrit Bahadur Rai and the Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Sudan to the United Nations H.E. Mr. Akuei Bona Malwal signed a *Joint Communiqué* to this effect in a brief ceremony held at the Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations, New York this morning.

The two Ambassadors also signed a joint letter informing the Secretary-General of the United Nations H.E. Mr. António Guterres about the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

On the occasion, the two Ambassadors exchanged views on various matters of common interest to strengthen bilateral cooperation at national and multilateral settings, particularly at UN forums for the mutual benefit of the two countries. They also discussed how a country could make the successful transition from conflict to peace in the context of South Sudan's ongoing peace process. Ambassador Rai expressed Nepal's willingness to share its experience on homegrown peace processes to achieve peace in South Sudan. Nepal has been contributing to the peace and stability of South Sudan through the deployment of about 1800 Nepali peacekeepers under the United Nations Mission in South Sudan.

The Republic of South Sudan, a landlocked country, is located in east-central Africa, with an area of 644,329 square kilometers and a population of about 12 million.

After a referendum held in January 2011, the Republic of South Sudan gained independence from Sudan on 9 July 2011 and became the newest sovereign state.

Both Nepal and South Sudan are the members of Group of Least Developed Countries, and Landlocked Developing Countries as well as G77 and China.

South Sudan joined the United Nations on 14 July 2011, which is the 193rd youngest member of the Organization.

**Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations
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